

Tropical Storm Ophelia forms in Atlantic Ocean

Tropical Storm Ophelia has formed in the Atlantic Ocean about 1,585 miles east-southeast of the northern Leeward Islands.

The storm is moving toward the west near 9 mph, and this general motion is expected to continue for the next 48 hours with an increase in forward speed. Maximum sustained winds are near 40 mph with higher gusts. Some gradual strengthening is forecast during the next day or so. 8:27 p.m. The National Hurricane Center is monitoring two systems in the Atlantic Ocean this evening. Showers and thunderstorms associated with the large low pressure system located about 1,400 miles east of the Windward Islands is showing signs of organization. This system has a 70 percent chance of becoming a tropical depression during the next 48 hours as it moves westward at 5 to 10 mph. A small area of low pressure located about 300 miles east of the northern Leeward Islands is producing disorganized shower and thunderstorm activity. This system has a near zero chance of becoming a tropical depression during the next 48 hours as it moves westward at 15 to 20 mph.