

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS, JULY 1933

[Compiled by Mary O. Souder]

[The table herewith contains such data as have been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A revised list of tornadoes will appear in the Annual Report of the Chief of Bureau]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path (yards)	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks	Authority
Tipton, Iowa.....	1	A. m.		1	\$6, 000	Electrical.....	Telephone exchange destroyed by fire after being struck by lightning; man and cow killed by lightning.	Official, U.S. Weather Bureau.
Providence and Pawtucket, R.I.	1	3:35-4:20 p.m.				Thunderstorm.....	Lightning struck a house in Pawtucket and trees at the Metacomet Golf Course in East Providence.	Do.
La Crosse, Wis., 5 miles south.	1	5-10 p.m.	15		50, 000	Hail.....	2 persons injured by hailstones the size of walnuts; crops damaged.	Do.
Coldwater, Iowa.....	1	7 p.m.			8, 500	Tornado.....	No details.....	Do.
Rcdsburg, near, Wis.....	1	7:30 p.m.	55-110		5, 000	Tornado and rain.....	House, several barns and smaller buildings damaged; many trees uprooted.	Do.
Crawford, Richland, and Sauk Counties, Wis.	1	7:30-8 p.m.			75, 000	Hail.....	Serious damage to growing crops.....	Do.
Wright, Franklin, Floyd, and Dubuque Counties, Iowa.	1	10:30-12p.m.		2	309, 000	Tornado.....	Telephone and power lines disabled; damage to buildings; several persons injured; loss to livestock.	Do.
Mosalem, Iowa.....	1	P. m.	12			Hail.....	Telephone poles and trees blown down; gardens badly beaten.	Do.
New York City and vicinity.	1	do.				Thundersquall.....	Portion of Riverside Park and depressions and underpasses in Central Park flooded; police launch rescued 6 from rough waters of the Bronx; fishing boat with party of 50 disabled 13 miles from Ambrose Lightship; 2 homes in Garden City, Long Island, struck by Lightning; lightning set fire to 3 oil tanks in Elizabeth city, N.J.; in Astoria, Long Island, a circus tent with 400 spectators, mostly children, blew down, injuring 12 persons, 2 seriously; hundreds of trees blown down and cellars flooded.	Do.
Williamsport and Lycoming Valley, Pa.	1	do.			50, 000	Electrical and heavy hail.	Farm buildings destroyed and trees struck by lightning; several persons injured.	Do.
Parkersburg, W. Va.....	1	do.				Severe thunderstorm and wind.	Several dwellings struck by lightning; much damage to trees.	Do.
Brodhead, near, Wis.	1				1, 000	Hail.....	Property damaged.....	Do.
Green Lake, Columbia, Fond du Lac, Dodge, and Sheboygan Counties, Wis.	1				25, 000	Wind.....	Trees uprooted; orchards ruined; buildings wrecked.	Do.
La Crosse-Prairie du Chien, Wis.	1				100, 000	Wind, rain, and hail.	Many buildings damaged or demolished by wind; loss to crops; highways washed.	Do.
Cheraw, near, S. C.....	1			1	500	Thunderstorm.....	One man killed, another injured by lightning; barn burned.	Do.
Dubuque, Iowa, and vicinity.	1-2	10:05 p.m.-4 a.m.				Tornadic winds, electrical and rain.	Electric light service cut off and telephones out of commission; considerable damage to farm buildings, windmills and growing crops; bridges and culverts washed out; \$5,000 damage to streets and sewers.	Do.
Chicago, Ill., and vicinity.	2	3:03-3:20 a.m.			1, 000, 000	Electrical, heavy rain, and hail.	Power lines torn down, 4 persons injured; many trees uprooted; basements and subways flooded; 28 houses unroofed and 36 fires broke out due to damaged wires; grandstand and 2 pylons demolished at Chicago Airport; hangar at Elgin Airport lifted by wind.	Do.
Chanute, Kans.	2	P. m.				Tornado and rain.	Farm buildings damaged.....	Do.
Gettysburg, Pa., and vicinity.	2	do.			20, 000	Tornadic winds.....	3 cottages demolished, more than 200 trees uprooted; house unroofed.	Do.
Page County, Va.....	2			2	6, 000	Hail and wind.....	Damage to crops and buildings; 2 children killed by lightning.	Do.
Norfolk, Va.....	2-3	P. m.			5, 000	Wind and rain.....	Part of downtown business section flooded; high tides and huge waves damaged jetties, bridges and resort property at nearby beaches; numerous small boats destroyed.	Do.
Pondera and Toole Counties, Mont.	3	P. m.	11½-6		40, 000	Hail, electrical.....	Property damaged; few cattle killed by lightning.	Do.
Fate, Tex.....	4	5 p.m.	1, 320		25, 000	Tornado.....	5 persons injured; small loss of crops.....	Do.
Florence, Colo.....	4			1	15, 000	Electrical and heavy rain.	Damage to roads and property; 1 person killed by lightning.	Do.
Natchitoches, La.....	4-5	P. m.				Wind.....	Buildings unroofed and tenant houses blown down causing damage of several thousand dollars.	Do.
Millett, Tex.....	5					Tornado.....	Report incomplete; damage estimated to be small.	Do.
Cavour, S. Dak.....	6	3:45 p.m.	12	1	40, 000	Thunder squall.....	Damage to buildings and crops.....	Do.
Platte, S. Dak.....	6	P. m.				Tornado.....	Telegraph and telephone wires torn down; roof of Milwaukee railroad depot torn off; windows in roundhouse blown in, 2 persons injured.	Do.
Scobey, Mont.....	6		12		35, 000	Heavy hail.....	Damage mostly to grain crops and gardens.....	Do.
Ekalaka, Mont, near.....	8	5 p.m.		1		Wind.....	Girl crushed beneath wreckage of a small farm outbuilding; no other damage reported.	Do.
Missoula, Mont.....	8	6 p.m.			10, 000	Wind, rain, and hail.	Telephone and power service crippled; windows shattered and many roofs damaged.	Do.
Helena, Mont.....	8	6:55-7:45 p.m.				Thundersquall and hail.	Sewers plugged; dirt roads washed out in places.....	Do.
Harvey County, Kans.....	8	7 p.m.	11		5, 000	Tornado.....	Chief damage to farm buildings and implements; path 3½ miles long.	Do.
Franklin County, Kans.....	8	9:30-10 p.m.	15		10, 000	Heavy hail and wind.	Property damaged; some loss of crops; path 15 miles long.	Do.
Springfield, Mo., and vicinity.	8	P. m.		1		Thunderstorm and heavy hail.	Traffic tied up due to flooded streets; house struck by lightning.	Do.
Franklin and Floyd Counties, Iowa.	8				2, 800	Wind and hail.....	Details of damage not reported.....	Do.
Bluff City, Kans., and vicinity.	9	5 p.m.	880		1, 000	Tornadic winds.....	Storm had tornadic characteristics; several large barns blown down; path 10 miles long.	Do.
Lewis County, Idaho.....	9	5:30 p.m.	17		30, 000	Hail.....	Considerable damage to grain; path 7 miles long.	Do.
Newton, Kans., and vicinity.	9	7 p.m.				3 tornadoes and heavy rain.	Barns, windmills, and outbuildings blown down; trees uprooted; 2 boys whirled into the air and carried from the barn to the house yard by the second tornado; several thousand dollars' damage.	Do.

¹ Miles instead of yards.

Severe local storms, July 1933—Continued

Place	Date	Time	Width of path (yards)	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks	Authority
Williamsburg, Kans., and vicinity.	9	8 p.m.	14		5,000	Tornadic winds	Wire service interrupted; trees damaged.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.
Lake Ronkonkoma, Brookhaven, N. Y.	9	P.m.				Tornado and hail	Telephone and electric poles down; several persons injured; trees uprooted, crops ruined; group of bathers so badly bruised by downpour of hailstones as large as marbles that a doctor had to be called.	Do.
Western Whitman County, Wash.	9	do.				Hail, rain, and wind.	Grain flattened in fields; roads washed out; water carried away poultry; orchards damaged; severe loss in limited areas.	Do.
Eastern Long Island, N. Y.	9					Thunderstorm	Buildings unroofed; many trees and poles blown down; some damage to crops.	Do.
Harpersfield, N. Y.	10					Severe hailstorm	Vegetation severely damaged.	Do.
Hartley, Iowa, and vicinity.	11	1 p.m.	10			Wind, hail, and rain.	Extensive damage to telephone wires; many large trees uprooted; small buildings demolished; loss to crops.	Do.
Odebolt, Iowa, and vicinity.	11	2 p.m.	12		2,000	Wind and hail	Electric and telephone poles broken off; many houses damaged by falling trees; loss to crops; cattle killed; path 12 miles long.	Do.
Yankton County, S. Dak.	11	5-6 p.m.	15	1	3,000	Thundersquall and hail.	Damage to property and some crop loss.	Do.
Cedar and eastern Knox Counties, Nebr.	11	5:30-9:30 p.m.	15	1	600,000	Hail and wind	50,000 acres of crops destroyed; many farmers without stock feed; buildings wrecked.	Do.
Prairie Home, Nebr.	11	6:30-7 p.m.	14		2,000	do.	Property damaged.	Do.
Lincoln, Nebr.	11	6:45-7:30 p.m.	14		3,000	Wind	Light and telephone service disrupted; trees blown down and windows broken.	Do.
Sioux City, Iowa	11	7 p.m.		1		Electrical	Electric service disabled; lightning struck the chimney of a school killing 1 child and injuring 3 when clump of bricks and mortar fell in their midst.	Do.
Eastern Stanton and southern Wayne Counties, Nebr.	11	7-10 p.m.	12-7		220,000	Hail and wind	20,000 acres of crops destroyed; many farm buildings wrecked; much damaged by flooding.	Do.
O'Brien, Buena Vista, Ida, Sac, Crawford, and Shelby Counties, Iowa.	11				250,000	do.	Crops completely destroyed in some small areas.	Do.
Etowah, Tenn.	11				10,000	Electrical and heavy rain.	Streets and a number of stores flooded.	Do.
Black River Falls, Wis.	12	2 p.m.			500	Hail	Loss to crops.	Do.
Downsville, Wis., 2 miles northwest.	12		2-5		1,280	do.	Damage to windows and roofs.	Do.
Stevens County, Kans.	14	1:30-2 p.m.	14		2,000	Wind	Damage to windmills and small buildings; path 12 miles long.	Do.
Texas and Beaver Counties, Okla.	14	2-3 p.m.	10		65,000	do.	Damage to buildings and other property; small loss of crops because of this storm, the section having been previously visited by sandstorms and crops had suffered for want of rain; path 35 miles long.	Do.
Paris, Tex.	14	3:30 a.m.	17		2,500	do.	Buildings blown down and 2 airplanes damaged at airport.	Do.
Perryton-Pampa, Tex.	14	3:30-5:10 p.m.	10		251,000	do.	Small loss to crops, only \$1,000 damage reported at Pampa.	Do.
Quanah, Tex.	14	4 p.m.	14		100,000	Hail and wind	Small buildings blown down.	Do.
Morehouse, Mo.	14	P.m.			25,000	Severe electrical	Plant of Hummelberger-Harrison Manufacturing Co. struck by lightning and burned.	Do.
Johnson County, Iowa.	14				10,000	Wind and hail	Crops damaged.	Do.
Guthrie, Mo.	14					Wind	Trees and outbuildings blown down; amount of damage not estimated.	Do.
Egerton and Black River Falls, Wis.	14				7,500	Thundersquall	Property damaged.	Do.
Madison-McFarland and Hartford, Wis.	14				1,500	Hail	About 50 automobile tops damaged; windows broken; considerable loss to crops, especially corn and grain.	Do.
Milwaukee, Wis.	14					Electrical and rain.	Several houses, poles, and trees struck by lightning; basements flooded and sewers overflowed.	Do.
Cloverdale, near, N. Mex.	15	2 p.m.	12			Hail	Damage severe.	Do.
Weld, Adams, Arapahoe, Elbert, and El Paso Counties, Colo.	16	2-6 p.m.	3-6		250,000	Rain and hail	Streams overflowed their banks; bridges destroyed; crops washed out; stones as large as hen's eggs caused severe damage to roofs, windows, trees, poultry, and livestock.	Do.
Thomas and Logan Counties, Kans.	16	4 p.m.	12		2,000	Heavy hail and wind.	Chief damage to corn crop; path 30 miles long.	Do.
Smith County, Kans.	17	4-5 p.m.	14		45,000	Wind and hail	Chief damage to corn crop; many small buildings demolished; large number of poultry killed; path 8 miles long.	Do.
Norton and Phillips Counties, Kans.	17	4:30 p.m.	14		10,000	do.	Wind damaged telephone poles and small farm buildings; loss to corn crop from hail; path 20 miles long.	Do.
Florence, Colo.	17	P.m.			15,000	Electrical	2 oil refinery tanks destroyed by lightning.	Do.
Lexington, near, South Carolina.	17	do.			1,000	Thunderstorm	4 members of 1 family injured by lightning and their home damaged.	Do.
Grant County, Kans.	18	do.	13			Tornado and thundersquall.	Several small buildings blown down; path 10 miles long.	Do.
Redfield, S. Dak., 15 miles southwest.	19	7:15 p.m.			1,000	Wind	Damage to buildings.	Do.
Crandon, S. Dak.	19	7:30 p.m.	13		20,000	do.	Property damaged.	Do.
Tulare, S. Dak.	19	8:30 p.m.	3-5		5,000	Tornadic winds	Several large barns, granaries, and small buildings wrecked.	Do.
Hitchcock, S. Dak.	19	9 p.m.	10		75,000	Tornadic winds	Trees uprooted and buildings demolished.	Do.
Cavour, S. Dak.	19	9:15 p.m.	13		8,000	Wind	Damage to buildings.	Do.
Clayton, N. Y., and vicinity.	19	P.m.				Tornadic winds	Telephone, telegraph, and electric service crippled; poles and trees blown down; shrubbery uprooted.	Do.
Gettysburg, S. Dak.	19	do.	14			Hail, excessive rainfall.	Small bridges washed away; poultry and small livestock drowned or killed.	Do.
Casco and Kewaunee, Wis.	19	do.			6,000	Heavy hail	Considerable damage to crops; few windows broken.	Do.

¹ Miles instead of yards.

Severe local storms, July 1933—Continued

Place	Date	Time	Width of path (yards)	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks	Authority
New York City, Mount St. Vincent and Yonkers, N.Y.	20	6 p.m.	1			Thunderstorm and hail.	Telephone poles down; flood held up traffic on the Hudson electric division of the New York Central between 6-7:30 p.m.; thousands of dollars damage to streets, homes, schools, automobiles, and gardens.	Do.
Westville, Mount Carmel, Waterbury, and Colchester, Conn.	20					do	Transmission line and two churches struck by lightning; no fatalities.	Do.
Bloomer, Chetek, Almena, and Sand Creek, Wis.	20				9,000	Heavy hail	Loss to crops; buildings damaged.	Do.
Datil, N.Mex.	21	1:30 p.m.	440			Hail	Roofs and crops damaged	Do.
North-Central Cheyenne County, Nebr.	21	8 p.m.	13		20,000	do	Property destroyed.	Do.
Rudolph and Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.	21		14		3,000	Thunderstorm	Property damaged.	Do.
Hancock County, Iowa.	21-22					Wind	Heavy damage reported.	Do.
Cheyenne County, Nebr.	22	2-3 p.m.	12		60,000	Hail	Property damaged.	Do.
Artesian, S.Dak.	22	2:30 p.m.	14			do	Large hailstones damaged buildings, killed poultry and small livestock; crops destroyed.	Do.
Binghamton, N.Y.	22	2:51-4:22 p.m.				Thundersquall and hail.	Knickerbocker Building struck by lightning; streets flooded; small crop damage.	Do.
Lock Haven, Pa., and vicinity.	22	3-4 p.m.	16		100,000	Heavy hail	Loss solely to crops; hail largest and heaviest ever observed in this section.	Do.
Carthage, S.Dak.	22	P.m.	12		10,000	Hail and lightning.	Crops almost destroyed by hail; path 15 miles long.	Do.
Lyon County, Iowa.	22				1,100	Wind.	No details.	Do.
Lebanon County, Pa.	22					Electrical.	Much damage reported.	Do.
Pittsburgh, Pa.	22					Thundersquall	Many places struck by lightning; wind in excess of 70 miles per hour recorded at the airport.	Do.
Blanchardville, Wis., southwest of.	22				8,000	Electrical.	Large barn and contents struck by lightning and burned.	Do.
Grand Rapids, Mich.	23	3:03-3:06 p.m.				Hail and wind.	Many shade trees uprooted; windows broken.	Do.
Prescott, Ark.	23	3:40 p.m.	100		3,000	Tornado	Property damaged; path 1 mile long.	Do.
East Lansing, Mich.	23	P.m.				Thundersquall	Trees and buildings damaged.	Do.
Miami, Ariz.	23					Wind	Several persons injured; roofs blown off and signboards demolished.	Do.
Nogales, Ariz.	23				2,000	do	Damage mostly to utility poles and to shop windows.	Do.
Keuka Lake, N.Y.	23			3		Severe thunderstorm.	14 sailboats sank or ran aground.	Do.
Shreveport, La.	23-25				1,500,000	Rain	Buildings and much farm land flooded; resulting in loss mostly to cotton crop; highways washed.	Do.
Windham, Ohio, vicinity of.	24	1 a.m.				Tornadic winds.	Considerable damage to trees, buildings, and other property; barn 30 by 60 feet picked up and whirled around.	Do.
Scranton, Pa.	24	3:20-4 p.m.				Heavy rains.	Much damage from flooding reported.	Do.
Alexandria, La.	24-25	P.m.				Wind and rain	Damage to roofs; interior of some buildings damaged because of torrential rains.	Do.
Elmira, N.Y.	24	P.m.			8,000	Rain, hail, and wind.	Telephone and electric service disrupted; trees blown down; large house struck by lightning and burned.	Do.
Ida County, Iowa.	24				5,000	Hail	No details.	Do.
Muskingum County, Ohio.	24					Severe electrical, wind, and rain.	Much damage to telephone poles; sewers overflowed.	Do.
Philadelphia, near, Pa.	25	4-6 p.m.		2		Electrical and rain	Lightning caused the death of 2 men; damage chiefly from flooding.	Do.
Fluvanna and Nottoway Counties, Va.	25				8,000	Hail and wind	Damage to fields, gardens, and timber.	Do.
Norfolk, Va.	26	1:48-3:45 p.m.				Thunderstorm	Traffic delayed; sewers overflowed.	Do.
Montgomery, Ala.	26				1,000	Thundersquall	Trees uprooted, roofs crushed, and street car traffic blocked by falling trees; several plate glass windows shattered.	Do.
Cloverdale, near, N.Mex.	29	4 p.m.	12			Hail	Severe damage to growing crops.	Do.
Fort Worth, Tex.	30			1		Rain	7-year-old girl swept into a storm sewer, while wading up to her waist in water in a low section of the pavement near her home, and was drowned.	Do.
Oak Cliff, Dallas, Tex. *	30	4:15 p.m.	35	4	500,000	Tornado	30 persons badly injured; 50 residences totally demolished; path 4 blocks long.	Do.
Miami-Titusville, Fla.	30	P.m.			1,000,000	Wind	Communications interrupted; shrubbery uprooted; wind velocity 60 miles per hour recorded between Stuart and Fort Pierce.	Do.
Oswego N.Y.	30					Thundersquall	Damage to wires and trees; wind velocity of 41 miles an hour registered.	Do.
Kiowa County, Okla.	31	5 p.m.			25,000	Heavy hail	Damage to crops; path 6 miles long.	Do.
Canton, N.Y., and vicinity	31	P.m.			5,000	Electrical	Barn struck by lightning and burned.	Do.
Ludington, Mich.	31					Wind	Grandstand unroofed and many trees uprooted.	Do.
Marlette, Fabius, Cazenovia, Norrisville, Sangerfield, and Waterville, N.Y.	31					Wind, hail, and rain.	Wires and poles blown down; trees uprooted; a house in Sangerfield carried 1,000 feet into a neighboring field; 250 hens killed when a barn was blown on a chicken house.	Do.
Milwaukee, Wis.	31					Wind and rain	Overhead wires were reported blown down; basements flooded; sewers overflowed; pavements buckled and highways inundated.	Do.
Monroe, Wis., northwest of.	31		1 1/2		35,000	Thundersquall	Trees, barns, and silos blown down; crops flattened; path 9 miles long.	Do.

* For more detailed description of this storm see p. — MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW, July 1933.

¹ Miles instead of yards.

