

Hurricane Ginger September 5 - October 5

Ginger will chiefly be noted for its longevity, circuitous track, and as the lone hurricane to provide Project Stormfury with a seeding target during the 1971 season.

It was tracked for thirty-one days, during twenty of which it was a hurricane. The thirty-one day total life exceeds that of Faith (1966), twenty-six days, and Carrie (1957) which was a hurricane for eighteen days. Inga (1969) persisted as a named system for 25 days.

The depression formed on September 5, when an upper level low warmed and extended downward to the surface. It drifted for four days, slowly becoming better organized before reaching storm intensity on September 10. Ginger initially moved eastward but, after acquiring hurricane intensity on September 11, accelerated northeastward.

After maintaining a northeastward track until September 13, it turned eastward as it deepened to 959 mb and acquired estimated sustained winds of 90 kt. At this juncture further eastward movement was blocked by a building ridge of high pressure to the north and east. There followed a slow looping drift westward while the lowest pressure in the hurricane rose to 993 mb. On September 21, Ginger began a determined movement toward the west at 10 kt briefly threatening Bermuda, but finally passed about 100 n.mi. south of that island on September 23. On September 24, it again hesitated and began a slow drift toward the southwest which continued for three days during which the central pressure again fell to a low of 975 mb. On September 27, Ginger turned toward the northwest and gradually set a steady course

toward the North Carolina coast, moving inland near Morehead City, North Carolina on the evening of September 30. Maximum sustained winds were 65 kt and minimum pressure was 993 mb as it reached the coast. After meandering inland to the north and east, it emerged back over the Atlantic as a depression on the morning of October 3, and was finally absorbed on a cold front.

Ginger, for reasons not entirely understood, remained in a remarkably steady state near the threshold of hurricane strength during most of its life span over the sub-tropics, and reconnaissance crews noted a singular lack of penetrative convection most of the time. The hurricane maintained an unusually large atypical eye formation, sometimes eighty miles in diameter. Table 5 is a summary of meteorological data associated with Ginger in the U.S.

As the hurricane passed 100 n.mi. south of Bermuda, gale force winds raked the island for seventeen hours. At the Kindley Naval air station maximum sustained winds were 30 kt with gusts to 65 kt. Tides on Pamlico Sound were 4-7 feet above normal. At Washington, Aurora, New Bern, and Cherry Point, North Carolina, tides were 6 ft above normal.

Rains of 10-13 inches were reported in several east-central North Carolina counties, where there was severe damage to crops.

Total damage in North Carolina is estimated at \$10 million. There was no appreciable damage in Virginia.

No fatalities were ascribed to hurricane Ginger.

HURRICANE GINGER

September 6, 1971 - October 5, 1971

Official Track

MONTH	DAY	TIME	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	S.L.P.	INTENSITY
Sept	6	0000Z	25.5	71.5	-	T. Dep.
		0600	25.2	71.2	-	"
		1200	25.0	71.0	-	"
		1800	24.8	70.8	-	"
	7	0000	24.6	70.5	-	"
		0600	24.4	70.3	-	"
		1200	24.3	69.9	-	"
		1800	24.7	69.3	-	"
	8	0000	25.2	68.8	-	"
		0600	25.5	68.5	-	"
		1200	25.9	68.2	-	"
		1800	26.3	68.0	-	"
	9	0000	26.6	67.9	-	"
		0600	26.8	67.7	-	"
		1200	27.0	67.6	1008	"
		1800	27.3	67.4	-	"
	10	0000	27.6	67.0	-	"
		0600	27.7	66.6	-	"
		1200	27.7	66.1	1003	T. Stm.
		1800	27.7	65.5	-	"
	11	0000	27.7	65.0	-	"
		0600	27.8	64.2	-	"
		1200	27.9	63.3	991	Hurr.
		1800	28.3	62.4	-	"
12	0000	28.9	61.6	-	"	
	0600	29.6	60.7	-	"	
	1200	30.3	59.9	985	"	
	1800	31.1	59.0	-	"	
13	0000	31.7	58.2	-	"	
	0600	32.3	57.2	-	"	
	1200	32.7	56.1	-	"	
	1800	33.0	54.9	959	"	
14	0000	33.3	53.3	-	"	
	0600	33.6	52.7	-	"	
	1200	33.7	50.1	-	"	
	1800	33.3	48.3	964	"	
15	0000	33.0	48.4	-	"	
	0600	32.9	48.7	-	"	
	1200	32.8	49.1	981	"	
	1800	32.7	49.4	-	"	
16	0000	32.7	49.6	-	"	
	0600	32.7	49.8	-	"	
	1200	32.7	50.1	987	"	
	1800	32.7	50.5	-	"	

HURRICANE GINGER (contd)

MONTH	DAY	TIME	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	S.L.P.	INTENSITY
Sept	17	0000Z	32.7	51.0	987	Hurr.
		0600	32.7	51.5		"
		1200	32.7	51.9	992	"
		1800	32.6	52.2		"
	18	0000	32.5	52.4		"
		0600	32.3	52.6		"
		1200	32.1	52.8		"
		1800	31.8	52.8		"
	19	0000	31.4	52.6		"
		0600	31.0	52.2		"
		1200	31.0	51.7	987	"
		1800	31.2	51.6		"
	20	0000	31.4	51.7		"
		0600	31.6	51.8		"
		1200	31.7	52.0		"
		1800	31.8	52.4		"
	21	0000	31.7	53.0		"
		0600	31.6	53.5		"
		1200	31.5	54.2	993	"
		1800	31.4	55.2		"
	22	0000	31.3	56.5		"
		0600	31.3	57.8		"
		1200	31.2	59.2	995	"
		1800	31.1	60.3		"
	23	0000	31.0	61.5		"
		0600	30.9	62.8		"
		1200	30.8	64.0	992	"
		1800	30.5	65.1		"
	24	0000	30.1	66.2		"
		0600	30.0	67.1		"
		1200	30.0	67.5	993	"
		1800	29.9	67.8	988	"
	25	0000	29.8	68.2		"
		0600	29.6	68.4	981	"
		1200	29.4	68.5		"
		1800	29.2	68.6		"
	26	0000	28.8	68.8	976	"
		0600	28.4	69.0		"
		1200	28.2	69.3	982	"
		1800	28.0	69.7		"
	27	0000	27.9	70.2		"
		0600	28.0	70.4		"
		1200	28.2	70.6	975	"
		1800	28.4	70.9	969	"
	28	0000	28.7	71.0		"
		0600	29.1	71.1		"
		1200	29.5	71.3	981	"
		1800	30.0	71.7		"
29	0000	30.5	72.2		"	
	0600	31.0	72.8		"	
	1200	31.6	73.5	983	"	
	1800	32.3	74.4		"	

HURRICANE GINGER (contd)

MONTH	DAY	TIME	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	S.L.P.	INTENSITY
Sept	30	0000Z	32.9	75.0	986	Hurr.
		0600	33.5	75.5		"
		1200	34.0	76.0	985	"
		1800	34.5	76.5		"
Oct	1	0000	34.7	77.0	993	T.Stm.
		0600	34.8	77.5		"
		1200	34.9	78.0		"
		1800	35.2	78.2	1004	T.Dep.
	2	0000	35.6	78.3		"
		0600	36.2	78.2		"
		1200	36.8	78.1		"
		1800	37.2	77.7		"
	3	0000	37.3	76.8		"
		0600	37.2	75.9	1008	Ext.
		1200	37.0	75.0		"
		1800	36.7	74.1		"
4	0000	36.4	73.3		"	
	0600	36.1	72.7		"	
	1200	35.9	72.0		"	
	1800	35.8	71.3		"	
5	0000	35.7	70.6		"	
	0600	35.7	69.9		"	

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
ATLANTIC HURRICANE TRACKING CHART

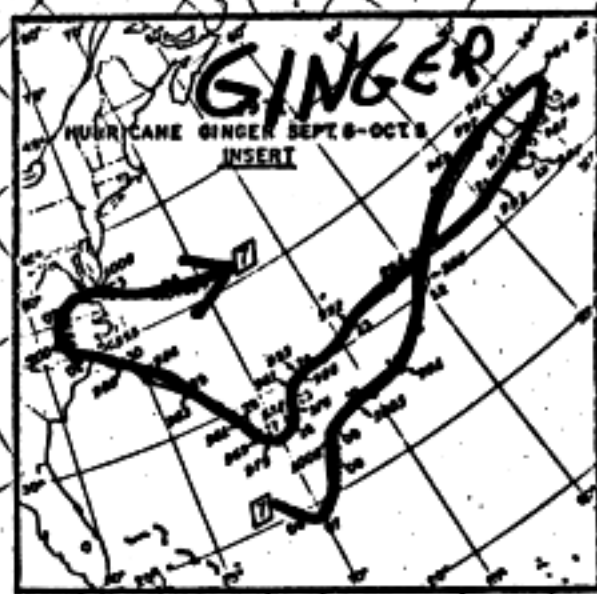
ATLANTIC TROPICAL CYCLONES

Observed in the Year

1971

NO.	TYPE	NAME	DATES
1	(T)	ARLENE	JULY 4-7
2	(H)	BETH	AUG. 10-17
3	(T)	CHLOE	AUG. 10-25
4	(T)	DORIA	AUG. 20-29
5	(H)	EDITH	SEPT. 6-17
6	(H)	FERN	SEPT. 3-13
7	(H)	GINGER	SEPT. 6-OCT. 8
8	(T)	HEIDI	SEPT. 10-14
9	(H)	IRENE	SEPT. 11-20
10	(T)	JANICE	SEPT. 21-24
11	(T)	KRISTY	OCT. 17-21
12	(T)	LAURA	NOV. 12-22

(T) TROPICAL STORMS, did not reach hurricane intensity.
(H) HURRICANE, reached hurricane force at some point.



(T_d) TROPICAL DISTURBANCE
(T_s) TROPICAL DEPRESSION (Winds less than 39 mph)
(T) TROPICAL STORM (Winds 39 through 73 mph)
(H) HURRICANE (Winds 74 mph or higher)

----- Tropical Disturbance
----- Tropical Depression (unformed stage)
----- Tropical Storm stage
----- Hurricane stage
----- Extratropical stage
----- Depression (dissipation stage)

○ Position at 7:00 a.m. EST
● Position at 1:00 p.m. EST

