

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEATHER BUREAU.

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In Cooperation with Maryland State Weather Service.

# CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA.

## MARYLAND AND DELAWARE SECTION.

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### GENERAL SUMMARY.

This April was the coolest since 1911 and the wettest since 1918. Over the eastern portion of the section it was decidedly wet. Monthly sunshine was slightly above normal; damaging frosts did not occur; and there were no dense fogs.

Cold weather marked the first three days of the month. A reaction to warmer weather took place on the 4th, followed by a two-day mild period. A cool wave prevailed during the 7-11th. Warmer weather set in on the 12th and culminated on the 14th, a markedly mild day, when the highest temperatures (around 80°) of the month occurred. The second half of the month was cool, except that mild temperature prevailed on the 24th, 27th, and 28th. Lowest temperatures of the month ranged from 13° at Oakland to 33° at Crisfield.

Freezing temperatures were recorded over the entire section on the 1st, 2d, 3d, and, with the exception of the Chesapeake Bay region, on the 4th. They occurred also in the Allegheny Mountain region on the 5th, 6th, 7th, 11th, 13th, 19th, 20th, 22d, 23d, 26th, 28th, and 30th; in the valley districts of north-central Maryland on the 5th; in the interior of Sussex County, Del., on the 5th, 12th, 21st, and 24th; in western Maryland on the 8th; in western and north-central Maryland on the 12th, 24th, and 27th; and in western, north-central, and southern Maryland on the 21st.

Monthly precipitation averaged one and one-half times the normal, but was unequally distributed over the section. Monthly amounts were between 3 and 4 inches, or slightly above normal, in western Maryland, except between 2.8 and 3 inches, or slightly below normal, in northern Garrett County; in north-central Maryland they were between 4 and 5 inches, or 1 to 2 inches above normal; while in southern Maryland and on the Eastern Shore they were between 5 and 6 inches generally, or 2 to 2.5 inches above normal, except between 6 and 7 inches, or 3 to 3.7 inches above normal, in Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester Counties of Maryland and in eastern Sussex and southeastern Kent Counties of Delaware.

A "northeaster" on the 1st caused moderate to heavy snow, 3 to 10 inches, and light sleet over the northern half of the section, and light snow, heavy sleet, and moderate rain over the southern half. At Princess Anne the fall of sleet was 3 inches in places. The snowstorm over the eastern portion of the section was accompanied by lightning and thunder, a rare phenomenon.

Light snow fell also in the Allegheny Mountain region on the 7th, 19th, 20th, 21st, and 22d.

Heavy rain on the 6th to the eastward of the Blue Ridge Mountains caused streams, already somewhat swollen, to overflow their banks and flood the lowlands; no material damage resulted, however. Heavy rain occurred again over the same divisions on the 18th, but streams did not overflow.

Easter Sunday, the 20th, was marked by showers and thunderstorms in western and north-central Maryland and on the Eastern Shore. Light hail attended the thundershowers locally, but did no damage. The attending wind gusts, however, caused some damage to property and blew down some trees and poles in eastern Washington County and locally in north-central Maryland.

Average precipitation during the first four months of 1924 totaled 17.56 inches, or 4.22 inches above normal.

*Crops.*—Wheat, rye, and grass began to show green during the first decade over the western portion of the section. They made slow growth over the entire section, owing to the persistent cool weather, but improved. Grains were in good and grass in fair condition after the second decade. During the third decade sowing of oats was general to the eastward of the Allegheny Mountains, and early-sown oats were coming up in southern Maryland and on the Eastern Shore. Planting of early potatoes, peas, truck, and gardens, continued in southern counties; these operations extended northward during the second decade and westward during the third. In southern counties early potatoes planted in March failed to come up, but peas planted at the same time came up during the second decade and did well during the third. Peach, pear, plum, and cherry trees bloomed during the second decade and were in full bloom during the third, except in the Allegheny Mountain region where they were ready to bloom at the close of the month. During the closing week apple trees were ready to bloom in southern and central counties and strawberries were coming into bloom, except in western Maryland. The closing week was sunshiny and was favorable for drying out the soil, for plowing, and for general farming activities. The growing season was about two weeks behind normal throughout the month.—*J. B., jr.*

### PRESSURE.

The monthly mean sea level pressure at Washington was 30.00; Baltimore, 29.99; Aberdeen, 29.98 inches. The highest at Washington and Baltimore was 30.43, and at Aberdeen, 30.40 inches, on the 3d; lowest at Washington was 29.37, at Baltimore, 29.35, and at Aberdeen, 29.38 inches, on the 30th.

### TEMPERATURE.

The monthly mean for the section, 50.1°, is 2.2° below normal. Highest monthly mean, 53.4°, occurred at Crisfield; lowest, 44.2°, at Oakland. Highest temperature, 83°, occurred at Frederick and Keedysville on the 14th; lowest, 13°, at Oakland on the 3d. Greatest local monthly range was 61° at Keedysville; least, 47°, at Crisfield and Solomons. Greatest daily range was 49° at Oakland on the 27th.

### PRECIPITATION.

The monthly average for the section, 5.01 inches, is 1.67 inches above normal. Greatest monthly amount was 7.05 inches, at Milford; least, 2.76 inches, at Friendsville. Greatest amount in 24 hours was 2.54 inches at Fallston on the 6th. Average monthly snowfall for the section, 5.4 inches, is 4.1 inches above normal. Greatest monthly snowfall was 10 inches at Emmitsburg, Freeland, and Westminster; none fell over extreme southern Eastern Shore. Average number of days with 0.01 inch or more, 12, is 3 above normal.

### WIND.

Prevailing direction for the section was northwest. Total movement at Washington was 5,514; Baltimore, 4,648; Aberdeen, 6,309 miles. Maximum velocity at Washington was 46 miles per hour from the northwest, at Baltimore, 28 miles from the southwest, and at Aberdeen, 46 miles from the west; all on the 20th.

### SUNSHINE AND CLOUDINESS.

At Washington 63 per cent of the possible sunshine was recorded; at Baltimore, 61 per cent. For the whole section the average number clear days was 14; partly cloudy, 7; cloudy, 9.

Climatological Data for April, 1924.

Table with columns: Stations, Counties, Elevation, Length of record, Mean, Departure from normal, Highest, Date, Lowest, Date, Greatest daily range, Total, Departure from normal, Greatest in 24 hours, Total snowfall, With precip., Clear, Partly cloudy, Cloudy, Prevailing direction of wind, Observers.

The departures from normal temperature and precipitation are computed only for such stations as have ten or more years of record, but all complete reports are used in determining section or division means. Data in italics determined from surrounding stations.

Reference letters, A, B, C, appearing in the table indicate number of days missing; for example, A represents two days, etc.
Post office addresses of these stations are as follows: Of Bell, Glendale; of Coleman, Worton; of Fallston, Bagley; of Ferry Landing, Owings; of Great Falls, Bethesda; of Public Landing, Snow Hill. \*Also on other dates.
T. Precipitation is less than 0.01 inch rain or melted snow. \*Customhouse Building, Gay and Water Streets. \*\*Weather Bureau Building, 24th and M Streets.

MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA (WITH DATES).

Fogs, light.—6, 12, 13, 18, 30.

Hail, light.—Washington, Frederick, Carroll, Baltimore, and interior Talbot Counties, 20 (Easter Sunday); size of peas; no damage.

Sleet.—Over section, except western Maryland, 1.

Thunderstorms.—Eastern north-central Maryland, southern Maryland, and Eastern Shore, 1; Montgomery County, District of Columbia, and southern Maryland, 6; Chesapeake Bay region, 18; northern portion of section, except Allegany and Garrett Counties, 20; Eastern Shore, 22; Sussex County, Del., 29.

Winds, high.—Westerly, 2, 6-7, 19, 20 (thundergusts), 22, 23, 29; southerly, 21.

Daily Precipitation for April, 1924.

Table with columns: Stations, Watersheds, Day of month (1-31), Total. Rows list various stations in Maryland and Delaware with their daily precipitation values and totals.

Except as otherwise indicated observations are generally made late in the afternoon, near sunset, and precipitation recorded is for the 24 hours ending at the time of observation.

\*\*\* Regular Weather Bureau station; precipitation is for the 24-hour period, midnight to midnight. \*\* Precipitation is for 24-hour period, midnight to midnight.
||||| Precipitation measured in the morning; amount then recorded is for the preceding 24 hours. \* Precipitation included in the next following measurement.
T. Trace, or less than 0.01 inch. Data in italics determined from surrounding stations.

COMPARATIVE DATA FOR MARYLAND AND DELAWARE FOR APRIL.

Table comparing climate data for Maryland and Delaware from 1895 to 1924. Columns include Year, Temperature (Mean, Departure from normal, Highest, Lowest, Average), Precipitation (Greatest local, Least local, Greatest in 24 hours, Snowfall, Number of days with 0.01 inch or more), and similar metrics for the other region.

Daily Temperatures for April, 1924.

Table with columns for Stations, 1-31, and Mean. Rows include Maryland (Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, etc.), District of Columbia (Washington), and Delaware (Delaware City, Dover, etc.). Each station entry shows maximum and minimum temperatures for each day of the month.

a, b, etc., indicate respectively 1, 2, 3, etc., days missing from the record. Instruments are read in the morning; the maximum temperature then read is charged to the preceding day, on which it almost always occurs. Data in italics determined from surrounding stations.