

= Hurricane Inga (1969) =

Hurricane Inga is the third longest @-@ lived Atlantic hurricane on record . The 11th tropical cyclone and 9th named storm of the 1969 Atlantic hurricane season , Inga developed on September 20 in the central Atlantic and tracked westward . After attaining tropical storm status , the system deteriorated into a depression , but once again intensified several days later . The storm eventually peaked in strength on October 5 , with winds corresponding to Category 3 on the modern @-@ day Saffir ? Simpson Hurricane Scale . Throughout its path , Inga underwent several changes in direction and oscillations in strength , before dissipating on October 15 , 25 days after it formed . Despite its duration , Inga caused little damage , and mostly remained over open waters .

= = Meteorological history = =

On September 20 , a tropical disturbance in the Atlantic Ocean developed into a tropical depression . On the next morning , the National Hurricane Center reported that the system became a tropical storm while centered about 930 mi (1 @, @ 500 km) east @-@ southeast of San Juan , Puerto Rico . At the time , the storm was moving towards the west at 14 mph (23 km / h) . At the time , Inga was a very small tropical cyclone ; gale @-@ force winds extended less than 100 mi (160 km) from the center . However , by September 23 , the storm had become disorganized and sprawling . Later that day , Inga weakened back into a tropical depression .

The depression continued west @-@ northwestward , passing north of the Leeward Islands , before drifting northwestward . It once again attained tropical storm status on September 28 , while situated well to the east of the Bahamas . Inga continued to intensify , and achieved hurricane status at 0000 UTC on September 30 , at which point it turned northeastward . The storm then abruptly , yet gradually , turned towards the south , and ultimately completed a counter @-@ clockwise loop as it bent back westward . Steering currents were weak , and the hurricane continued to proceed slowly . Late on October 3 , it turned to the northwest , still as a Category 1 hurricane on the modern @-@ day Saffir ? Simpson Hurricane Scale . The storm then curved northeastward and intensified to Category 2 status at 0000 UTC on October 5 .

Inga accelerated somewhat as it passed to the southeast of Bermuda . By the morning hours of October 5 , it was determined that the hurricane posed no significant threat to the island . At 1200 UTC , the storm 's lowest known barometric pressure of 964 millibars was recorded . Shortly thereafter , it briefly strengthened to Category 3 status ; the cyclone peaked with maximum sustained winds of 115 mph (185 km / h) . As it moved towards the open waters of the Atlantic and entered a cooler environment , it deteriorated to Category 1 intensity on October 6 . The hurricane slowed again , and as cold air became entrained into its circulation , it began to lose tropical characteristics .

However , Inga once again intensified and reattained Category 2 intensity on October 7 . At this point , the hurricane was drifting generally eastward . However , in time the storm turned towards the south and began to weaken . Operationally , the storm was believed to have downgraded to a tropical storm on October 8 and regained hurricane status thereafter , but instead it likely maintained Category 1 intensity steadily until October 10 . After the storm finally degenerated into a tropical storm , it curved southwestward . The storm 's center became ill @-@ defined and elongated at the storm continued to lose strength . Heading westward , Inga was downgraded to a tropical depression before dissipating fully on October 15 , about 290 mi (470 km) from where it initially attained hurricane status .

= = Impact and records = =

Hurricane Inga lasted for nearly 25 days between September 20 and October 15 . This made it the third longest @-@ tracked Atlantic hurricane on record , behind the Hurricane San Ciriaco in August ? September 1899 and Hurricane Ginger in September ? October 1971 . The fourth , fifth , and sixth longest @-@ lived storms are Hurricane Nadine in 2012 , Hurricane Kyle in 2002 , and Hurricane

Four in 1926 . At the time of its existence , however , Inga was believed to have been the longest @-@ lived Atlantic tropical cyclone on record . The National Hurricane Center issued 72 total advisories on the storm .

While Inga remained predominately over the open ocean , its outer fringes produced 80 mph (130 km / h) wind gusts on Bermuda . The strong winds caused power failures , which were promptly restored . Residents were advised to monitor the storm in case of sudden changes in direction .