



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



September 1998

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

ALABAMA, North Central

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------|--|--|---|---|-----|------|-----------------------|
| ALZ006 | Madison | | | | | | | | |
| | 01 | 0000CST | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100K | Drought |
| | 30 | 2359CST | | | | | | | |
| | The rainfall total for September was 0.48 inches, the lowest total for any September on record. | | | | | | | | |
| ALZ006 | Madison | | | | | | | | |
| | 01 | 0000CST | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Excessive Heat |
| | 30 | 2359CST | | | | | | | |
| | The average monthly temperature of 78.2 degrees was the hottest ever recorded for September. | | | | | | | | |
| Montgomery County | | | | | | | | | |
| Countywide | Madison | | | | | | | | |
| | 01 | 0000CST | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Heavy Rain |
| | 30 | 2359CST | | | | | | | |
| | Hurricane Georges dumped large amounts of rainfall on the area. September rainfall of 9.47 inches was the fifth highest total for September on record. | | | | | | | | |
| ALZ006 | Madison | | | | | | | | |
| | 05 | 1500CST | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Excessive Heat |
| | Record high temperature of 100 degrees was established. | | | | | | | | |
| ALZ006 | Madison | | | | | | | | |
| | 09 | 0600CST | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Extreme Cold |
| | Record low temperature of 54 degrees was tied. | | | | | | | | |
| ALZ006 | Madison | | | | | | | | |
| | 10 | 0600CST | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Extreme Cold |
| | Record low temperature of 50 degrees was established. | | | | | | | | |
| ALZ006 | Madison | | | | | | | | |
| | 13 | 1600CST | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Excessive Heat |
| | Record high temperature of 97 degrees was established. | | | | | | | | |
| ALZ006 | Madison | | | | | | | | |
| | 16 | 1700CST | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Excessive Heat |
| | Record high temperature of 95 degrees was tied. | | | | | | | | |
| ALZ006 | Madison | | | | | | | | |
| | 17 | 1700CST | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Excessive Heat |
| | Record high temperature of 95 degrees was tied. | | | | | | | | |
| Tuscaloosa County | | | | | | | | | |
| South Portion | 21 | 0000CST 0800CST | | | 0 | 0 | 4K | 0 | Flash Flood |
| Bibb County | | | | | | | | | |
| North Portion | 21 | 0100CST 0900CST | | | 0 | 0 | 12K | 0 | Flash Flood |
| Shelby County | | | | | | | | | |
| Southwest Portion | 21 | 0300CST 1000CST | | | 0 | 0 | 12K | 0 | Flash Flood |
| | The remnants of Tropical Storm Hermine dumped 6+ inches of rain on southern Tuscaloosa County especially the southeastern corner, northern Bibb County, and southwest Shelby County. Several roads were closed and some cars were swamped. Several motorists were stranded on CR 24 in Bibb County. Numerous vehicles were damaged in Montevallo along with flooding of some apartments. | | | | | | | | |
| ALZ006 | Madison | | | | | | | | |
| | 27 | 1700CST | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Excessive Heat |
| | Record high temperature of 94 degrees was established. | | | | | | | | |
| ALZ024 | Jefferson | | | | | | | | |
| | 27 | 1700CST | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Excessive Heat |
| | Record high temperature of 94 degrees was tied. | | | | | | | | |
| Pike County | | | | | | | | | |
| Goshen | 28 | 1254CST | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Funnel Cloud |



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ALABAMA, North Central

**Dallas County
Countywide**

29 0545CST
1500CST 0 0 65K 10K Flash Flood

**Lowndes County
Countywide**

29 0545CST
1500CST 0 0 50K 10K Flash Flood

The remnants of Hurricane Georges dumped 5+ inches of rain across the two counties. Numerous roads were covered with water and many roads were impassable and closed. Non-severe wind and saturated conditions combined to knock down many trees.

**Bullock County
Countywide**

29 0930CST
1500CST 0 0 40K 10K Flash Flood

**Montgomery County
Countywide**

29 0930CST
1500CST 0 0 50K 10K Flash Flood

**Pike County
Countywide**

29 0930CST
1500CST 0 0 50K 10K Flash Flood

The remnants of Hurricane Georges dumped 5+ inches of rain across the three counties. Numerous roads were covered with water and many roads were impassable and closed. Non-severe wind and saturated conditions combined to knock many trees down.

ALZ006

Madison

30 1700CST 0 0 0 0 Excessive Heat

Record high temperature of 92 degrees was established.

ALABAMA, Southeast

ALZ065>069

Coffee - Dale - Henry - Geneva - Houston

02 2100EST 0 0 120K Tropical Storm
03 1800EST

Tropical Storm Earl moved northeastward across Southwest and Central Georgia. Rainfall amounts varied from two to four inches. Peak wind gusts of 40 mph were recorded at Ozark and Enterprise, AL.

Throughout Coffee, Dale, Henry, and Houston counties, numerous reports of minor damage caused by downed trees and power lines with scattered outages. Geneva County officials reported wind damage to a few businesses in Slocomb, AL. CR 28 was temporarily closed to fallen trees and power lines.

ALZ065-068

Coffee - Geneva

28 0000EST 0 0 4M 15M Flood
29 1800EST

Torrential rains from Tropical Storm/Depression Georges of 8 to 24 inches produced the worst flooding in Geneva County since Hurricane Opal in 1995. Numerous roads were damaged or washed out. AL 54 was closed from Samson west to Florala. All county roads were closed for fear of more flooding and washouts. Significant losses were incurred to peanut and cotton crops. Several creeks overflowed their banks closing AL 65, 54, and 52. Throughout Coffee County, torrential rains caused significant flooding. Numerous city and residential streets in Elba were flooded as the city's drainage system overflowed.

**Coffee County
Northeast Portion**

28 1420EST 0 0 50K Thunderstorm Wind
1425EST

Numerous trees and power lines down on CR 306 and 307 near Brantley. One tree fell on a house.

**Dale County
Ozark**

28 1530EST 0.3 0 0 25K Tornado (F0)

An F0 tornado briefly touched down on the north side of Ozark off Marvin Parker Rd and CR 68 uprooting trees and power poles.

**Henry County
Newville**

28 2000EST 0.5 .1 0 75K Tornado (F0)

An F0 tornado damaged a barn and residence off CR 173 in Newville.

**Dale County
Echo**

28 2035EST 0.3 0 0 150K Tornado (F0)



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ALABAMA, Southeast

An F0 tornado briefly touched down at the intersection of CR 40 and 7 near the Dale-Henry County line. Numerous trees were uprooted and a pump house was destroyed.

Geneva County
Samson

29 0230EST 1 .1 0 3 100K Tornado (F1)

An F1 tornado touched down five miles northeast of Samson off CR 8. One mobile was lifted 50 feet off its foundation and destroyed. The three occupants sustained minor injuries.

Coffee County
Enterprise

29 0240EST 1 .1 0 0 1.5M Tornado (F1)

An F1 tornado touched down on CR 725 near Enterprise. One residence suffered roof damage. Camp Wiregrass sustained moderate to severe damage with several buildings crumpled, trees and power lines down, and scattered debris. Numerous customers in Enterprise were without electric service. A semi was blown over at Con Agra.

Coffee County
New Brockton

29 0245EST 1 .1 0 0 500K Tornado (F1)

An F1 tornado descended near CR 732 in New Brockton damaging several chicken houses, roads, ditches, and drainage systems.

Geneva County
Geneva

29 0245EST
0250EST 3 .2 0 0 50K Tornado (F1)

An F1 tornado skipped along AL 85 between Geneva and Bellwood. Several trees and power lines were toppled and the Providence Church near Bellwood sustained minor roof damage.

ALABAMA, Southwest

ALZ061>064

Upper Mobile - Upper Baldwin - Lower Mobile - Lower Baldwin

01 1500CST 0 0 10K Hurricane
03 2359CST

For narrative on Hurricane Earl see Florida, West Panhandle, September 1-3, 1998.

Baldwin County
Gulf Shrs

19 1300CST
1301CST 0.1 25 0 0 Tornado (F0)

A waterspout moved ashore near Gulf Shores and rapidly dissipated. No damage was found.

Choctaw County
Gilbertown

21 1100CST
1230CST 0 0 5K Flash Flood

Heavy rains in the south part of Choctaw county caused some flooding. Some roads had to be temporarily closed due to high water. Three mobile homes near Gilbertown had to be evacuated due to high water. Radar estimated that three to five inches of rain fell across the county.

ALZ051>053-055>064

Choctaw - Washington - Clarke - Monroe - Conecuh - Butler - Crenshaw - Escambia - Covington - Upper Mobile - Upper Baldwin - Lower Mobile - Lower Baldwin

25 0900CST 1 0 174.2M 5M Hurricane
29 0900CST

For the second time in less than a month, the area was again threatened by a hurricane. Hurricane Georges affected the region September 25 through the 29. The coastal areas from Dauphin Island to east of Destin were put under a hurricane watch at 900 AM CST, September 25. A hurricane warning was issued for the area at 900 AM CST, September 26. The hurricane warning was changed to a tropical storm warning for the area at 300 PM CST, September 28. All tropical storm warnings for the area were dropped at 900 AM CST, September 29.

Georges made landfall along the Mississippi coast near Biloxi between 300 and 500 AM CST, September 28.

Some of the winds recorded across Southwest Alabama and Northwest Florida were as follows: Mobile Regional Airport, sustained winds of 44 knots, gusts to 55 knots. Pensacola Regional Airport, sustained winds of 44 knots, gusts to 58 knots. Pensacola Naval Air Station, sustained winds of 40 knots, gusts 61 knots. Hurlburt Air Force Base in Mary Esther, sustained winds of 44 knots, gusts to 69 knots. Eglin Air Force Base in Valparaiso, sustained winds of 42 knots, gusts to 79 knots. Dauphin Island C-Man Buoy, gusts to 71 knots.

Lowest sea level pressure was 989.9 millibars at Mobile Regional Airport.

Four day rainfall totals ending around midnight on September 29: Mobile Regional Airport 15.02 inches, Pensacola Regional Airport 15.78 inches, Crestview 19.98 inches, Valparaiso 24.24 inches, Pensacola Naval Air Station 12.84 inches, Milton (Whiting Field) 18.41 inches, Bay Minette 29.66 inches, Andalusia (TV Station) 26.90 inches, Pensacola (TV Station) 26.83 inches, Gulf Breeze 26.87 inches and Spanish Fort 19.86 inches.

Most of the destruction along the coastal areas was caused by a very high storm surge. Surges along the coast were estimated at 7 to 12 feet in Mobile and Baldwin counties and 5 to 10 feet in Escambia, Santa Rosa and Okaloosa counties in Northwest Florida.



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ALABAMA, Southwest

Downtown Mobile had a surge of around 8.5 feet, with high "water" covering Water street. Bayou La Batre had a surge of 8.8 feet and many businesses and homes had water in them. The western part of Mobile Bay had a surge of 8.3 feet and the road parallel to the bay near Nan Seas was completely washed out. Along the Mobile Bay Causeway the surge was 8.0 feet. A male clung to a tree along the Causeway for almost twenty-four hours to escape the high water. He was staying in a building that the high surge destroyed and took refuge in a tree. He was able to tread to another building after the water retreated and was found the next day, exhausted. Many businesses along the Causeway were damaged by the surge. Fort Morgan had a surge of 8.5 feet with Gulf Shores having 9.0 feet. The surge on the west end of Dauphin Island caused the most damage where eighty homes were damaged with around forty completely destroyed. Many gulf front homes on the west end of the island were pushed across the island and ended up either against other homes or scattered across the sand. Pensacola Beach had a surge of 7.7 feet with Destin Harbour reaching a surge of 5.2 feet.

Major beach erosion occurred along the coast from Dauphin Island to Destin. High water breached Dauphin Island, Pensacola Beach and Navarre Beach in several locations. Several motels from Gulf Shores to Destin suffered major damage. Two condominiums were heavily damaged in Orange Beach, one by fire and the other by high waves. Some of the motels that suffered damage were still closed two months after the storm. Sand pushed in by the high water caused several coastal roads to be closed from Dauphin Island to Destin. Some of the roads were completely washed away with the roads having to be rebuilt on Dauphin Island, Pensacola Beach and Navarre Beach. Some of the roads were still closed two months after the storm.

Major damage occurred from river flooding in several of the inland counties after Georges dissipated. The Styx, Perdido, Shoal, Yellow, Big Escambia Creek, Bayou Sara and Blackwater rivers either were near or above record flood levels. Other rivers from Southeast Mississippi to the Florida Panhandle came out of their banks.

It was estimated that nine tornadoes occurred across the area. The tornadoes occurred in Baldwin, Covington and Crenshaw counties in Southwest Alabama and in Okaloosa county in Northwest Florida.

One death was directly related to the hurricane. In Mobile county a 43 year old female was returning home on the evening of September 27, after checking on her parents who lived just inside the Mississippi line. She hit a flooded spot in the road and slid off into Franklin Creek and drowned. She was not found for several days. In Escambia county Florida, three deaths were indirectly related to Georges. A female, using a candle for light on September 27, died in a fire caused by the candle. An elderly couple were both killed in a car accident on September 29. They were hit at an intersection where the storm had knocked the power off and the stop lights were not working.

Most of the inland counties in Southeast Mississippi and Southwest Alabama had damage from heavy rains and from trees and power lines being blown down by the persistent winds. One of the hardest hit areas by the high winds was in Stone county Mississippi near where the center of the hurricane moved. Eighty five homes were damaged in Stone county by the wind. Fifty four homes had minor damage, twenty six had major damage and five were destroyed. Most of the damage was along and east of U. S. Highway 49.

Throughout the area, agriculture took a beating with the cotton, soybean and pecan crop almost totally destroyed.

Preliminary damage estimates in Southwest Alabama were 174.2 million dollars, in Northwest Florida 135 million dollars and in Southeast Mississippi 72 million dollars. F43OU

Escambia County

2 W Wallace

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|--|---------------------|
| 26 | 1855CST | | | | | | | | |
| | 1857CST | | | 0 | 0 | | | | Funnel Cloud |

Several people observed a funnel cloud along I-65 just west of Wallace. The funnel was visible for a couple of minutes. No evidence of the funnel ever touching down was found.

Escambia County

Countywide

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|----------|----------|----------|--|--|--------------|
| 27 | 1130CST | | | | | | | | |
| | 1800CST | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | Flood |

Heavy rains from Hurricane Georges caused major flooding across the county. Rainfall totals of fifteen to twenty inches were estimated across the county. Many roads throughout the county had to be closed because of flooding. Schools were closed for two days because of washed out secondary roads. At Flomaton, major routes US 31, US 29 and AL 113 were closed by flooding. US 31 and US 29 in Brewton were closed by flooding. Downtown Brewton was also flooded. The heavy rainfall also caused major river flooding in the county. The Conecuh River at Brewton crested at 23.5 feet on October 4 which was 6.5 feet above flood stage. The Big Escambia Creek at Flomaton crested at 20.4 feet on September 30. This was higher than the March flood of this year.

Baldwin County

3 N Loxley

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|--|--|---------------------|
| 27 | 1655CST | 0.1 | 25 | | | | | | |
| | 1656CST | | | 0 | 0 | 3K | | | Tornado (F0) |

A tornado briefly touched down just north of I-10 near the Loxley exit. The only damage was to trees and power lines.

Baldwin County

Countywide

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|--|--------------|
| 28 | 0515CST | | | | | | | | |
| | 1800CST | | | 0 | 0 | | | | Flood |

Hurricane Georges dropped fifteen to twenty five inches of rainfall across the county. Almost every road in the county had to be temporarily closed because of high water. I-10 had to be closed for several hours because of high water running across the road near the Alabama and Florida state line. Schools across the county were closed for three days because of flooding of secondary roads around the county. Many bridges had to be closed because of possible undermining by high water. Some of the secondary roads were closed for weeks before they could be repaired. The heavy rainfall caused extensive river flooding along the east part of the county. The Perdido River that separates Alabama and Florida crested at 26.30 feet which was above the record of 23.94 feet. The Styx River crested at 28.6 feet which was estimated to be a two hundred year flood. The Fish River was lower than during Hurricane Danny of last year but still crested at 17.31 feet which was a twenty-five year flood.



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ALABAMA, Southwest

Covington County
4 SW Opp

28 **0705CST** **0.2** **50** **0** **0** **5K** **Tornado (F0)**
28 **0707CST**

A tornado briefly touched down along County Road 77, about 4 miles southwest of Opp. The tornado twisted several trees and power lines down.

Covington County
5 NE Andalusia

28 **0745CST** **0.5** **50** **0** **0** **25K** **Tornado (F0)**
28 **0747CST**

A tornado briefly touched down near the community of Antioch (northeast of Andalusia). The tornado caused roof damage to three homes. Several trees and power lines were also blown down.

Baldwin County
Orange Beach

28 **0950CST** **0** **0** **20K** **Thunderstorm Wind (G50)**
28 **0951CST**

High winds damaged the roofs of a couple of homes in Orange Beach.

Covington County
Countywide

28 **1030CST** **0** **0** **Flood**
29 **1800CST**

Heavy rainfall from Hurricane Georges was estimated between fifteen and twenty-seven inches across the county. The heavy rainfall caused widespread flooding throughout the county. Most of the roads throughout the county had to be closed for several hours because of high water. Schools were closed for three days because of washouts of many secondary roads in the county. The heavy rains caused the Conecuh River near River Falls to rise to 46.4 feet on September 29. This was well below the record of 52.5 feet in March of 1929.

Butler County
Countywide

28 **1030CST** **0** **0** **Flood**
29 **1800CST**

Heavy rains of fifteen to twenty inches from Hurricane Georges caused widespread flooding throughout the county. Many roads were closed for several hours due to high water or washouts. Schools were closed for three days because of the many secondary roads that were washed out. Several bridges were also closed due to high water undermining the bridges.

Mobile County
Countywide

28 **1100CST** **0** **0** **Flood**
29 **1800CST**

Rainfall estimates from Hurricane Georges were between fifteen and twenty inches throughout the county. Many roads had to be closed for several hours because of high water. Schools were closed for three days because of damage done to secondary roads around the county. The heavy rainfall also caused many bridges around the county to be closed because of undermining by the high water. The heavy rains caused many of the rivers across the county to rise to near or above record levels. Bayou Sara reached 9.8 feet on September 28. This was above the previous unofficial record of 7.84 feet in April of 1979. The Fowl River rose to 10.27 feet and was considered to be a twenty-five year flood. This reading was well below the reading with Hurricane Danny last year.

Washington County
Countywide

28 **1100CST** **0** **0** **Flood**
29 **1800CST**

Rainfall estimates of between ten and fifteen inches from Hurricane Georges fell throughout the county. Most of the damage in the county was from flood damage to roadways. Most of the roads throughout the county had to be closed for several hours because of high water. Schools were closed for two days due to the many washouts on secondary roads around the county. Many bridges had to also be closed due to undermining due to high water.

Crenshaw County
Glenwood

28 **1305CST** **1** **50** **0** **0** **50K** **Tornado (F1)**
28 **1306CST**

A tornado touched down near the community of Glenwood. The tornado destroyed a trailer and damaged several other homes. Trees and power lines were also blown down. No injuries were reported.

Crenshaw County
Patsburg

28 **1305CST** **0.5** **50** **0** **0** **100K** **Tornado (F1)**
28 **1306CST**

A tornado briefly touched down near the community of Patsburg. Two homes had major damage and a business was destroyed. Trees and power lines were also blown down. Several horses were also injured.

Crenshaw County
Luverne

28 **1310CST** **0.5** **50** **0** **0** **50K** **Tornado (F1)**
28 **1311CST**

A tornado briefly touched down just northwest of Luverne. The tornado destroyed a county barn and caused minor damage to several brick homes. Trees and power lines were also blown down.



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ALABAMA, Southwest

Crenshaw County

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|--------------------|-----|----|---|---|-----|--|---------------------|
| Petrey | 28 | 1310CST 1311CST | 0.5 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 50K | | Tornado (F1) |
|---------------|----|--------------------|-----|----|---|---|-----|--|---------------------|

A tornado briefly touched down near the community of Petrey. Three homes suffered major damage. Trees and power lines were also blown down. No injuries were reported.

Covington County

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|----|--|--------------------------------|
| Andalusia | 28 | 1835CST 1837CST | | | 0 | 0 | 5K | | Thunderstorm Wind (G50) |
|------------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|----|--|--------------------------------|

Trees and power lines were blown down just south of Andalusia.

Covington County

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|----|--|--------------------------------|
| Green Bay | 28 | 1920CST 1922CST | | | 0 | 0 | 3K | | Thunderstorm Wind (G50) |
|------------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|----|--|--------------------------------|

Trees and power lines were blown down near Green Bay.

Covington County

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|----|--|--------------------------------|
| Opp | 28 | 2005CST 2007CST | | | 0 | 0 | 5K | | Thunderstorm Wind (G50) |
|------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|----|--|--------------------------------|

Trees and power lines were blown down near Opp.

Crenshaw County

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|
| Countywide | 29 | 0830CST 1530CST | | | 0 | 0 | | | Flood |
|-------------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|

Rainfall from Hurricane Georges was estimated between ten and twenty inches across the county. The heavy rains caused many of the roads across the county to be closed for several hours. Schools were closed for three days due to washouts of many secondary roads. Many bridges along secondary roads had to be closed due to undermining by high water.

Conecuh County

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|
| Countywide | 29 | 1130CST 1800CST | | | 0 | 0 | | | Flood |
|-------------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|

Rainfall estimates of between five and ten inches from Hurricane Georges fell across the county. Several roads around the county were closed for a few hours due to high water. Schools were closed two to three days because of washouts of secondary roads throughout the county. The area east and south of I-65 was the hardest hit from the flooding. The heavy rains also caused several of the creeks and small streams in the county to come out of their banks. Murder, Burnt Corn and Brushy creeks came out of their banks as did the Sepulga River. Other than road damage, no major damage was reported to any homes from the flooded streams.