

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WEATHER BUREAU
IN COOPERATION WITH MARYLAND STATE WEATHER SERVICE

CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

15

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE SECTION

G. N. BRANCATO

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VOL. LII BALTIMORE, MD., MAY 1948 No. 5

GENERAL SUMMARY

May was slightly cooler than normal, with cloudiness and relative humidity above normal, and sunshine below normal. Rainfall was greatly in excess of normal with Maryland averaging only 0.03 inch less than the record rainfall of May, 1924, and Delaware averaging better than 2 inches over the previous record set in 1934.

The rainfall was produced mostly by thundershowers which were unusually frequent during the month. It was distributed very unevenly over the Section. West of the Chesapeake Bay, it varied from 3.2 inches in Washington County to 9.1 inches at Takoma Park. In the Del-Mar area, monthly rainfall varied from 5.7 inches at Oxford to 14.6 inches at Lewes. The area of most copious rainfall, 9 to 15 inches, embraced Wicomico and Dorchester Counties in Maryland, and Kent and Sussex Counties of Delaware, except in the vicinity of Bridgeville. The amounts were 5.5 to 11 inches above the May normal. The rainfall was well distributed through the month and flooding was of a local nature.

Most temperatures averaged within 1 degree of the May normal. Although there were numerous variations from day to day, there were no unusually warm or cool periods. The warmest day generally was the 11th, just 2 days after the day of coolest weather. Temperatures of 90°, or slightly higher, were recorded at several northern and western stations and a few 30° to 32° readings were reported from Garrett County.

Farming operations were generally retarded by the rains and the resultant wet soil. Considerable damage to crops as a result of standing water in fields has been reported from several areas, especially the central and southern portions of the Del-Mar Peninsula. At favorable opportunities, planting corn and truck crops and seeding oats were resumed and accelerated. Warm weather during the 10th to 12th advanced vegetation. At the end of month, winter grains were good to excellent and growing well. Winter oats were heading or headed. Cutting crimson clover was under way. Rye was heading and barley was ripening. Oats were poor to good, but making good progress. Wheat was heading during the 3d and 4th weeks. Hay crops and pastures were good but growing slowly. Truck crops and gardens came up and grew well, and were good except poor in low fields in eastern areas and were 2 to 3 weeks behind season. Replanting was under way. Transplanting tomatoes was behind season and acreage was lower than usual. Some potatoes were blooming and some snap beans and green peas were being harvested. Tobacco plants in beds were damaged somewhat by blue mold during the 2d week and transplanting was started during the 3d week. Strawberries were being picked in the east and central portions and setting fruit in the west portion, but a small crop was indicated. Peach and apple trees had set fruit. A heavy drop of apples during the month will result in a light crop. Peaches were in a good to very good condition and some thinning was being done.

TEMPERATURE

The monthly mean temperature for the Section was 62.7°, 0.3° below normal; for Maryland, 62.7°, 0.3° below normal; and for Delaware, 62.6°, 0.7° below normal.

For Maryland, the monthly mean temperature varied from 67.4° at Crisfield to 55.6° at Sines. The highest temperature was 94° on the 11th at Woodstock and the lowest was 30° on the 20th at Sines. The greatest local monthly temperature range was 56° at Woodstock, ranging from 94° on the 11th to 35° on the 9th. The least local monthly temperature range was 36° at Oxford, ranging from 83° on the 11th and 12th to 47° on the 2d and 9th.

For Delaware, the monthly mean temperature varied from 64.0° at Dover and Milford to 60.5° at Wilmington (Porter Reservoir). The highest temperature was 92° on the 11th at Milford and the lowest was 35° on the 9th at Newark. The greatest local monthly temperature range was 53° at Georgetown, having a high reading of 89° on the 11th and a low reading of 36° on the 9th, at Milford having a high reading of 92° on the 11th and a low reading of 39° on the 9th, and at Newark having a high reading of 88° on the 11th and a low reading of 35° on the 9th. The least local monthly range was 45° at Wilmington (Porter Reservoir), with a high reading of 85° on the 11th and a low reading of 40° on the 9th.

PRECIPITATION

The monthly average for the Section was 6.92 inches, 3.26 inches above normal; for Maryland, 6.57 inches, 2.90 inches above normal; and for Delaware, 8.93 inches, 4.34 inches above normal. For Maryland, it was greatest at Blackwater with 11.64 inches, and least at Chewsville with 3.25 inches. The greatest 24-hour rainfall was 3.40 inches on the 16-17th at Salisbury. For Delaware, the monthly precipitation was greatest at Lewes with 14.62 inches, and least at Newark (College Farm) with 6.50 inches. The greatest 24-hour rainfall was 5.40 inches on the 29-30th at Dover.

PRESSURE, HUMIDITY, SUNSHINE, WIND, DEGREE DAYS

Stations	Atmospheric pressure reduced to sea level			Wind				Mean relative humidity			Percentage of sunshine	Heating degree days (base 65°)
	Highest	Date	Lowest	Date	Average hourly velocity	Maximum velocity	Direction	Date	7:30 a. m.	1:30 p. m.		
Aberdeen, Md.	30.12	9	29.26	21	10.3	26	.....	.....	87	73	80	141
Annapolis, Md.	30.18	9	29.36	21	11.0	26	.....	.....	81	66	75	111
Baltimore, Md.	30.17	9	29.35	21	11.0	26	.....	.....	77	58	69	80
Elkris, W. Va.	30.25	19	29.45	21	7.2	34	nw.	17	88	60	72	234
Harrisburg, Pa.	30.11	11	29.35	21	7.9	26	w.	21	76	55	63	158
Norfolk, Va.	30.25	9	29.43	21	9.7	29	se.	29	78	56	73	222
Philadelphia, Pa.	30.21	19	29.30	21	8.6	23	sw.	16	81	59	67	134
Pittsburgh, Pa.	30.27	19	29.44	7	10.6	31	n.	21	77	54	61	149
Washington, D. C.	30.19	9	29.39	21	7.6	25	nw.	21	78	56	66	77

COMPARATIVE DATA FOR MAY

Year	FOR MARYLAND						FOR DELAWARE					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Temperature			Precipitation		
	Mean	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall	No. of days with .01 in. or more	Mean	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall	No. of days with .01 in. or more
1895.....	61.7	101	20	3.27	0.3	12	61.7	98	37	3.65	0.0	12
1896.....	67.5	96	31	3.13	0.0	10	67.3	96	35	3.78	0.0	10
1897.....	61.1	86	27	5.16	0.1	11	62.2	85	40	4.01	0.0	10
1898.....	63.0	96	25	4.50	0.0	13	61.7	96	37	4.80	0.0	14
1899.....	63.6	96	31	3.72	0.0	10	63.2	96	38	2.47	0.0	8
1900.....	63.1	99	23	2.40	0.0	6	64.0	96	31	3.10	0.0	6
1901.....	61.3	95	25	4.55	0.0	12	61.2	86	38	3.65	0.0	11
1902.....	63.9	98	32	2.10	T.	9	64.3	92	35	3.13	0.0	9
1903.....	64.0	95	24	2.64	T.	8	63.8	94	37	1.88	0.0	7
1904.....	64.2	102	26	2.61	T.	7	64.1	95	31	2.03	0.0	6
1905.....	64.7	97	25	2.97	0.0	8	64.3	95	39	1.90	0.0	5
1906.....	63.3	96	22	2.64	T.	7	64.0	92	30	3.29	0.0	8
1907.....	58.1	91	23	4.54	0.0	13	58.1	87	32	6.39	0.0	14
1908.....	63.4	95	28	6.18	0.1	14	65.0	94	36	6.64	0.0	12
1909.....	62.2	98	22	3.56	T.	9	63.4	93	34	3.96	0.0	8
1910.....	60.0	90	16	2.99	T.	12	62.0	90	35	2.80	0.0	13
1911.....	67.6	100	19	1.11	T.	4	67.2	96	38	0.69	0.0	3
1912.....	64.1	92	29	4.12	T.	10	64.7	91	38	4.27	0.0	8
1913.....	62.6	94	16	4.31	0.0	10	63.8	93	32	4.42	0.0	8
1914.....	65.1	100	18	2.06	0.0	6	65.8	98	31	2.00	0.0	5
1915.....	60.7	90	25	3.82	0.0	13	62.3	88	37	3.90	0.0	12
1916.....	64.6	97	30	3.61	T.	10	65.2	94	39	4.33	0.0	11
1917.....	57.3	93	27	3.02	0.1	9	56.9	92	34	3.10	0.0	10
1918.....	67.7	98	27	3.79	T.	9	67.4	95	38	3.43	0.0	8
1919.....	62.8	97	31	5.33	0.0	13	63.9	91	38	5.92	0.0	12
1920.....	58.5	91	22	1.94	T.	7	58.5	87	30	2.30	0.0	8
1921.....	61.3	93	27	5.47	T.	13	61.7	90	38	3.74	0.0	12
1922.....	64.7	93	25	3.21	0.0	10	65.0	88	32	2.09	0.0	8
1923.....	61.1	94	23	1.96	0.2	7	61.8	91	32	1.82	0.0	5
1924.....	58.7	94	26	6.60	0.0	17	59.5	88	37	5.26	0.0	16
1925.....	58.8	100	25	1.98	0.1	9	59.9	100	32	1.20	0.0	7
1926.....	62.0	94	25	1.98	0.0	8	62.0	91	33	2.84	0.0	9
1927.....	61.7	95	28	3.00	T.	14	61.6	88	38	3.39	0.0	12
1928.....	60.5	96	23	2.46	0.0	12	61.0	91	32	2.17	0.0	11
1929.....	62.0	96	35	3.21	T.	13	62.6	93	35	1.98	0.0	11
1930.....	64.8	96	27	2.11	0.0	9	65.6	95	40	3.16	0.0	9
1931.....	62.2	95	23	4.54	T.	13	62.8	92	33	4.24	0.0	12
1932.....	61.9	94	25	5.30	0.0	10	62.9	90	37	5.18	0.0	10
1933.....	64.8	94	34	5.45	0.0	16	66.2	93	37	5.83	0.0	16
1934.....	63.9	97	28	4.64	0.0	10	64.6	95	38	6.74	0.0	10
1935.....	59.4	92	28	3.64	T.	11	60.0	87	37	3.60	0.0	11
1936.....	64.9	95	27	2.17	0.0	6	65.5	94	33	1.62	0.0	4
1937.....	63.1	95	27	3.42	0.0	11	63.9	92	32	3.61	0.0	11
1938.....	61.3	96	23	4.34	0.0	15	61.4	85	37	4.28	0.0	16
1939.....	65.0	98	25	1.14	T.	5	64.8	96	32	0.58	0.0	4
1940.....	62.1	93	23	4.45	0.0	13	61.7	91	33	5.44	0.0	14
1941.....	64.2	100	20	2.39	0.0	8	65.1	99	32	1.52	0.0	7
1942.....	66.2	97	33	4.17	0.0	8	66.6	98	40	2.21	0.0	9
1943.....	64.6	95	17	4.65	T.	14	64.9	94	24	2.9	0.0	14
1944.....	68.4	96	30	2.32	0.0	3	67.7	92	40	2.18	0.0	7
1945.....	60.2	95	21	4.38	0.1	13	60.7	88	34	4.66	0.0	14
1946.....	63.1	91	32	6.44	0.0	16	63.0	89	33	6.11	0.0	15
1947.....	62.7	95	18	5.17	T.	14	62.8	92	26	6.63	0.0	12
1948.....	62.7	94	30	6.57	0.0	14	62.6	92	35	8.93	0.0	14
Period...	63.0	102	16	3.67	0.1	10	63.3	100	26	3.59	0.0	10

Climatological Data for May 1948

Stations	Counties	Elevation, feet	Length of record, years	Temperature, in degrees, Fahr.						Precipitation, in inches				Number of days				Observers		
				Mean	Departure from the normal	Highest	Date	Lowest	Date	Total	Departure from the normal	Greatest in 24 hours	Date	Total snowfall (Unmelted)	With precip. 0.01 inch or more	Clear	Partly cloudy		Cloudy	Prevailing direction of wind
<i>Maryland</i>																				
Aberdeen, 4 miles SE.	Harford	57	30	61.4	-1.1	86	11	36	9	7.18	+3.87	1.68	12-13	0	15			U. S. Army		
Annapolis	Anne Arundel	40	83	62.7	-1.3	82	21	47	9	7.44	+3.46	1.57	30-31	0	15			U. S. Navy		
Baltimore (central)	Baltimore	14	78	65.0	+0.6	90	10	47	9	6.41	+2.97	1.25	12-13	0	15			U. S. Weather Bureau		
Baltimore Airport	Prince Georges	151	28	63.8	+0.7	91	11	35	9	6.73	+3.06	1.15	12-13	0	14			Bureau Plant Industry		
Bellii	do.	120	11	62.2		90	11	36	9	7.08		1.68	12-13	0	12			J. B. Shepherd		
Beltsville, 1 mi. ESE.	do.	17	8	65.4		83	10	43	9	11.64		2.86	26	0	13			National Wildlife Refuge		
Blackwater II	Dorchester	5	64	63.8	-1.4	85	10	40	9	7.78	+4.29	1.21	17	0	18			D'Arcy Harding		
Cambridge	St. Marys	167	27	64.2	-0.9	89	11	41	8	6.86	+8.50	1.44	6-7	0	18			J. Burch Tennyson		
Charlotte Hall, 2 1/2 mi. E	Prince Georges	230	48	63.7	0.0	90	11	38	9	6.12	+2.69	1.14	12-13	0	18			U. S. Magnetic Obs'y.		
Cheitenham, 1 1/4 mi. NW	Kent	36	48	63.4	-0.1	88	11	43	2	7.07	+3.46	1.37	12-13	0	16			Thomas W. Ellason, Jr.		
Chestertown	Washington	560	51	62.0	+1.0	90	11	39	9	3.25	-0.78	0.95	6-7	0	15			D. Paul Oswald		
Clear Spring, 1 mile SE.	do.	560	49	62.8	+1.1	91	11	42	6	4.68	+0.90	1.30	3	0	12			Mrs. Leo A. Cahill		
Coleman II, 3 miles NW	Kent	80	61	64.2	+0.4	92	11	43	9	7.96	+4.59	1.89	12-13	0	15			Walter B. Harris		
College Park	Prince Georges	95	15	64.0	+0.8	91	11	37	9	8.04	+4.27	1.86	12-13	0	14			Russell G. Brown		
Conowingo Dam	Harford	40	13	61.0	-1.0	87	12	37	9	8.42	+3.62	1.59	4-5	0	17			Susquehanna Electric Co		
Crisfield	Somerset	5	29	67.4	+2.0	84	30	49	9	7.97	+8.59	2.91	16-17	0	12			Grover C. Adams, Sr.		
Cumberland	do.	623	78	61.0	-2.2	92	11	35	2	4.82	+0.62	1.24	29	0	12			Robert R. Golden		
Easton	do.	35	58	64.3	+0.5	85	11	41	9	6.54	+3.19	1.18	26	0	16			Clement E. Bray		
Edgemont II, 1 mile SW	Washington	920	10							3.87	-0.89	1.17	6-7	0	12			Lee G. Harne		
Elkton	Cecil	28	22	61.5	-1.8	88	11	35	9	8.51	+4.62	1.93	4-5	0	12			H. W. Bouchelle		
Emmitsburg, 2 1/2 mi. SW	Frederick	720	82	62.8	+0.5	89	11	45	22	5.04	+0.90	1.16	6-7	0	11			Mt. St. Mary's Seminary		
Fallston	Harford	450	79	62.2	+0.5	87	10	42	9	8.72	+5.07	2.08	29-30	0	16			Miss Ethel Curtiss		
<i>Delaware</i>																				
Ferry Landing II, 1 1/2 mi S	Calvert	120	32	64.2	+0.1	90	11	42	6	5.72	+2.09	1.16	6-7	0	16			Thos. J. Bourne		
Fort George G. Meade	Anne Arundel	195	7	62.2		91	11	33	9	7.58		1.23	12-13	0	13			U. S. Army		
Frederick	Frederick	237	79	62.2	-1.6	92	11	35	9	6.27	+2.61	1.19	6-7	0	15			D. J. Markey, jr.		
Frederick Airport I	do.	371	5	62.4		91	11	40	9	5.84		1.22	7	0	11			U. S. Weather Bureau		
Friendsville	Garrett	1,980	26																	
Frostburg	Allegany	2,005	47	58.2	-1.9	89	11	34	9	4.49	+0.45	0.98	2-3	0	16			S. Graf Haverstick		
German town	Montgomery	460	30	62.4	-0.2	89	11	38	9	4.03	-0.53	0.97	4-5	0	8			Ralph F. Staley		
Glenelg	Howard	693	1	62.0		90	11	40	2	4.85		1.32	12-13	0	14			Jacob S. Brown		
Great Falls	Montgomery	200	60	63.6	-0.2	94	11	37	9	6.75	+3.36	1.56	12-13	0	10			John E. Hissett		
Hagerstown	Washington	660	9	62.4		90	11	40	9	3.55		1.03	6-7	0	10			William M. Hamby		
Hancock, No. 1	do.	428	39							3.92	+0.54	0.90	29	0	12			H. E. Kersner		
Hancock, No. 2	do.	425	15	60.1	-2.8	92	11	34	1	4.26	+0.88	1.03	29	0	14			Charles O. Dunbar		
Huntingtown	Calvert	160	13	63.8	-0.8	89	11	41	2	6.71	+2.97	1.36	30-31	0	17			Elmer O. Bowen		
Keedysville	Washington	420	45	62.8	-0.6	92	11	35	20	5.84	+2.49	1.28	29-30	0	12			Travis D. Knode		
La Plata	Charles	190	34	64.3	+0.4	92	11	39	9	6.30	+2.68	1.20	29-30	0	12			Wallace S. Barnes		
Luke	Allegany	950	11							4.08	-0.16	1.09	29	0	16			J. G. Patrick		
Maryland Line	Baltimore	840	24	61.6	-0.4	91	11	40	22	7.34	+3.85	2.43	29-30	0	13			Chester L. Fulton		
Millington	Kent	27	61	63.6	+0.1	90	11	38	9	8.51	+5.30	1.59	12-13	0	15			Henry L. Higman		
Oakland, 1 mile SE	Garrett	2,420	61	56.2	+0.2	86	11	31	6	7.32	+2.92	1.19	2-3	0	15			R. E. Weber		
Oxford	Talbot	10	12	64.4	-2.0	83	11	47	6	5.66	+1.73	1.05	4-5	0	15			Henry Wilcox		
Perry Point	Cecil	40	8							9.33		1.79	12-13	0	16			Veterans Administration		
Picardly II, 3 miles NE	Allegany	1,030	22	61.5	-0.9	91	11	34	9	4.45	+1.03	1.60	28-29	0	9			Oscar R. Day		
Prettyboy Dam II	Baltimore	780	18	61.0	-1.5	90	11	39	22	5.79	+1.60	1.12	4-5	0	12			C. W. Hendrix		
Ridgely	Caroline	67	58	64.6	+0.8	89	11	42	2	8.74	+5.19	1.89	30-31	0	15			J. K. Snowberger		
Salisbury	Wicomico	10	42	65.2	+1.0	88	11	40	9	10.38	+6.91	3.40	16-17	0	14			City of Salisbury		
Sines I (Deep Creek) II	Garrett	2,030	24	55.6	-0.4	87	11	30	20	6.51	+2.13	2.17	2-3	0	17			C. E. MacMurray		
Snow Hill	Worcester	20	33	62.0	-1.1	84	11	39	9	7.89	+4.86	1.61	16-17	0	16			U. S. Airway Station		
Solomons	Calvert	20	57	65.8	+0.5	86	10	47	8	8.55	+5.51	1.40	26	0	16			Chesapeake Biological Lab		
State Sanatorium	Frederick	1,460	40															J. E. Stout		
Takoma Park, No. 1	Montgomery	320	50	64.0	+0.4	92	11	40	9	9.84	+6.47	2.30	30-31	0	14			Guy L. Seaman		
Takoma Park, No. 2 II	do.	230	10	63.4	-1.2	91	11	39	9	8.82	+4.62	1.80	30-31	0	15			O. L. Harvey		
Tonoloway II	Washington	530	24	60.7	-0.4	91	11	35	9	4.57	+1.03	1.44	29	0	9			American Fruit Growers		
Towson	Baltimore	475	37																	
Unionville	Frederick	450	9	59.0		87	11	38	20	8.65		2.43	24-25	0	14			G. Pitt Von Eiff, jr.		
Western Port	Allegany	1,000	55	61.4	-0.8	91	10	37	20	4.70	+1.06	1.40	28-29	0	15			Norris Bruce		
Westminster	Carroll	770	39	61.8	+0.7	92	11	38	9	7.37	+3.77	1.57	20-30	0	15			Harry J. Mathias		
White Hall	Baltimore	350	2							6.62		1.06	29-30	0	16			Blaine McCollum		
Williamsport, 2 mi. NW	Washington	360	10							3.93	-0.21	1.13	6-7	0	14			R. C. Willson		
Woodstock	Baltimore	415	79	62.7	-0.4	94	11	35	9	7.72	+4.13	1.75	29-30	0	15			Woodstock College		
<i>Dist. of Columbia</i>																				
Washington I**	Washington	72	78	65.4	+1.7	92	11	45	6	8.59	+4.89	2.17	12-13	0	16			U. S. Weather Bureau		
<i>Delaware</i>																				
Bridgeville, 1 mile W.	Sussex	45	58	63.8	+0.5	88	1	37	9	8.27	+4.69	1.50	12-13	0	16			William M. Ray		
Delaware City, 1 1/2 mi. SW	New Castle	15	62	62.2	-1.2	85	12	41	2	7.15	+3.84	1.94	13	0	18			James E. Maden		
Dover	Kent	34	61	64.0	+0.8	89	11	40	9	12.96	+9.35	5.40	29-30	0	17			Arthur G. Livingston		
Georgetown	Sussex	50	3	63.4		89	11	36	9	11.02		2.89	26	0	17			E. F. Turner		
Lewes	do.	10	4	61.9		89	11	39	9	14.62		4.04	30	0	14			E. Elwood Lynch		
Millford	do.	20	53	64.0	-0.1	92	11	39	9	13.75	+10.06	2.50	29-30	0	16			C. E. Wood		
Millsboro	do.	20	56	62.8	-0.5	89	11	37	9	10.40	+6.93	2.77	16-17	0	13			Preston C. Townsend		
Newark	New Castle	110	17							6.79	+2.95	1.91	5	0	10			G. C. Price		
Newark II, 1 1/4 mile SW	do.	110	36	60.9	-1.2	88	11	35	9	6.50	+2.66	1.80	4-5	0	12			Fred. Collins		
Wilmington Airport	do.	73	1	61.4		90	11	39	9	7.85		1.81	13	0	16			U. S. Weather Bureau		

Daily Precipitation for May 1948

Table with columns for Stations, Drainage basin, Day of month (1-31), and Total. Rows list various Maryland and Delaware stations with their respective precipitation data for each day of the month.

Except as otherwise indicated, amounts are for 24-hours ending late in afternoon. 1Midnight to midnight; recording gage. 2Measured in the morning; for preceding 24-hours. 3Data for 24-hours ending at 1:30 a. m. of following day. T. Trace or 0.005 inch or less. *Included in next measurement. †PALOS Data interpolated. ‡First-order Weather Bureau station. ††Water Pumping Station. †††University Farm. §Municipal Building. §§Porter Reservoir. ††††Midnight to midnight

Daily Temperatures for May 1948

Table with columns for Stations (Delaware), Day of month (1-31), and Mean. Rows list Delaware stations with their maximum and minimum temperatures for each day of the month.

Daily Temperatures for May 1948-Continued

Table with columns for Stations (Maryland), days 1-31, and Mean. Rows list various stations like Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, etc., with their respective temperature data.

See Page 14 for explanation of reference marks.