

= Tropical Storm Agatha (1992) =

Tropical Storm Agatha was the deadliest tropical cyclone to form during the 1992 Pacific hurricane season . Developing as a tropical depression off the Pacific coast of Mexico on June 1 , the storm gradually organized over the next several hours . As it moved northward , the depression intensified into Tropical Storm Agatha later that day . After reaching its peak winds as a strong tropical storm , Agatha steadily weakened while turning to the west . The system was downgraded to a tropical depression on June 5 , and subsequently lost its tropical characteristics the next day . Although Agatha never made landfall , the storm 's outer rainbands triggered widespread flooding that killed ten people .

= = Meteorological history = =

On May 26 , a tropical wave ? or a quasi @-@ equatorward area of low pressure ? moved off the Central American coast into the east Pacific . Over the subsequent days the system produced a broad area of convection , which began to show signs of organization on May 29 . Early on June 1 , the disturbance became better defined , and shortly thereafter the National Hurricane Center (NHC) classified it as a tropical depression while located 460 mi (740 km) southwest of Acapulco . At the time , the depression maintained good outflow aloft ; it was forecast to strengthen into a minimal hurricane after three days . Based on a combination of ship data and Dvorak intensity estimates , the system was upgraded into Tropical Storm Agatha on June 2 .

For the first two days of its duration , Agatha steered toward the north while embedded within a deep southerly flow . Steady intensification continued , and the storm reached winds of 50 mph (90 km / h) six hours after being upgraded as it neared the coast of Mexico . By the afternoon of June 2 , the center exhibited an elongated appearance within its associated central dense overcast , a large area of organized mid @-@ tropospheric convection . Around 1800 UTC that same day , the storm peaked in intensity with winds of 70 mph (110 km / h) and a minimum pressure of 990 mbar (hPa ; 29 @. 23 inHg) .

Maintaining its peak intensity for 30 hours , Agatha gradually decelerated as it passed within 100 mi (160 km) southwest of the Mexican coast . Although specialists at the NHC had anticipated a Category 1 @-@ hurricane landfall on the territory , the storm defied predictions and stayed at sea . The center of the storm promptly became ill @-@ defined on infrared satellite imagery , simultaneously recurving to the west . Agatha continued to degenerate quickly into the morning of June 4 , with a ragged appearance observed on satellite imagery . By 0600 UTC June 5 , the storm was downgraded back into tropical depression status prior to dissipating the next day .

= = Preparations and Impact = =

On June 2 , forecasters at the National Hurricane Center anticipated Agatha to make landfall in Mexico near hurricane strength . In light of this , a tropical storm warning and hurricane watch were issued for the Pacific coast of Mexico between Tenexpa to Cabo Corrites around 2100 UTC that day . Additionally , heavy rains from the system prompted concerns over mudslides and flash floods . Following Agatha 's turn towards the west early on June 3 , the watches and warnings were discontinued . Roughly 1 @, 500 people evacuated from coastal areas of Michoacán due to the threat of damaging winds and flooding .

Although the center of Agatha remained offshore , heavy rains within the system 's outer rainbands impacted southwestern and central Mexico . Widespread flooding and mudslides killed ten people and left thousands homeless . Along the coast , waves reportedly reached heights of 16 ft (4 @. 9 m) .