

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 was the mildest March since the remarkably warm March of 1921. The mean temperature of 45.4° is 2.8° above normal and 7.3° higher than in March, 1926. Precipitation was light. The average of 1.75 inches is 0.5 inch less than in March of 1925 and 1926, and is the least in March since 1915. There was little snow, and it was confined to the Allegheny Mountain highlands and to the extreme southern limit of the Eastern Shore, close to the Virginia line. Monthly sunshine was about normal, and relative humidity averaged slightly above. Morning light fogs occurred frequently. There were two windstorms, 2-3d and 8th.

Cold weather prevailed from the 1st to the morning of the 5th and also from the 23d to the 30th. There was a reaction to much warmer on the 5th and a mild spell of unusual length and intensity resulted, lasting to the 22d. It gave a mean temperature for the period of nearly 12° above normal. It was featured by very mild weather from the 12th to the 19th, with a mean temperature for the eight days of about 17° above normal. The 31st was also mild. Highest temperatures occurred on the 17th or 18th and ranged from 75° to 84°, except from 72° to 75° in the Allegheny Mountain region. Lowest temperatures were recorded on the 4th generally; they ranged from 18° to 24° on the Eastern Shore and from 10° to 24° over the section to westward of Chesapeake Bay.

Precipitation was mostly rain, and it averaged slightly less than one-half the normal. Daily amounts were moderate on the 8th in the Allegheny Mountain region; on the 14th in the central and southern portions of the section; and over the section on the 19-20th, except heavy in the Allegheny Mountain region, and on the 21st-22d, except heavy at Millsboro and Solomons. Otherwise they were light. Monthly amounts were between 1.2 and 2 inches, except between 2 and 3 inches at Millsboro and Solomons and between 2 and 3.2 inches in the Allegheny Mountain region.

Monthly snowfall averaged 0.1 inch, the least in March since 1921. Light snow fell on the 2d in the extreme southern portions of Somerset and Worcester Counties, the northern limit of a heavy snowstorm that enveloped Tidewater Virginia. Light snow fell in the highlands of the Allegheny Mountain region and flurries occurred elsewhere in this division on the 3d, 8th, 22d, 24th, 27th, and 28th. Flurries occurred also in the District of Columbia on the 2d, in southern Baltimore County on the 3d, in the Blue Ridge Mountain region on the 22d and 29th, in Allegany and Washington Counties and over the eastern half of the Eastern Shore on the 24th, and in the Allegheny Mountain highlands on the 26th.

Strong northeast winds on the 2d were locally of gale force over the eastern half of the section. Along and off the Atlantic coast from North Carolina to New England the northeast gale was very severe. The lightships at Cape Lookout, Diamond Shoals, Cape Charles Shoals, and Winter Quarter Shoals were blown from their moorings. A very high tide resulted along the coast. On Chesapeake Bay an ocean freighter in tow of a tug was blown ashore near Smiths Point and a bay steamer grounded near Claiborne. The tide was low along the eastern shore and high along the western shore. High northwest winds

set in at night of the 2d and continued during the 3d. No property damage occurred.

Strong westerly winds on the 8th reached gale force in northeastern Maryland.

Crops.—Under the favorable weather conditions, vegetation advanced rapidly and farm work made excellent headway. Wheat, rye, and grasses were in fair to very good condition in the western half of the section and good to excellent in the eastern half. Sowing of tobacco beds was finished. Planting of early potatoes and peas and sowing of oats was in progress over the eastern half of the section. Some peas came up on the southern Eastern Shore. Fruit buds were unusually advanced for the season, but the cold weather of the third decade was beneficial in retarding blooming. Some plum and peach buds bloomed in the extreme southern counties during the second decade.—*J. B., jr.*

PRESSURE

The monthly mean sea-level pressure at Washington, Baltimore, and Aberdeen was 30.12 inches. The highest at Washington and Baltimore was 30.53 inches on the 11th; at Aberdeen, 30.55 on the 12th. The lowest at Washington and Baltimore was 29.51 inches; at Aberdeen, 29.52—all on the 8th.

TEMPERATURE

The monthly mean for the section, 45.4°, is 2.8° above normal. The highest monthly mean was 48.3° at Crisfield; the lowest, 40.2°, at Grantsville. The highest temperature, 84°, occurred at Hancock on the 17th; the lowest, 10°, at Bell and Oakland on the 4th. The greatest local monthly range was 71° at Bell; the least, 51°, at Public Landing. The greatest daily range was 50° at Hancock on the 17th.

PRECIPITATION

The monthly average for the section, 1.75 inches, is 1.91 inches below normal. The greatest monthly amount was 3.19 inches at Grantsville; the least, 1.21 inches, at Ferry Landing. The greatest 24-hour amount was 1.46 inches at Solomons on the 21st-22d. The average monthly snowfall, 0.1 inch, is 4.5 inches below normal. The average number of days with 0.01 inch or more of precipitation, 9, is 1 below normal.

RELATIVE HUMIDITY

The average percentages were as follows: Washington, D. C., 8 a. m., 74; 12 noon, 56; 8 p. m., 60. Baltimore, Md., 8 a. m., 73; 12 noon, 59; 8 p. m., 62. Aberdeen, Md., 8 a. m., 82; 4 p. m., 57. Philadelphia, Pa., 8 a. m., 81; 12 noon, 76; 8 p. m., 78.

WIND

The prevailing wind direction for the section was northwest. The total movement at Washington was 5,437; at Baltimore, 7,617; at Aberdeen, 5,910 miles. The maximum velocity at Washington was 32 miles from the northwest; at Baltimore, 44 miles from the southwest—both on the 8th; at Aberdeen, 40 miles from the north on the 2d and 8th.

SUNSHINE AND CLOUDINESS

At Washington 58 per cent of the possible sunshine was recorded; at Baltimore, 54 per cent; Aberdeen, 57 per cent. For the whole section the average number of clear days was 10; partly cloudy, 10; cloudy, 11.

MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA (WITH DATES)

Fogs, dense.—Entire section, except western Maryland, 12, 21.
Hail, light.—Milford, 18; Frederick and southern Baltimore County, 19; Millsboro, 21; Chewsville, Clear Spring, and Friendsville, 26.

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Climatological Data for March, 1927

Table with columns: Stations, Counties, Elevation, Length of record, Temperature (Mean, Departure from normal, Highest, Date, Lowest, Date, Greatest daily range), Precipitation (Total, Departure from normal, Greatest in 24 hours, Total snowfall), Number of days (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. T. Precipitation is less than 0.01 inch rain or melted snow.

Reference letters, * and †, appearing in the table indicate number of days missing; for example, † 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 Pleasant Hill, Owings Mills; of Public Landing, Snow Hill. † also on other dates. * Customhouse Building, Gay and Water Streets. ** Weather Bureau Building, 24th and M Streets.

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Hail, moderate.—Newburg and Solomons, 19. At Solomons, hail of the size of marbles fell from 5:40 to 5:50 p. m., breaking a number of window panes.

Lightning, damage by.—Two and one-half story barn destroyed near Catonsville, Baltimore County, afternoon, 19. Some barns destroyed near Millsboro, night, 19.

Rainbow.—Baltimore and Woodstock, 26.

Sleet, light.—Cumberland, 24; Grantsville, 27.

Thunderstorms.—Chewsville, extreme southern Maryland, and southern

half of Eastern Shore, 18; entire section, 19; southern half of section, 21; Chewsville, Frederick, Friendsville, Grantsville, and southern third of Eastern Shore, 26.

Winds, high.—Northeast, 2; northwest, 3, 4, 14, 19 (thundergust), 22; westerly, 8. On the coast: Northeast, 23-24; northwest, 25.

NOTES

Cecilton and Frederick.—First robins seen on 13th.

Newberg.—Hepatica in bloom on 15th; first phoebe, 17th; first fish hawk, 18th.

Daily Precipitation for March, 1927

Table with columns for Station, Watersheds, Day of month (1-31), and Total. Rows list various stations in Maryland, District of Columbia, and Delaware, with their respective precipitation amounts for each day of the month.

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

Table comparing temperature and precipitation data for Maryland and Delaware for the years 1895 to 1928. Columns include Mean, Departure from the normal, Highest, Lowest, Average, and various precipitation metrics like Greatest local, Least local, and Greatest in 24 hours.

Daily Temperatures for March, 1927

Table with columns for Stations, days 1-31, and Mean. Rows list various Maryland and Delaware locations such as Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, etc., with their respective maximum and minimum temperatures for each day.

*, 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. Temperatures at Aberdeen, Baltimore, and Washington are from midnight to midnight; at other stations, except Cumberland and Takoma they are for the 24-hour period ending late in the afternoon, near sunset. Data in italics determined from surrounding stations.