1935 Hurricane Sweeps South Florida
Fact Sheet

Event date: August 29 – September 10, 1935
Peak winds: 200 mph
Landfall winds: 150 – 200 mph

Minimum pressure: 892 mb
Landfall pressure: 905 mb
Death toll: ~408

Figure 1. Proposed storm tack according to the National Hurricane Center.

Summary of event:
Officially, 408 lives were taken by the great Labor Day Hurricane of 1935, most of them World War I veterans working in the Keys where the hurricane made its first landfall. The second landfall at Cedar Key saw 3 deaths and widespread damage.
While Clearwater suffered damage mainly to crops, other locations suffered significantly more. St. Petersburg and Tampa Bay experienced high tides with estimates around 5 feet above mean tide. Property damage there was reported as "considerable" but no deaths were reported. Tampa experienced storm surge as well, with Bayshore Drive being partially washed out, and several roofs torn off and trees uprooted. Buildings were unroofed in Sarasota and communication lines were crippled, but there was no loss of life reported.

Figure 2. Newspaper headlines and damage photographs.

Links for more information: http://www3.gendisasters.com/florida/6382/southern-fl-labor-day-hurricane-sep-1935