2022 Russian and Ukrainian tornado outbreak

On 18 September 2022, a small but significant tornado outbreak began in Eastern Ukraine and moved into Russia, producing at least 5 tornadoes, including an intense F3 tornado and three possible, unconfirmed tornadoes. On September 19, a significant tornado occurred in Russia, with another possible, unconfirmed tornado and severe wind gust damage. Through the event, 3 people were killed and at least 8 others were injured.[1]

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Formed	18 September 2022
Dissipated	19 September 2022
Tornadoes confirmed	6
Max. rating[1]	F3 tornado
Fatalities	3 (8 injuries)
Damage	Unknown
Areas affected	Eastern Ukraine, Western and Central Russia

Part of the **tornado outbreaks of 2022**

[1] *Most severe tornado damage; see Fujita scale*

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Meteorological history

On September 18, thunderstorms developed over northwest Ukraine. The environment the storms began to move into had strong low-level wind shear, which is needed for severe wind gusts and tornadoes.[2] On September 19, Tomas Pucik, a researcher for the European Severe Storms Laboratory, noted the environment on the 18th was "very conductive" for tornadoes.[3]

Tornadoes

FU	F0	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5
0	0	3	2	1	0	0

List of confirmed tornadoes

F#/T#	Location	Oblast/Subregion	Country	Start Coord.	Time (UTC)	Path length	Max width	Summary
September 18								
F3	Buryn'	Sumy Oblast	Ukraine	51.20°N 33.85°E	13:30 ± 15 min	Unknown	Unknown	1 death — The tornado caused significant damage to the city of Buryn. About 20 residential buildings were left without a roof, several had destroyed walls. One fatality occurred when a wall fell onto a person. About 10,000 customers were left without electricity and eight injuries occurred from this tornado. The European Severe Storms Laboratory said "At least upper F2 damage category was assigned based on structural damage (destroyed roofs, partly collapsed walls visible on aerial footage). Major damage occurred especially between 51.193N, 33.846E and 51.201N, 33.852E." On September 21, the rating was upgraded to F3 after new damage photos of destroyed brick residential building were discovered.[1][4][5][6]
F1	Shurovo	Sumy Oblast	Ukraine	51.23°N 33.98°E	13:45 ± 30 min	Unknown	Unknown	The tornado damaged or destroyed power and telecommunication lines. Roofs on structures was destroyed and trees were snapped or uprooted.[1][7]
F1	Ol'govka	Kursk Oblast	Russia	51.40°N 35.02°E	15:05 ± 15 min	Unknown	Unknown	The tornado caused "major damage to structures in the village." Numerous residential building (mostly weak framehouses) were damaged. The tornado was given an upper F1 rating, however, ESSL noted that the "rating may be updated" in the future. [1][8][9][10]
F2/T5	L'gov, Prigorodnaya Slobodka	Kursk Oblast	Russia	51.69°N 35.30°E	15:30 ± 30 min	Unknown	Unknown	Over 200 structures were damaged or destroyed from the tornado. Some of the roofs were destroyed along with some parts of exterior walls with most of these being rather weak framehouses. Numerous trees and high-voltage power lines were also damaged or destroyed. The European Severe Storms Laboratory assigned an "at least F2" rating to this tornado based on photographs however, it was noted that "this is preliminary rating which may be updated" in the future. [1][11][12][13][14][15][16]
F1	Kursk	Kursk Oblast	Russia	51.67°N 36.08°E	17:00 ± 30 min	Unknown	Unknown	2 deaths — The tornado impacted an automotive technical college in the city, causing significant damage as the roof of a dormitory was torn off. A student was killed after being struck in the abdomen by a piece of the roof which entered through a nearby window. The student was reportedly filming the tornado during that time. Another victim was found under a downed tree near the Automotive Technical College on Yunosti street. The tornado was given an upper F1 rating, however, ESSL noted that the "rating may be updated" in the future.[1][17][18][19][20][21]
September 19								
F2	Svecha	Kirov Oblast	Russia	58.28°N 47.33°E	14:20 ± 15 min	Unknown	200 m (220 yd)	A strong tornado occurred in a forest. Large branches were broken, trees were snapped or uprooted and roads were closed and impassible.[1][22][23][24][25][26][27]

Possible tornadoes

Around 13:00 ± 30 minutes UTC on September 18, severe wind damage occurred in the town of Sulimy and minutes later in the town of Konovaly, Ukraine. Power lines were damaged or destroyed, roofs to 25 homes were damaged or destroyed, and trees sustained damage, were snapped or uprooted. European Severe Storms Laboratory (ESSL) noted these events may have been tornadoes. As such, both were given a rating of F1 on the Fujita scale. However, a tornado was not confirmed in either event.[1][28]

Just over an hour later, around 14:20 ± 30 minutes UTC, at least 13 households (6 in particular) were damaged in Tyazhino, Kursk, Russia after the passage of a thunderstorm. The structures suffered mostly damage to roofs with a few roofs completely destroyed. The European Severe Storms Laboratory noted this event may have been a tornado. As such, it was given a rating of at least F1/T3, however a tornado was not confirmed with this event.[1][29][30]

Around 15:15 ± 5 minutes UTC on September 19, wind damage to roofs in particular, was reported in Khokhlovshchina, Kirov, Russia, after the passage of a thunderstorm. The European Severe Storms Laboratory noted this event may have been a tornado. As such, ESSL gave a rating of F1 to the damage, however, a tornado was not confirmed with this event.[1][31]

See also

- Weather of 2022
- Tornadoes of 2022
- 1984 Soviet Union tornado outbreak

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