

= Tropical Storm Danielle ( 1986 ) =

Tropical Storm Danielle was the only tropical storm to move through the Caribbean Sea in 1986 . A short @-@ lived cyclone , Danielle developed on September 7 to the east of the southern Lesser Antilles . Strengthening to peak winds of 60 mph ( 95 km / h ) , the storm moved through Saint Vincent and the Grenadines , where a rainband moved across the main island with hurricane @-@ force gusts . Continuing westward , Danielle absorbed dry air from northern South America and dissipated on September 10 .

The threat of Danielle prompted gale warnings in Barbados as well as Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . On the former island , wind gusts reached 40 mph ( 64 km / h ) . On Saint Vincent , the winds caused a major power outage , while heavy rainfall left crop damage . Another rain system affected the country a few weeks later , and the combined monetary damage totaled \$ 9 @. @ 2 million ( 1986 USD , \$ 18 million 2010 USD ) ; 142 people had to seek shelter after their homes were destroyed , and a total of 436 dwellings were impacted to some degree . In Trinidad and Tobago , the outer rainbands produced flooding and mudslides . Further west , Danielle briefly threatened Jamaica , although it dissipated before affecting the island .

= = Meteorological history = =

Around September 1 , a tropical wave moved off the western coast of Africa . It progressed westward through the tropical Atlantic Ocean , initially at a moderate speed before accelerating to 23 mph ( 37 km / h ) on September 6 . A tropical depression developed along the tropical wave early on September 7 , and satellite imagery indicated that it quickly intensified into Tropical Storm Danielle about 385 mi ( 620 km ) east @-@ southeast of Grenada , an island in the Lesser Antilles .

On September 8 , Hurricane Hunters flew into Tropical Storm Danielle and reported maximum sustained winds of 60 mph ( 95 km / h ) , as well as a pressure of 1 @, @ 000 millibars ( 30 inHg ) . Initially , forecasters anticipated Danielle would strengthen further . As the storm moved through Saint Vincent and the Grenadines , a rainband north of the center contained winds of near hurricane force , which moved across the island of Saint Vincent . After maintaining peak winds for about 18 hours , Danielle began weakening in the eastern Caribbean Sea , due to entrainment of dry air from northern South America . Paralleling the northern coast of the continent , the circulation became dislocated from the convection . Late on September 9 , the system weakened to tropical depression status , and the next day it dissipated in the western Caribbean . It was the only tropical cyclone in the Caribbean Sea during 1986 .

= = Preparations and impact = =

Before Tropical Storm Danielle moved through the Lesser Antilles , a small @-@ craft advisory was issued , and later , gale warnings were posted for Barbados as well as Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . On Saint Vincent , the threat of the storm forced the closure of the main commercial airport , as well as schools , businesses , and stores . Further west , Danielle briefly posed a threat to Jamaica , prompting officials in that country to issue a tropical storm watch . Two months earlier , the precursor to Tropical Storm Andrew killed 49 people on the island ; to avoid a recurrence , the Jamaican government worked to evacuate fishermen from two small islands as a precaution .

As Danielle moved through the Lesser Antilles , a rainband struck the island of Saint Vincent with wind gusts of near hurricane @-@ force . The winds caused a major power outage on the island , and destroyed the roofs of more than 30 houses . Elsewhere in the country , the combination of winds and heavy rains caused heavy crop damage . Twelve days after Danielle struck , a severe rainstorm affected Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . The combined disasters produced a damage total of \$ 9 @. @ 3 million ( 1986 USD , \$ 18 million 2010 USD ) , the majority of it from crop damage . About 40 % of the banana crop was destroyed or unfit for cultivation , and 2 @, @ 050 acres ( 8 @. @ 3 km<sup>2</sup> ) of other crops were seriously affected . The two storms caused the deaths of 120 animals , although there were no human fatalities . In addition to the crop damage , the combined

impact of the two storms left over 100 houses destroyed , with a total of 436 dwellings damaged ; this forced 142 people to seek emergency shelter . Across the country , the heavy rainfall caused mudslides and flooding which disrupted the transportation and utility network .

During its passage , Danielle produced a 40 mph ( 64 km / h ) wind gust at the airport in Bridgetown , Barbados . A coast guard ship from Barbados ran aground into a reef in the southern Grenadines , but it was rescued . Further south , rainbands from Danielle swept through Trinidad and Tobago , producing up to 4 feet ( 1 @. @ 2 m ) of flooding . The flooding caused 27 landslides and destroyed 4 bridges . Damage in the country was estimated at \$ 8 million ( 1986 TTD , \$ 1 @. @ 2 million 1986 USD ) .