
**Probable Tornado
Avonmore, Ontario
June 12, 1994**

Date- Local: Sunday, June 12th, 1994

UTC: Sunday, June 12th, 1994

Time- Local: 1815

UTC: 2215

Location: Avonmore, 30 km NW of Cornwall

Region: Cornwall-Morrisburg

Classification: Probable Tornado

Category: A minus one

Casualties: None

Track Length: 3000 m

Width: None available

Motion: None available

Damage Estimate: None available

F-Scale Rating: F0

Code: MH

Damage Survey: Storm Damage Report by Bruce Angle and Gerry Hemmerick

Spotter Reports: None

Other Documents:

Storm Damage Report by Bruce Angle and Gerry Hemmerick

sj/s

Meteorological Service of Canada
4905 Dufferin Street, ARMP
Downsview, Ontario M3H 5T4
CANADA

Tornado F-Scale Assessment

Sarah J. Sriver

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October 7th, 2003

Classification: Probable Tornado

Date: Sunday, June 12th, 1994

Location: Avonmore, near Cornwall

Assessment: F0

Explanation of Assessment: Trees downed; phone cable sheared, trailer buffeted but not lifted.

SJS

Meteorological Service of Canada
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Report on Avonmore Severe Weather Event

Background

Avonmore is situated approximately 30 kilometres northwest of Cornwall, Ontario. On Sunday June 12, damage was reported at two locations, 16455 (Anderson farm) and 16490 (Sauvé farm) Fourth Line Road (see attached map and schematic of path of storm). caused by a suspected tornado, F zero on the Fujita scale (winds up to 115 kph). Although there were no fatalities, Mrs. Monique Sauvé suffered broken limbs, shoulder and ribs on the right side of her body and a concussion as a result of a tree falling upon her as she scurried for safe shelter. She is currently in stable condition but in extreme discomfort.

Myself and Gerry Hemmerick went to the site at 11:00 am Monday June 13 to investigate the site and interview witnesses to the event in order to determine whether it was tornadic in nature. When we arrived, a CBC film crew was there. I did a short interview with the reporter, Steven Fischer. We secured a request for a copy of the footage they were shooting and shot a roll of still photographs to supplement the video.

Interviews

We first interviewed Susan Anderson. As a bit of history, she was a witness to the Edmonton tornado; she lived across the street for the trailer park which was severely damaged by that event. The timing of this event was confirmed through four separate interviews and has been narrowed to a window of between 18:15 and 18:30 EDT which is not supported by any RADAR signatures.

Throughout the day they were expecting heavy rains and considered hail. Near 17:00 EDT, numerous lightning flashes were seen on a crest of hills to the northwest. Just prior to the event, "The sun was shining and we had thought the storm had completely passed." Then "The sky darkened, we (husband and wife) went out to assure that the chickens and dogs were safe. As I looked over my shoulder (towards the south-southwest) I saw a ball of dust approaching (though a ploughed field). I then grabbed the dogs and ducked into our trailer thinking that it was a tornado. There was an eerie silence as we sat huddled in the trailer after which the front end of the trailer was raised about a metre off the ground and slammed back down again."

We then interviewed Bernard Sauvé. His daughter was also present; she confirmed that the event happened well after 17:30 as she "had departed after 17:30". The trajectory of the storm to their property would have been from the west northwest. Bernard stated, "I didn't see it coming, my view was blocked by an outbuilding, but it was certainly after 18:00 since I was in the barn doing some chores."

There was no precipitation reported with the incident. The only signature was the typical bush of dust and small debris.

Personal Observations

The trailer was buffeted but not completely lifted. The only damage it sustained was to the phone cable which was sheared. The entity then seemed to arc towards the east. On the Anderson farm, one tree was tilted approximately 30 degrees from vertical but not uprooted. A second tree was sheared in half causing some damage to the property.

The entity did a right turn arc towards the southeast. A wind break on the eastern border of Anderson's property did not sustain any damage. It is possible however that the track of the storm could have barely grazed the southernmost edge of it.

The suspected tornado then crossed Fourth Line Road onto the property of Bernard and Monique Sauvé. Four large poplars were felled onto their structures. Aside from the damage caused by falling trees, there appeared to be no direct wind damage to the tin roof and antennae of either home.

The dimensions of the trees ranged from approximately 75 centimetres in diameter on the Anderson's property to 2 metres in diameter on the second property. The plugs of earth uprooted with these trees stood as large as 4 metres in diameter. It must be kept in mind when considering the force of the storm that these trees do not have a deep tap root and a height of over 30 metres.

An interesting observation. All of the trees fell towards the east. A variation of perhaps 30 degrees (from east-northeast to east-southeast) however the slight variations could be accounted for by the distribution of upper limbs and the effect of striking some of the structures.

Bruce Angle
Gerry Hemmerick

SCALE: 1" = .2 MILES

--- TRACK

16455
472 LINE 20

FIRST
SITING

100

16490
472 LINE ROAD

