

= Hurricane Bonnie (1992) =

Hurricane Bonnie was a long-lived storm in the 1992 Atlantic hurricane season . It was the third tropical storm (including the April subtropical storm) and second hurricane of the 1992 season . Bonnie formed at high latitudes in the central Atlantic on September 17 . Devoid of any real steering currents for much of its lifespan , it was nearly stationary for over a week in the central Atlantic Ocean . On September 27 , it began to slowly track east and northeast towards the Azores . Just before becoming extratropical , it affected the Azores on September 30 , although no damage was reported .

= = Meteorological history = =

The origins of the system was a cold front that moved off the U.S. East Coast on September 11 . The front moved gradually off the coast and into the subtropical Atlantic Ocean before becoming stationary just east of Bermuda on September 15 . Over the next two days , the cloud cover slowly detached itself from the front and form into a tropical low in its own right . On the afternoon of September 17 , the system was organized enough to be declared Tropical Depression Four .

The depression organized steadily that evening and into the morning of September 18 . Later that day , it was upgraded to Tropical Storm Bonnie and it began to move slowly to the northeast . Like most storms that develop in higher latitudes , Bonnie was embedded in a larger-scale cyclonic circulation at first , which minimized shear (allowing it to develop) and provided weak steering currents . The low shear allowed Bonnie to rapidly develop and a small but well-defined eye formed late that morning . The storm was upgraded to a hurricane later that day while meandering in the open ocean . The intensification rate slowed down after becoming a hurricane . In addition , Bonnie began to slowly move more to the northeast on September 19 as steering currents slowly developed . Bonnie strengthened into a Category 2 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson hurricane scale that morning as well , peaking at 105 mph (165 km / h) with a 970 mbar central pressure . The general track and intensity maintained itself throughout the day and into September 20 , when the eye became less distinct and Bonnie weakened slightly , although remaining a Category 2 hurricane . Early on September 21 , the eye became better defined once again and Bonnie restrengthened slightly while continuing its slow northeast motion . That afternoon , the storm gradually strengthened some more and reached its peak intensity of 110 mph (175 km / h) and a central pressure of 965 mbar , just under Category 3 intensity . Bonnie maintained its strength through the evening and into the early morning of September 22 , when it began to weaken very gradually and level off . Bonnie also began to turn more eastward at that point before it became held up by a blocking mid-latitude ridge of high pressure , which stalled the motion .

Bonnie remained virtually stationary until the morning of September 23 when it drifted very slowly to the west-southwest in response to the ridge . It also began to gradually weaken as the low-level center became exposed and the storm became poorly organized . Convection also diminished , and on the afternoon of September 24 , Bonnie was downgraded to a tropical storm as it drifted over cooler waters . Bonnie continued to lose most of its deep convection during the day on September 25 as it began to make a turn back around to the south . That evening , Bonnie was downgraded to a tropical depression .

The weakening trend ended early on September 26 and Bonnie regained tropical storm status that afternoon as deep convection re-established itself . Bonnie continued its change in direction , turning to the southeast at this point as it slowly redeveloped despite being in a high-shear environment . It had also briefly showed signs of becoming extratropical on September 27 as it made the turn to the northeast as a weak tropical storm , and was operationally declared extratropical at that point until the afternoon of September 28 . During that period , Bonnie actually strengthened back into a high-end tropical storm . Bonnie roughly followed Hurricane Charley's path towards the Azores thereafter . The storm became entrenched in an environment with greater wind shear , although it only weakened slightly on September 29 as it accelerated towards the northeast . The storm crossed over the Azores on September 30 as a strong tropical storm with

65 mph (100 km / h) winds . After that , Bonnie quickly lost its tropical characteristics and was declared extratropical late that afternoon , just east of the Azores . The extratropical low drifted back to the southwest in a clockwise loop , actually approaching the Azores once again while dissipating . It dissipated on October 2 .

= = Impact = =

When Bonnie passed over the Azores only four days after Charley , it resulted in tropical storm @-@ force winds across much of the island chain . Lajes Air Base reported sustained winds of 40 mph (64 km / h) with gusts to 59 mph (94 km / h) . In addition , one man was killed by a rock fall on the island of São Miguel . No damage was reported in the Azores .