



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 1997

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Crops	Character of Storm
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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

NONE REPORTED.

MARYLAND, Central

MDZ007

Harford

01	0000EST 0300EST	0	0						Heavy Snow
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The same nor'easter that produced gusty and sometimes damaging wind gusts also included a swath of wrap-around snow which moved through northeastern Maryland during the evening of the 31st and early morning of April 1st. Harford Co received between 4 and 8 inches of heavy wet snow, with up to 10 inches in some spots, most of it accumulating on grassy surfaces but with some roads reported hazardous across the northern section of the county.

Throughout the remainder of the Baltimore metropolitan region, accumulations ranged from 1 inch in the southwest suburbs to 5 inches in the northeast suburbs, again mainly on grassy surfaces. Accumulations ranged from 1/2 to 1 inch in the Maryland suburbs of Washington, DC.

MDZ002>006-009>010-013

Allegany - Washington - Frederick - Carroll - Northern Baltimore - Montgomery - Howard - Prince Georges

10	0200EST 0700EST	0	0	0			1.5M		Agricultural Freeze
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A record cold arctic air mass overspread northern and western Maryland overnight on the 9th and 10th, dropping temperatures into the upper teens to lower 20s across the entire area. These temperatures were on the heels of an above normal winter season, especially in late March, when peach and apple blossoms reached critical bloom stage about 1 week ahead of schedule. Significant, but not total, kills of peaches and Red Delicious apples were noted. However, near total kills of small fruits (strawberries, cherries, and plums) was reported. Apple and peach damage varied from 20 to 80 percent "kill."

At least 1870 acres were affected, 1421 of those in Washington Co (MDZ003), where apple and peach orchards are prevalent. An estimated \$1 million in damage occurred there. Damage was also noted in Allegany, Frederick, and Montgomery Cos (MDZ002-004-009) with an estimated \$150, \$112, and \$75 thousand, respectively. Lesser damage was reported across the eastern piedmont and coastal plain.

VIRGINIA, North

VAZ021-025>031-036>042-050-052

Highland - Augusta - Rockingham - Shenandoah - Frederick - Page - Warren - Clarke - Nelson - Albemarle - Greene - Madison - Rappahannock - Fauquier - Loudoun - Orange - Prince William

10	0200EST 0700EST	0	0				18.0M		Agricultural Freeze
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A record cold arctic air mass overspread the northern Virginia piedmont and the Shenandoah Valley over night on the 9th and 10th, dropping temperatures into the upper teens to lower 20s across the entire area. These temperatures arrived on the heels of an above normal winter season, especially pronounced in late March, when peach and apple blossoms reached critical bloom stage up to 2 weeks ahead of schedule.

Accelerated growth in the central Shenandoah Valley led to the highest kill percentage. Estimates from agricultural extension agents of the Virginia Dept. of Emergency Services showed at least 70 to 90 percent "kill" of the peach crop, and similar kills among the Red Delicious apple crop. Some of the statistics include: Clarke Co (VAZ031), \$1.36 million, involving over 2800 acres; Frederick Co (VAZ028), 7200 apple and 420 peach acres significantly damaged; Warren Co (VAZ030), over 500 acres affected. Golden Delicious apples, a normally later blooming variety, escaped a major kill. Berry fruits sustained partial (but still substantial) kills.

Across the northern Shenandoah Valley and piedmont, kills ranged from 30 to 70 percent - mainly due to slightly less accelerated growth.

WEST VIRGINIA, East

WVZ048>055

Grant - Mineral - Hampshire - Morgan - Berkeley - Jefferson - Pendleton - Hardy

10	0200EST 0700EST	0	0				9.4M		Agricultural Freeze
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A record cold arctic air mass overspread eastern West Virginia overnight on the 9th and 10th, dropping temperatures into the mid



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WEST VIRGINIA, East

teens to lower 20s. These temperatures came on the heels of an above normal winter season. Warm temperatures in late March allowed apple and peach blossoms to reach critical bloom stage about 1 week ahead of schedule. Significant, but not total, kills of peaches and Red Delicious apples were noted. In general, the apple crop sustained 50 percent damage, but the peach crop kill range from 60 to 90 percent. Berries also sustained large kills.

Some of the notable damaged acres included: Berkeley Co (WVZ052), 8500 acres; Hampshire Co (WVZ050), 4000 acres; Jefferson Co, 1700 acres.