= 1994 ? 95 South @-@ West Indian Ocean cyclone season =

The 1994 ? 95 South @-@ West Indian Ocean cyclone season was fairly active , with storms forming regularly from October through April . It was much less damaging than its predecessor , and most of the storms in the season remained over water or only brushed land . The first system was Tropical Depression A1 , which formed in October and passed north of Madagascar . The first named storm was Albertine , which formed on November 23 in the northeastern portion of the basin and became one of three intense tropical cyclones . The last storm was Marlene , which was also an intense tropical cyclone and dissipated on April 11 .

Most of the storms originated from the intertropical convergence zone . In late December into early January , tropical storms Bentha and Christelle persisted to the east of Madagascar , undergoing the Fujiwhara effect with each other . Later in January , Dorina became the second of three intense tropical cyclones , but weakened before passing near Rodrigues . Tropical Depression Eliceca and Tropical Storm Fodah both formed in the Mozambique Channel toward the end of January , bringing gusty winds and rainfall to the region . In February , Gail produced gusty winds on Rodrigues , and Tropical Storm Heida entered the basin from Australian region . Later in the month , Ingrid brought strong winds to Mauritius . Tropical storms Josta and Kylie developed toward the beginning of March from the same overall system , affecting Madagascar and Réunion , respectively . After they dissipated , Tropical Depression Lidy caused flooding and damage on Rodrigues due to heavy rainfall .

= = Seasonal summary = =

During the year , the Météo @-@ France office on Réunion (MFR) issued warnings for tropical systems in the region as the Regional Specialised Meteorological Centre . In the year , MFR tracked tropical cyclones south of the equator from the coast of Africa to 90 ° E. The Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) also issued warnings in an unofficial capacity .

Several of the storms in the season affected the island of Rodrigues , an outer island of Mauritius ; however , only one ? Tropical Depression Lidy ? caused damage after dropping heavy rainfall . The season as a whole was much less damaging than the preceding season . There were 58 days in which a storm or cyclone was active , 17 above normal . There were 11 systems that became moderate tropical storms , two above the normal of 9 . The six tropical cyclones ? a storm with winds of 120 km / h (75 mph) ? was also above the average of five .

= = Storms = =

= = = Intense Tropical Cyclone Albertine = = =

The intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ) became active toward the end of November , spawning a low pressure area on November 23 about 400 km (250 mi) east of Diego Garcia . This system quickly organized into a tropical disturbance , aided by favorable conditions . On November 24 , the JTWC began classifying it as Tropical Cyclone 02S . The next day , the system intensified into Tropical Storm Albertine while moving southwestward , steered by a ridge to the southeast . Late on November 25 , an eye developed in the center of the convection , and Albertine intensified to tropical cyclone status the next day . The eye gradually became better organized , attaining a diameter of 90 km (55 mi) on November 28 as Albertine became an intense tropical cyclone . At that time , the MFR estimated peak 10 ? minute winds of 175 km / h (110 mph) , with gusts to 250 km / h (160 mph) . In contrast , the JTWC estimated 1 ? minute winds of 215 km / h (130 mph) . After moving over an area of cool water temperatures , Albertine quickly weakened and lost its well @-@ defined eye . On November 30 , the center passed about 110 km (68 mi) northwest of Rodrigues after weakening to severe tropical storm status . After weakening gradually , the storm began deteriorating faster due to increasing wind shear . A polar low steered Albertine

southeastward until absorbing the system on December 3 .

In its formative stages , Albertine brushed Diego Garcia with gusts of 63 km / h (39 mph) . On Rodridgues , Albertine produced peak gusts of 170 km / h (110 mph) , along with heavy rainfall , causing some damage . The island was under a cyclone watch for 39 hours , the first of the warning system set up by MFR during the season .

= = = Moderate Tropical Storm Christelle = = =

Toward the end of December , the equatorial trough spawned two areas of convection ? one persisted southwest of Diego Garcia , which would become Tropical Storm Bentha , and the other persisted between Agalega and the Farquhar Group in the Seychelles . The latter system organized into Tropical Disturbance B1 on December 27 , but wind shear in the region prevented significant development and dislocated the center from the thunderstorms . A ridge to the southeast steered the disturbance slowly southwestward toward Madagascar . As it neared the country , the system turned westward and intensified into a tropical depression after developing a spiral band of convection . On January 2 , the depression made landfall near Antalaha in northeastern Madagascar , and quickly weakened over land .

The system moved to the northeast and looped back to the east , influenced by developing Tropical Storm Bentha . On January 4 , after Bentha was named , the system was renamed Tropical Disturbance C1 . Convection gradually reorganized over the center as the two storms interacted and moved cyclonically around each other . The disturbance intensified after Bentha began weakening , becoming Tropical Storm Christelle on January 5 . On the next day , the JTWC began issuing advisories on Tropical Cyclone 07S . Christelle slowly intensified as it turned more to the south , becoming the dominant system after absorbing Bentha . A warm spot formed in the center of the convection , and the MFR estimated peak winds of 85 km / h (50 mph) on January 6 . The same wind shear that weakened Bentha caused Christelle to deteriorate on January 7 . The center passed near Mauritius on January 8 as a tropical depression . Two days later , a cold front steered the system to the southeast , absorbing it after Christelle became extratropical on January 11 .

Both Bentha and Christelle brought gusty winds and rainfall to Mauritius , and caused Réunion to be under a cyclone watch for five days . The system also produced rainfall and landslides in Madagascar .

= = = Moderate Tropical Storm Bentha = = =

The same broad system that spawned Christelle also produced an area of convection southwest of Diego Garcia toward the end of December . On January 1 , the convection began organizing , aided by an anticyclone aloft , and it became a tropical depression on the next day . The system quickly intensified into Tropical Storm Bentha on January 3 while moving generally southwestward . Also on that day , the JTWC classified it as Tropical Cyclone 06S . On January 4 , Bentha attained peak winds of 85 km / h (50 mph) , and on the same day the storm began interacting with developing Tropical Storm Christelle to the west . On January 5 , increased shear weakened Bentha , and by the following day the storm deteriorated into a tropical depression . The system passed about 250 km (155 mi) north of Réunion on January 6 , dissipating shortly thereafter near Tromelin Island while being absorbed into Christelle .

Both Bentha and Christelle brought gusty winds and rainfall to Mauritius , and caused Réunion to be under a cyclone watch for five days .

= = = Intense Tropical Cyclone Dorina = = =

The ITCZ spawned an area of convection and a vortex in the northeastern portion of the basin on January 18 , which organized into a tropical disturbance that day . It initially moved southeastward under the influence of the monsoon , although it gradually recurved back to the southwest . On January 19 , the system intensified into Tropical Storm Dorina , and on the next day the JTWC

initiated advisories on it as Tropical Cyclone 08S . Dorina quickly intensified into a tropical cyclone by January 21 , developing a 40 km (25 mi) eye in the center of the convection . Later that day , the storm became an intense tropical cyclone , less than three days after its development ; such a quick time to attain that intensity is unusual for the basin . At 18 : 00 UTC on January 21 , Dorina attained peak winds of 175 km / h (110 mph) , according to the MFR , and 185 km / h (115 mph) according to the JTWC .

After moving over an area of cooler waters , Dorina began weakening , indicated by the previously well @-@ defined eye becoming ragged . On January 24 , the cyclone weakened into a severe tropical storm . The motion became more west @-@ southwesterly after the ridge weakened . A passing trough increased shear over Dorina , which caused further weakening and for the convection to deteriorate . However , conditions became more favorable on January 27 , allowing Dorina to re @-@ intensify slightly as it redeveloped an eye feature . On that day , the storm passed about 250 km (155 mi) south of Rodrigues , producing gusts of 115 km / h (70 mph) . Subsequently , Dorina turned back to the southwest and later to the south , influenced by another passing trough that had absorbed Tropical Storm Fodah . Strong wind shear caused the storm to weaken again . On January 31 , Dorina became extratropical while turning to the southeast and was later absorbed into the trough .

= = = Severe Tropical Storm Fodah = = =

After the remnants of Tropical Depression Eliceca dissipated over Madagascar , an area of disturbed weather persisted over the Mozambique Channel , spawning a low pressure area near Juan de Nova Island on January 21 . Convection greatly increased on the next day , indicating the system became a tropical disturbance . Moving southward , the system became a tropical depression on January 23 as the system organized further , aided by an anticyclone aloft . On January 24 , the depression intensified into Tropical Storm Fodah while near Europa Island , and soon after became a severe tropical storm . The MFR estimated peak winds of 100 km / h (65 mph) , while the JTWC , which initiated advisories that day as Tropical Cyclone 09S , estimated winds of 85 km / h (50 mph) . Gusts on Europa Island were less than 110 km / h (70 mph) , despite the storm being nearby . A strong band of convection spread along the Madagascar coastline , producing gusts of 180 km / h (110 mph) at Morombe . Fodah also produced 250 mm (9 @.@ 8 in) of rainfall , as well as high seas . Moving around the ridge , Fodah continued southward , encountering stronger wind shear on January 25 . Steady weakening commenced as the convection deteriorated , and Fodah became extratropical on January 26 . A trough turned the remnants to the southeast , absorbing it on January 29 .

= = = Tropical Cyclone Gail = = =

The ITCZ spawned an area of convection near Diego Garcia that became a tropical disturbance on January 31 . The system slowly organized due to wind shear in the region , and it moved slowly for several days . On February 4 , the disturbance became a tropical depression after the convection organized slightly . Intensification became more rapid on the next day after conditions became more favorable , allowing the depression to intensify into Tropical Storm Gail . Also on February 5 , the JTWC began issuing warnings on the system as Tropical Cyclone 10S . Gail quickly strengthened while moving southwestward , developing a small , poorly @-@ defined eye in the center of the convection . On February 7 , it attained tropical cyclone status , reaching peak winds of 120 km / h (75 mph) . Increasing shear caused Gail to weaken , beginning on February 8 . That night , the center passed less than 30 km (20 mi) north of Rodrigues . Gail maintained its intensity as a severe tropical storm after the shear decreased slightly . A trough turned the storm to the south on February 10 and caused weakening , resulting in Gail 's dissipation on the next day .

While Gail approached the island of Rodrigues , the storm produced winds of 120 km / h (75 mph) and gusts to 193 km / h (120 mph) at Port Mathurin .

= = = Moderate Tropical Storm Heida = = =

As Gail was developing , the ITCZ spawned another disturbance in the Australian region on February 3 . On the next day , it crossed 90 ° E into the south @-@ west Indian Ocean as a tropical depression . The system intensified into Tropical Storm Heida on February 5 while moving west @-@ southwestward , although the convection never organized beyond a disorganized central dense overcast . The JTWC initiated advisories that day as Tropical Cyclone 11S , and Heida quickly attained peak winds of 75 km / h (45 mph) . Wind shear in the region caused the storm to weaken into a tropical depression , although Heida briefly re @-@ intensified into a tropical storm on February 6 . A trough in the region steered the circulation to the south @-@ southwest and increased wind shear , resulting in Heida 's dissipation on February 8 .

= = = Tropical Cyclone Ingrid = = =

On February 22 , a tropical disturbance formed southwest of Diego Garcia . It moved westward , intensifying into Tropical Storm Ingrid on February 24 . That day , the JTWC began issuing advisories on the storm as Tropical Cyclone 13S . Ingrid turned more to the southwest while passing just east of St. Brandon , where winds reached 56 km / h (35 mph) . After continued intensification , the storm became a tropical cyclone on February 26 while passing between Mauritius and Rodrigues . On Mauritius , winds gusted to 91 km / h (56 mph) at Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport , and the storm produced high waves . On the next day , the MFR estimated peak winds of 150 km / h (90 mph) , while the JTWC estimated winds of 185 km / h (115 mph) . Ingrid turned to the southeast and weakened , becoming extratropical on March 1 .

= = = Severe Tropical Storm Josta = = =

An extended series of low pressure areas spawned what would become Tropical Storm Josta on March 5 near the Comoros in the northern Mozambique Channel . It initially drifted westward while slowly organizing , becoming a tropical storm on March 7 . On that day , the JTWC classified Josta as Tropical Cyclone 16S . On March 8 , Josta approached the coast of Mozambique within 90 km (55 mi) of Pemba before turning abruptly to the east @-@ southeast . The convection fluctuated in intensity , eventually becoming better organized on March 9 . That day , an eye feature formed in the center of the convection , and the MFR estimated peak winds of 105 km / h (65 mph) . By contrast , the JTWC upgraded Josta to the equivalent of a minimal hurricane with winds of 120 km / h (75 mph) . The eye feature dissipated soon after due to increased shear , causing Josta to weaken . On March 10 , the storm re @-@ intensified slightly , aided by the monsoon , as it passed 160 km (100 mi) south of Mayotte . It again weakened soon thereafter , with the convection spreading ahead of the circulation over Madagascar . On March 12 , the circulation dissipated off the northwest coast of Madagascar , partially due to the influence of the stronger Kylie to the southeast . Rains from the storm reached 270 mm (11 in) along the coast of Madagascar , despite the storm not making landfall .

= = = Moderate Tropical Storm Kylie = = =

The same overall system that spawned Josta also produced a disturbance on March 6 off the east coast of Madagascar . While drifting southeastward within a trough , the system slowly organized until becoming a tropical storm on March 7 , the same day that the JTWC classified it as Tropical Cyclone 17S . On the next day , the system was named Kylie as it meandered to the north of Mauritius without further strengthening . The convection organized on March 10 into a central dense overcast , and the next day attained peak winds of 85 km / h (50 mph) , according to the MFR . By contrast , the JTWC assessed Kylie as becoming much stronger , reaching winds of 160 km / h (100 mph) . Subsequently , a trough turned the storm to the southwest , bringing it over the island of Réunion on March 13 . Increased wind shear deteriorated the convection as the storm turned to the

southeast on March 14 . The next day , Kylie was absorbed by the trough .

On Réunion , Kylie produced rainfall along with gusts of over 100 km / h (65 km / h) , along with high waves . The storm prompted classes to be canceled , as well as for the airport to be closed , causing flights to be canceled .

= = = Intense Tropical Cyclone Marlene = = =

The final storm of the season formed on March 29 from the ITCZ to the east of Diego Garcia . The large area of convection quickly became more organized , intensifying into Tropical Storm Marlene on March 30 . On that date , the JTWC classified it as Tropical Cyclone 19S . Marlene continued to strengthen as it moved west @-@ southwestward , aided by a surge in the monsoon . An eye formed on March 31 , and on the next day the storm became a tropical cyclone . The eye reached a diameter of 25 km (15 mi) , embedded within a well @-@ defined central dense overcast . Later on April 1 , Marlene became an intense tropical cyclone , just three days after its genesis . That day , it turned to the south due to a passing trough . Less favorable conditions caused Marlene to weaken on April 2 , although it re @-@ intensified the next day . The MFR estimated peak winds of 185 km / h (115 mph) , and the JTWC estimated winds of 230 km / h (145 mph) . The trough that turned it to the south later caused the cyclone to weaken and for the eye to dissipate . On April 5 , Marlene was downgraded into a severe tropical storm and subsequently drifted to the northwest , influenced by a ridge behind the trough . Two days later , the storm turned to the southeast and later to the east , gradually weakening into a tropical depression . On April 11 , a passing trough absorbed Marlene in the eastern periphery of the basin .

= = = Other storms = = =

On October 1 , an area of convection developed about 500 km (310 mi) Seychelles at a low latitude . Moving southwestward , the system organized into Tropical Disturbance A1 on October 2 , the first of the season . A small central dense overcast subsequently developed over the circulation . A ridge to the south steered the disturbance westward , bringing it just north of the Farquhar Group . On October 5 , the disturbance intensified into a tropical depression , reaching peak winds of 55 km / h (35 mph) . Subsequently , increased wind shear dissipated the convection as the rapidly weakening depression passed north of Madagascar . On October 7 , the circulation dissipated . There were two other disturbances between October and late November .

There was a tropical disturbance in the first two weeks of January before Dorina formed . Later in the month , the ITCZ spawned an area of convection in the northern Mozambique Channel near the Comoros . A circulation formed within the system on January 20 near the western coast of Madagascar , quickly becoming a tropical depression . That day , the Meteorological Service of Madagascar named the system Eliceca , but the depression quickly moved inland and dissipated . Two disturbances formed in February after the development of Heida and before Ingrid formed .

The ITCZ later produced a disturbance northeast of Rodrigues after Kylie dissipated on March 14 . It intensified into a tropical depression as it moved southwestward . Due to the threat to Rodrigues , the Mauritius Meteorological Service named the depression Lidy on March 15 , although wind shear in the region prevented further strengthening . It produced gusty winds while passing near Rodrigues on March 16 , and subsequently looped near the island . Convection from Lidy produced 200 mm (7 @.@ 9 in) of rainfall , causing flooding in some areas on Rodrigues . The rains caused erosion and the most damage on the island of any storm in the season . Later , Lidy drifted to the west in the trade winds , dissipating on March 20 to the north of Réunion . After Lidy , there was one final non @-@ developing disturbance .

= = Storm names = =

A tropical disturbance is named when it reaches moderate tropical storm strength . If a tropical disturbance reaches moderate tropical storm status west of 55 ° E , then the Sub @-@ regional

Tropical Cyclone Advisory Centre in Madagascar assigns the appropriate name to the storm . If a tropical disturbance reaches moderate tropical storm status between 55 ° E and 90 ° E , then the Sub @-@ regional Tropical Cyclone Advisory Centre in Mauritius assigns the appropriate name to the storm . A new annual list is used every year , so no names are retired .