

= 1986 ? 87 South @-@ West Indian Ocean cyclone season =

The 1986 ? 87 South @-@ West Indian Ocean cyclone season was below average due to an ongoing El Niño and a weak monsoon that suppressed convection and storms . There were only five named storms tracked by the Météo @-@ France office (MFR) on Réunion . The United States @-@ based Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) followed four other storms in the basin , which is the waters of the Indian Ocean south of the equator and west of 90 ° E to the coast of Africa . The JTWC tracked a storm on August 1 in the northeastern portion of the basin , unusual for the time of year . The first named storm was Severe Tropical Storm Alinina , which originated from the intertropical convergence zone east of Madagascar in the middle of January . However , there was an unnamed tropical depression that produced heavy rainfall in Réunion and Madagascar , causing two deaths in the latter country .

In February , two tropical storms were active near the Mascarene Islands . Tropical Storm Bemezava was a weak storm that took an erratic track around the island of Rodrigues . Tropical Storm Clotilda , the most damaging of the season , stalled near Réunion for three days , producing 2 @, @ 723 mm (107 @. @ 2 in) of rainfall at Bébouarg . The rainfall totals approached the world record precipitation totals set by Cyclone Hyacinthe in 1980 . The rains killed 10 people , destroyed 120 houses , and caused \$ 2 million (1987 USD) in damage . Later , Daodo in March was the strongest storm of the season and the only to attain tropical cyclone status , reaching of 135 km / h (85 mph) . Elizabeta was the final storm of the season tracked by the MFR , forming south of Madagascar in April and dissipating on April 29 .

= = Seasonal summary = =

During the season , the Météo @-@ France office (MFR) on Réunion island issued warnings in tropical cyclones within the basin . Using satellite imagery from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration , the agency estimated intensity through the Dvorak technique , and warned on tropical cyclones in the region from the coast of Africa to 90 ° E , south of the equator . The World Meteorological Organization would later label the MFR as a Regional Specialized Meteorological Center in 1993 . The Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) , which is a joint United States Navy ? United States Air Force task force , also issued tropical cyclone warnings for the southwestern Indian Ocean . The season 's five named storms and one tropical cyclone ? a storm attaining maximum sustained winds of at least 120 km / h (75 mph) - were both below the average of nine and five , respectively . The MFR considered the tropical cyclone year to begin on August 1 and continue to July 31 of the following year . There was an ongoing El Niño by December , and by January , the monsoon was weaker than normal across the region . This caused below normal thunderstorm activity in February .

In addition to the storms classified by the MFR , the JTWC tracked four additional storms . The first , classified as Tropical Cyclone 01S , formed on August 1 in the northeastern portion of the basin , an infrequent event for the time of year . The storm moved westward with peak 1 minute winds of 85 km / h (50 mph) . It gradually weakened , dissipating on August 3 near Diego Garcia . The JTWC also tracked a short @-@ lived storm in January that they classified as Tropical Cyclone 06S . The storm formed on January 7 in the eastern portion of the basin near Diego Garcia , and reached winds of 85 km / h (50 mph) while moving southeastward . After stalling on January 9 , the system dissipated three days later . Later , the agency monitored Tropical Cyclone 26S beginning on April 24 . The storm formed south of Diego Garcia and moved in a counterclockwise direction , first to the southeast and later to the north . After reaching peak 1 minute winds of 85 km / h (50 mph) , the storm dissipated on April 26 . The final storm tracked by the agency originated on June 25 in the far northeastern portion of the basin between Diego Garcia and the Cocos Islands . It moved slowly to the southwest , failing to intensify beyond winds of 65 km / h (40 mph) . Turning to the southeast , the system dissipated on June 27 .

The MFR did not track any tropical depressions before January , making Alinina in January the first official storm of the season . However , there was an earlier tropical depression that originated as a

low pressure area on January 1 near Tromelin Island . It was a large system that spread rainfall between Madagascar and the Mascarene Islands for several days . By January 2 , the depression consisted of a circulation with spiral rainbands about 150 km (95 mi) west of Tromelin . The system moved southward without intensifying much , and it passed about 130 km (80 mi) west of Réunion on January 4 . While near the island , the depression dropped heavy rainfall that broke 24 ? hour totals at 10 locations , peaking at 600 mm (24 in) at Dos d 'Âne . The system intensified slightly afterward , although it turned to the east due to a ridge to the south and was no longer tracked after January 6 . In Madagascar , the heavy rainfall led to flooding around the capital Antananarivo , displacing 40 @, @ 220 people . The floodwaters covered rice fields and entered houses , killing two people . Local Red Cross offices provided shelter and food to victims .

= = Storms = =

= = = Severe Tropical Storm Alinina = = =

Toward the middle of January , the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) spawned an area of convection between Diego Garcia and St. Brandon . A tropical disturbance formed the next day , characterized by spiral rainbands around a circulation . The JTWC classified the system as Tropical Cyclone 09S on January 16 . The system moved to the southeast , intensifying into tropical storm status on January 17 , whereupon it was named Alinina by the Mauritius Meteorology Service . Later that day , the JTWC upgraded the storm to the equivalent of a minimal hurricane due to the storm 's quick organization while passing east of Rodrigues . On January 18 , the MFR estimated peak 10 minute winds of 95 km / h (60 mph) , while the JTWC assessed peak 1 minute winds of 140 km / h (85 mph) . Subsequently the storm weakened , and Alinina turned sharply westward on January 20 due to a building ridge to the south . On that day , the storm weakened to tropical depression status , and the JTWC discontinued advisories . However , Alinina quickly retained tropical storm status . Once the ridge turned to the east , the storm turned to the southeast , the same day that the JTWC reissued advisories . Shortly thereafter , the agency upgraded Alinina to the equivalent of a hurricane for a second time . This was short @-@ lived , as Alinina rapidly weakened while accelerating to the southeast , dissipating on January 23 as it was absorbed by the westerlies .

= = = Moderate Tropical Storm Bemazava = = =

The ITCZ produced an area of convection north of the Mascarene Islands on February 5 , organizing into a tropical disturbance that day about 590 km (365 mi) northeast of Rodrigues . The system initially consisted spiral rainbands around an organizing center . Moving quickly to the southwest , the disturbance passed west of Rodrigues on February 6 , producing wind gusts of 117 km / h (72 mph) likely due to a localized vortex . Despite only being a disturbance , the Mauritius Meteorology Service named the system Bemazava on February 6 . On the next day , the depression turned sharply to the east due to a nearby ridge , passing 350 km (215 mi) southeast of Mauritius . Bemazava intensified into a moderate tropical storm on February 8 , attaining peak 10 minute winds of 65 km / h (40 mph) . It turned back to the northeast and weakened , tracked only by satellite imagery as a weak circulation . Bemazava looped to the west beginning on February 10 , turning to the southeast and back to the west . It dissipated on February 17 about 200 km (125 mi) southeast of Rodrigues , or about 680 km (425 mi) south of where it first formed . Bemazava was not tracked by the JTWC .

= = = Severe Tropical Storm Clotilda = = =

While Bemazava was still active , another circulation was present between Réunion and Madagascar on February 8 . On the next day , a tropical disturbance formed about 150 km (95 mi) east @-@ southeast of Toamasina , Madagascar . A ridge to the south caused the nascent system

to move erratic , although generally to the southeast and east . It intensified into Tropical Storm Clotilda on February 10 , and on the next day that the JTWC classified it as Tropical Cyclone 17S . The storm slowed and approached within 50 km (30 mi) of Réunion before stalling . It moved slowly near the island for two days , during which it remained about 30 km (18 mi) off the northern coast . On February 13 , Clotilda attained peak 10 minute winds of 110 km / h (70 mph) . A weak ridge steered the storm back to the southwest , and on February 14 , Clotilda struck northern Réunion at Sainte @-@ Suzanne . The ridge moved to the east , causing the storm to accelerate and gradually weaken . On February 17 , Clotilda became extratropical while turning southeastward due to an approaching trough . The remnants persisted several days until dissipating on February 22 near Île Amsterdam .

While stalling , Clotilda affected Mauritius with gusty winds and heavy rainfall , which flooded several homes . However , effects were worst on Réunion , where wind gusts reached 173 km / h (107 mph) and rainfall totaled 2 @, @ 723 mm (107 @. @ 2 in) at Bébourg . The deluge approached the record @-@ setting rains from Cyclone Hyacinthe in 1980 over a 72 ? hour period . Clotilda damaged 250 houses , of which 120 were destroyed . About 150 @, @ 000 people on the island lost access to water , and many roads were damaged . Clotilda killed 10 people on the island , and damage totaled around \$ 2 million (USD) .

= = = Tropical Cyclone Daodo = = =

Several areas of convection persisted within the ITCZ in early March across the open Indian Ocean . One of these organized into a tropical storm on March 2 about 700 km (430 mi) south of Diego Garcia and was given the name Daodo . On the following day , the JTWC began tracking it as Tropical Cyclone 21S . Daodo moved slowly initially while quickly strengthening into a severe tropical storm . On March 4 , a weak ridge steered the storm to the east , and the storm weakened slightly during this time . Three days later a stronger ridge to the east turned Daodo to the southwest , bringing it over its former path . On March 8 , the JTWC upgraded the storm to the equivalent of a minimal hurricane . On the following day , the MFR upgraded Daodo to tropical cyclone status , estimating peak 10 minute winds of 135 km / h (85 mph) , although it weakened back into a tropical storm on March 10 . The storm accelerated to the southeast on the next day and maintained much of its intensity due to baroclinic interactions with a nearby anticyclone . On March 13 , Daodo turned back to the southwest before moving more southward and later to the southeast . On March 18 , the storm dissipated within a polar trough northwest of Île Amsterdam .

= = = Severe Tropical Storm Elizabeta = = =

In the middle of April , a plume of moist air from the equator reached a circulation southeast of Madagascar , which was associated with a trough . On April 20 , a tropical disturbance formed about 350 km (215 mi) southeast of the southernmost point of Madagascar . A strong ridge to the south steered the system westward , bringing it south of the island on April 22 . After several days without much strengthening , the system began intensifying steadily on April 23 , becoming a moderate tropical storm . That day , the Madagascar Meteorological Service named it Elizabeta , and the JTWC classified it as Tropical Cyclone 24S . Around that time , the storm turned sharply to the south due to a passing trough . Late on April 23 , the JTWC upgraded Elizabeta to the equivalent of a minimal hurricane . On the next day , the MFR estimated peak 10 minute winds of 95 km / h (60 mph) , and the JTWC estimated 1 minute winds of 140 km / h (85 mph) . A ridge turned the storm eastward , and Elizabeta gradually weakened , deteriorating to tropical depression status by April 25 . Two days later , the system turned to a westward drift due to small ridge , although it turned back to the south the next day due to another ridge . The weak circulation accelerated to the southeast into a polar trough , dissipating on April 29 .

Although Elizabeta passed just south of the Madagascar , effects were minimal there . However , the storm caused a large fall in barometric pressure at Fort Dauphin , with a drop of 8 @. @ 3 mbar (0 @. @ 25 inHg) over 24 hours .

= = Season effects = =