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Second Tropical Cyclone Ever Forms in South Atlantic

By **LiveScience Staff**
 posted: **11 March 2010 06:00 pm ET**

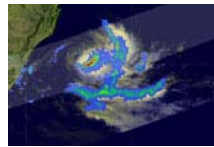
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The second ever tropical cyclone to form in the South Atlantic has been spotted about 180 miles off the coast of Brazil.

Tropical cyclones typically don't form in the Southern Atlantic because the waters are usually too cool.

However, forecasters at the Naval Research Laboratory noted on Tuesday that a low pressure system off the coast of Brazil appeared to have tropical storm-force winds. The storm has been dubbed [Tropical Storm 90Q](#).

The first known South Atlantic tropical cyclone (the collective name for tropical storms, [hurricanes](#) and typhoons) [was seen in 2004](#) and called "Catarina."



On Wednesday, March 10, the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission, or TRMM satellite had a fairly good pass this over Tropical Storm 90Q in the morning hours and showed some heavy rainfall (~2 inches/hr in red) on the storm's southeastern side.

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"The only other tropical cyclone known to have occurred in the Southern Atlantic Ocean developed in March, 2004," said Hal Pierce, meteorologist on the TRMM satellite team at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md. "That's when a hurricane called "Catarina" made landfall on March 28, 2004 near the town of Torres in the southern Brazilian state of Santa Catarina (thus, the storm's name). It was the first "hurricane" ever observed by satellite in the south Atlantic."

While tropical cyclones in the Northern Hemisphere spin counterclockwise, those in the Southern Hemisphere spin clockwise.

Two NASA satellites have now confirmed that the storm is moving away from Brazil's coast.

At 0845 UTC (3:45 a.m. ET) today, Tropical Storm 90Q had maximum sustained winds near 46 mph (40 knots). It was located about 325 miles east of Puerto Alegre, Brazil in the waters of the South Atlantic Ocean near 30.0 South latitude and 45.8 West longitude.

Tropical Storm 90Q will continue moving in a general easterly direction away from the Brazilian coast and weaken before being absorbed by a mid-latitude cold front this weekend, meteorologists predict.

Hurricane season in the North Atlantic basin and Caribbean officially begins on June 1.

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FriendofFusion wrote: posted 11 March 2010, 7:00 pm ET

"It was the first "hurricane" ever observed by satellite in the south Atlantic." "

Ummm. When was the first time they had satellites watching the south Atlantic?

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Desmon wrote: posted 11 March 2010, 10:11 pm ET

not surprised, also not to sound like a nut but weather modification has been around for a while. it wouldn't surprise me if someone was testing something out there.
http://image3.examiner.com/images/blog/EXID1819/images/Chile_map.jpg

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dcrowley wrote: posted 12 March 2010, 6:48 am ET

POLE SHIFT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Run away Run away.

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gregoryl wrote: posted 13 March 2010, 12:45 am ET

It's beginning to seem like the only sure fire way to get a piece published in LiveScience is to link the subject (no matter what it is) to Global Warming.

Never mind that the whole shoddy edifice of the Church of Gore is collapsing under the weight of its own mendacity, advocacy, bad science, and conflict of interest.

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notatreehugger wrote: posted 13 March 2010, 7:58 am ET

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Atlantic_tropical_cyclone

sometimes i hate wiki but this isnt the second storm. catarina was literally a freak of nature at a cat 2 but there has been a couple tropical storm strength storms down there as well as subtropical storms.

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