

= 1933 Trinidad hurricane =

The 1933 Trinidad hurricane was one of three North Atlantic tropical cyclones on record to produce hurricane @-@ force winds in Venezuela . The second tropical storm and first hurricane of the 1933 Atlantic hurricane season , the system formed on June 24 to the east of the Lesser Antilles . It moved westward and attained hurricane status before striking Trinidad on June 27 . The storm caused heavy damage on the island , estimated at around \$ 3 million . The strong winds downed trees and destroyed hundreds of houses , leaving about 1 @,@ 000 people homeless . Later , the hurricane crossed the northeastern portion of Venezuela , where power outages and damaged houses were reported .

After entering the Caribbean Sea , the hurricane maintained a northwest trajectory . It passed south of Jamaica on July 1 , where heavy rainfall flooded roads and railways . The hurricane crossed western Cuba on July 3 . High winds on the island destroyed hundreds of houses , and the storm 's rainfall damaged the tobacco crop . Upon entering the Gulf of Mexico , the hurricane turned to the west and attained peak winds of 110 mph (175 km / h) on July 5 . It struck northeastern Mexico on July 8 and quickly dissipated . Upon its final landfall , the storm caused heavy damage in Mexico , and in southern Texas the storm ended a prolonged drought .

= Meteorological history =

A tropical wave was first observed near 40 ° W on June 23 . The next day , a ship in the region observed a closed circulation , suggesting that the tropical wave spawned a tropical depression about 1300 mi (2090 km) east of Trinidad . The storm moved westward and gradually intensified . By June 27 , it attained hurricane status about 175 mi (280 km) east of Trinidad , based on a ship report of a barometric pressure of 991 mbar (29 @.@ 27 inHg) ; it was the first of 11 hurricanes during the season . At around 2100 UTC on June 27 , the hurricane made landfall on extreme southern Trinidad with winds of about 85 mph (137 km / h) . After crossing the island , the hurricane struck the Paria Peninsula of northern Venezuela at the same intensity at 0200 UTC on June 28 . The 1933 Monthly Weather Review summary of the season noted that the hurricane was the " earliest known in [the] general area also the only one in a record of nearly 50 years to pass south of the Island of Trinidad and over the northeast corner of Venezuela . "

About two hours after striking Venezuela , the hurricane entered the southeastern Caribbean Sea . For the next few days it maintained its intensity while tracking to the northwest . A ship on June 30 reported a pressure of 982 mb (29 @.@ 0 inHg) , suggesting winds of about 100 mph (160 km / h) . The next day , the hurricane passed south of Jamaica and turned more to the west before resuming a northwest motion . At around 0600 UTC on July 3 , the hurricane made landfall on western Cuba with winds of 100 mph (160 km / h) . It weakened while crossing the island , although it maintained hurricane status upon entering the Gulf of Mexico . On July 4 , a strong high pressure area over the eastern United States turned the hurricane to the west . After restrengthening , the storm attained peak winds of 110 mph (175 km / h) on July 5 , based on a ship report of a pressure of 965 mbar (28 @.@ 5 inHg) . It maintained that intensity for about 18 hours , and during that time the hurricane turned to the southwest . At 0100 UTC on July 8 , the hurricane made its final landfall near La Pesca , about halfway between Tampico , Tamaulipas and Brownsville , Texas . The intensity at landfall was estimated at around 85 mph (137 km / h) . After moving ashore , the hurricane rapidly weakened over the high terrain of northeastern Mexico , and the storm dissipated at around 1200 UTC on July 8 .

= Impact =

Throughout its path , the hurricane killed at least 35 people collectively in Trinidad , Venezuela , Jamaica , and Cuba . The hurricane first affected Trinidad , causing about \$ 3 million in damage in the southern portion of the island . The storm destroyed 300 houses in one village , and thousands were left homeless . Trees across the island fell down and blocked many roads , including one that

struck a car and seriously injured one man . Heavy damage was also reported to the cocoa industry . High winds destroyed about 60 oil derricks , and an 11 mi (18 km) oil supply line was disrupted due to fallen trees . This represented a significant loss to the island 's oil industry , one of two such events in the 1930s . High winds downed power lines across the island , which were repaired by three days after the storm struck . The storm also dropped heavy rainfall and destroyed the roofs of many houses . Little damage occurred in the capital city of Port of Spain . There were 13 deaths in Trinidad , some of whom drowned after their boats sank . After the storm , medical assistance and relief supplies were sent via boat to Cedros , which was one of the most significantly affected areas .

After affecting Trinidad , the hurricane struck northeastern Venezuela , where damage was heaviest in Carúpano , Río Caribe , and Isla Margarita . High winds cut telephone and telegraph lines for several days . The storm destroyed several houses and fishing boats , resulting in several million bolívares in damage . Officials reported that there were " a number of lives lost " due to the hurricane . Striking with winds of 85 mph (137 km / h) , the storm was one of only three Atlantic tropical cyclones on record at the time to affect the country with hurricane @-@ force winds as of 2015 , after hurricanes in 1877 and 1892 .

After moving across the Caribbean , the hurricane affected Jamaica . High winds downed about 200 @,@ 000 banana trees , while flooding in the western portion of the island affected roads and railways . Later , the hurricane crossed western Cuba , killing 22 people and causing \$ 4 million in damage . The hurricane destroyed about 100 houses in Pinar del Río Province from the combination of strong winds and flooding from heavy rainfall . One person died after her house collapsed in the province . The rainfall caused four rivers to exceed their banks , and the storm @-@ related flooding left serious damage to the tobacco industry . The storm also damaged crops in the region . High winds downed telephone and telegraph lines in western Cuba . Little damage was reported in the capital city of Havana , despite the report of a peak wind gust of 70 mph (110 km / h) . After the storm , Cuban President Gerardo Machado utilized the military to assist in relief operations and prevent looting .

The threat of the storm prompted the United States Weather Bureau to issue southeast storm warnings for Key West , Florida . Light rainfall from the storm was reported in Miami . Before the storm made its final landfall , the Weather Bureau issued northeast storm warnings from Brownsville to Port O 'Connor , Texas on July 5 . That same day , a hurricane warning was also issued for Brownsville . The hurricane ultimately struck a sparsely @-@ populated area of northeastern Mexico , causing several deaths and heavy damage in the country . High winds downed trees and power lines , and damaged the roofs of several houses . Along the beach near Tampico , high tides damaged coastal structures and flooded some cars . The effects extended into Texas , and Brazos Island , Port Isabel , and Port Aransas were flooded due to the storm surge . High tides damaged ten piers in Port Isabel , and there was damage to buildings along the coast . The storm damaged the cotton and fruit crops in south Texas from high winds and rainfall . Rains from the storm ended an extended drought in the Brownsville area .