

= 1925 Florida tropical storm =

The 1925 Florida tropical storm was the deadliest tropical cyclone to impact the United States that did not become a hurricane . The fourth and final storm of the season , it formed as a tropical depression on November 27 near the Yucatán Peninsula , the system initially tracked southeastward before turning north as it gradually intensified . After skirting western Cuba on November 30 , the storm reached peak winds of 65 mph (105 km / h) before striking central Florida on December 1 . Within hours , the system transitioned into an extratropical cyclone and emerged into the Atlantic Ocean . The system moved onshore once more on December 2 in North Carolina before turning east , away from the United States . On December 5 , the system is presumed to have dissipated offshore .

Throughout the system 's existence , it was responsible for 73 fatalities , most of which resulted from offshore incidents . The worst loss of life took place off East Coast , where the 30 crewmen of the American SS Catopazi drowned . Property damage amounted to \$ 3 million , \$ 1 million of which was in Jacksonville .

= = Meteorological history = =

The 1925 Florida tropical storm was first identified on November 27 , 1925 as a tropical depression situated to the southeast of the Yucatán Peninsula , nearly a month after the official end of the hurricane season . Situated over 80 ° F (27 ° C) waters , the system slowly intensified , attaining tropical storm status roughly 12 hours after forming , as it drifted towards the southeast before abruptly turning north @-@ northwestward . Throughout November 30 , the storm quickly strengthened as it brushed the western tip of Cuba with winds of 50 mph (85 km / h) . Once in the Gulf of Mexico , the storm turned northeastward and intensified to peak winds of 65 mph (105 km / h) . The lowest known barometric pressure attained by the storm was 995 mbar (hPa ; 29 @. @ 38 inHg) as it moved inland . Within hours of reaching this strength , the storm made landfall just south of Fort Myers , Florida early on December 1 as it began to transition into an extratropical cyclone . The storm was originally thought to have moved ashore as a minimal hurricane , thus becoming the latest @-@ landfalling hurricane in United States history . However , a reanalysis in 2011 lowered the peak winds . While crossing the Florida peninsula , the storm briefly weakened as it completed its transition ; however , once back over water , it re @-@ intensified .

Off the coast of The Carolinas , the former tropical storm became a large and powerful extratropical cyclone , attaining peak winds of 90 mph (140 km / h) along with a pressure of 979 mbar (hPa ; 28 @. @ 91 inHg) , measured by the USS Patoka . Gale force winds extended to at least New Jersey , where winds of 70 mph (110 km / h) were recorded . Throughout December 2 , the storm gradually slowed as it tracked roughly parallel to the East Coast . Later that day , the system moved onshore again , this time between Wilmington and Cape Hatteras , with winds equivalent to a minimal hurricane . A strong area of high pressure located over the Canadian Maritimes caused the system to turn towards the east @-@ southeast . Over the following few days , the storm gradually weakened as it moved away from North Carolina . By December 5 , the storm was no longer identifiable and is presumed to have dissipated offshore . However , a monthly weather review published in 1925 that documented the system indicated that the cyclone continued towards the east , eventually impacting Bermuda and the Azores . Later analysis in 2009 concluded that a separate extratropical low , which formed near the remnants of the storm , was responsible for inclement weather in both areas .

= = Impact = =

From November 28 to November 30 , the storm brought light rains to most of eastern Cuba . Although the cyclone had tropical storm @-@ force winds at the time , the highest recorded wind in Cuba was 12 mph (18 km / h) in Havana and only 0 @. @ 22 in (5 @. @ 58 mm) of rain fell in the city . The Swan Islands , off the northern coast of Honduras , recorded 2 @. @ 36 in (59 @. @ 94

mm) of precipitation during a three @-@ day span .

= = = United States = = =

During its passage through Florida , the storm produced torrential rain over coastal cities , peaking in Miami at 14 @.@ 08 in (358 mm) . The storm caused significant property and crop damage along the Gulf Coast of Florida . Trees , power lines , and telegraph wires were knocked down by high winds along the Suwannee River . Communication throughout southern Florida was severed as miles of telegraph wires were downed during the evening of November 30 . Structures previously considered safe from storms due to their location over 100 ft (30 @.@ 4 m) inland sustained significant damage , probably from storm surge . Beaches along the Atlantic coast also sustained considerable damages from the storm . Four people were killed near Tampa in two separate incidents . The first occurred when a house collapsed on three men , pinning them to the ground . The second incident occurred after a woman ran outside her home and was struck by a tree limb . At least 12 workmen were killed and 38 others injured after the bunkhouse they were sleeping in collapsed due to high winds . The facility in which they were working in also sustained \$ 200 @,@ 000 in damage from a fire ignited by the cyclone . Throughout Florida , property loses were estimated at \$ 3 million , with \$ 1 million in Jacksonville alone . Damages to the citrus industry were also significant , with total losses exceeding \$ 600 @,@ 000 . Losses in Miami amounted to \$ 250 @,@ 000 as up to 2 ft (0 @.@ 61 m) inundated the city for more than two days .

Shipping incidents resulting from the storm caused several deaths . A schooner carrying seven people sunk , killing all its occupants . A tug boat sank off the coast of Mobile , Alabama while towing a lumber barge ; the fate of the crew is unknown . A ship named the American SS Catopazi sank between Charleston , South Carolina and the northern coast of Cuba , with all 30 crew members lost . Near Daytona Beach , a vessel carrying 2 @,@ 000 cases of liquor sank along with all six crewmen . The last incident , involving a yacht , occurred off the coast of Georgia . The ship sank near Savannah , Georgia with the 12 crew members drowning . The total loss of life at sea was at least 55 . Shipping throughout the East Coast was crippled by the storm as vessels were forced to seek shelter at port .

Due to the large size of the storm as an extratropical cyclone , gale and storm warnings in force from Beaufort , North Carolina to Eastport , Maine . In North Carolina , heavy rains and strong winds were reported along the coast . Near record high water rises were recorded around Wilmington . Cape Hatteras was temporarily isolated from the surrounding areas as the high winds from the storm knocked down power lines throughout the area . Several buildings along the coast and numerous boats sustained considerable damage . As far north as New Jersey , gale @-@ force winds produced by the powerful extratropical storm caused significant damage and killed at least two people . Large swells and high winds throughout New Jersey , southern New York and Connecticut resulted in significant damage . Along the coast of Long Island , large waves resulted in severe beach erosion which threatened to undermine homes . Parts of Coney Island were inundated by the increased surf , damaging homes and businesses . Several barges in nearby marinas were torn from their moorings and swept out to sea . In Sandy Hook , several workmen were nearly killed after a building collapsed amidst high winds . Minor precipitation was recorded throughout Rhode Island , peaking at 0 @.@ 62 in (16 mm) .