

= Hurricane Vince =

Hurricane Vince was an unusual hurricane that developed in the northeastern Atlantic basin . Forming in October during the 2005 Atlantic hurricane season , it strengthened over waters thought to be too cold for tropical development . Vince was the twentieth named tropical cyclone and twelfth hurricane of the extremely active season .

Vince developed from an extratropical system on October 8 , becoming a subtropical storm southeast of the Azores . The National Hurricane Center (NHC) did not officially name the storm until the next day , shortly before Vince became a hurricane . The storm weakened at sea and made landfall on the Iberian Peninsula as a tropical depression on October 11 . Vince was the first tropical system to do so since the 1842 Spain hurricane . It dissipated over Spain , bringing much needed rain to the region , and its remnants passed into the Mediterranean Sea .

= = Meteorological history = =

On October 5 , an operationally unnamed subtropical storm which had gone unnoticed by the NHC was absorbed by a temperate frontal low , which was moving to the southeast over the Azores . The low pressure system gained a more concentrated circulation and lost its frontal structure after absorbing the subtropical storm . The developing system became a subtropical storm itself early on October 8 , 580 miles (930 km) southeast of Lajes in the Azores . However , the NHC decided not to name the system Vince at the time , because the water temperature was too low for normal development for a tropical cyclone . The storm gradually gained the tropical characteristics of symmetry and a warm inner core and became a tropical storm the next day . Its transformation to a tropical system occurred over water cooler than 24°C (75°F) , much colder than the $26\text{--}27^{\circ}\text{C}$ ($80\text{--}80^{\circ}\text{F}$) usually required for tropical development .

Soon after it became a tropical storm on October 9 near Madeira , with a ragged eye already present , the NHC officially named it Tropical Storm Vince and began to issue advisories . At the time there was some uncertainty as to whether Vince was tropical or subtropical but , in his post-storm season analysis , forecaster James L. Franklin of the NHC conceded that Vince had formed as a subtropical storm and had evolved into a tropical storm before it was named . The storm 's ragged eye quickly solidified and contracted into a " bona fide " eye with a diameter of 15 mi (25 km) . This increase in organization was accompanied by strengthening , and Vince reached its peak strength as a hurricane with 75 mph (120 km / h) winds later that day . The NHC forecaster decided that " if it looks like a hurricane , it probably is , despite its environment and unusual location " .

Hurricane Vince 's impressive organization was very short lived as westerly wind shear began to erode the eye within hours . In response , the storm weakened to a tropical storm shortly thereafter . A broad low-level trough approached the storm from the northwest , pulling the convection northward as the storm 's low-level center accelerated eastward . On October 10 , two brief bursts of convection surprised forecasters , but with the sea surface temperature as low as 22°C (72°F) , the flares were not sustained . Vince continued to weaken as it approached the Iberian Peninsula and became a tropical depression on October 11 , shortly before it made landfall near Huelva , Spain . The fast-moving tropical depression quickly dissipated over land . Its remnants moved across southern Spain , dumping rain on the drought-ridden region , and moved into the Mediterranean Sea south of Alicante in the early hours of October 12 .

= = Preparations and impact = =

The Spanish Center for Emergency Coordination declared a rain pre-storm emergency for the province of Castellón in the anticipation that Hurricane Vince would bring rains capable of flooding . The Instituto Nacional de Meteorología (INM) issued a bulletin that warned of a 40 % chance of flooding . Four Spanish autonomous communities (Asturias , Catalonia , Castile and León , and Galicia) issued flood warnings , and Canarias issued a wind warning . Spanish fishing fleets off the

Andalusian coast returned to port and weathered the storm on their moorings rather than in the open ocean .

Spain 's population , which had been battling fires after a record breaking summer drought , welcomed the rains brought by Vince 's remnants . In two days the storm brought more rain to the province of A Coruña than had fallen all summer , easing the sinking water levels in provincial reservoirs , but also causing traffic jams and minor floods . In Córdoba province , the A @-@ 303 , A @-@ 306 and OC @-@ 293 roads were partially flooded but " passable with caution " . Municipal roadworks on la Ronda de Poniente , a major traffic artery connecting the city to nearby highways , were flooded and partially destroyed . The entrance of the University of A Coruña was temporarily blocked by flood waters on October 11 , and a nearby roundabout was submerged . These damages were minor , and no fatalities were reported . The highest winds reported on land were 48 mph (77 km / h) at Jerez , Spain , although some ships recorded stronger . Vince was comparable to normal rain events from temperate systems , with only 1 to 2 inches (25 to 50 mm) of rain falling . Through a play on words of a song in the musical My Fair Lady , National Hurricane Center forecaster James Franklin in the Tropical Cyclone Report for Vince wrote , " the rain in Spain was mainly less than 2 inches , although 3 @. @ 30 inches (84 mm) fell in the plain at Córdoba . "

= = Records and naming = =

Although Hurricane Vince developed in an unusual location in the northeastern Atlantic , well away from where tropical cyclones are usually found , it is neither the most northerly @-@ forming nor the most easterly @-@ forming Atlantic tropical storm ; these records are held by Alberto of the 1988 season at 41 @. @ 5 ° N , and Ginger of the 1967 season at 18 @. @ 1 ° W , respectively .

Hurricane Vince developed into a hurricane farther east than any other known storm , at 18 @. @ 9 ° W. The National Hurricane Center declared that Vince was the first tropical cyclone on record to have made landfall on the Iberian Peninsula . Historical documents , however , suggest that a possibly stronger tropical storm , the 1842 Spain hurricane , struck the Iberian Peninsula on October 29 , 1842 . Vince 's record north was broken by Tropical Storm Grace in 2009 .

When Subtropical Storm Vince formed on October 8 , it was the earliest in the season that the twenty @-@ first tropical or subtropical storm had ever developed , 38 days ahead of the previous record held by Tropical Storm Twenty @-@ one of the 1933 season . Hurricane Vince was also the first named " V " storm in the Atlantic since naming began in 1950 . Because the storm did not cause significant damage , the name Vince was not retired by the World Meteorological Organization .