



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

Severe Tropical Cyclone *Gwenda*
6 - 13 February 1988

Perth Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre
Bureau of Meteorology

A. Summary

Tropical cyclone *Gwenda* began as a tropical low over the ocean area to the northwest of the continent near 12.85°S 109.0°E at 0000 UTC 6 February. The low moved slowly southwest from this position, gradually intensified and reached tropical cyclone intensity at 1200 UTC 7 February near 15.4°S 104.5°E, approximately 1200 km northwest of North West Cape. The cyclone continued to intensify for another 12 hours but its development was much slower as it moved westward at 18 km/h for the next 48 hours.

By 0000 UTC 10 February the cyclone was near 15.8°S 95.0°E and in the following 48 hours significant intensification resumed. An eye was first observed at 2 100 UTC 10 February. During this period the cyclone decelerated and moved initially west at 15 km/h and then southwest at 9 km/h to be near 17°S 90°E at 0000 UTC 12 February. At this time a modified Dvorak analysis indicated a central pressure of 941 hPa with maximum wind gusts to 235 km/h.

The cyclone then entered the Mauritian area of responsibility, was renamed *Ezenina*, and gradually weakened as it approached 80.0°E.

There was no known impact associated with TC *Gwenda*.

Table 1. Best track summary for Tropical Cyclone *Gwenda*, 6 – 12 February 1988. Note: Add 8 hours to convert to WST. Refer to best track database for complete track details.

Year	Month	Day	Hour (UTC)	Position Latitude S	Position Longitude E	Max wind knots	Central Pressure hPa	Rad. of Gales nm
1988	2	6	0000	12.8	109.0		1004	
1988	2	6	0600	13.2	108.2		1002	
1988	2	6	1200	13.5	107.5		1001	
1988	2	6	1800	13.8	107.0		999	
1988	2	7	0000	14.1	106.3		998	
1988	2	7	0600	14.9	105.3		995	
1988	2	7	1200	15.4	104.5		992	
1988	2	7	1800	15.8	103.5		988	
1988	2	8	0000	16.0	102.7		984	
1988	2	8	0600	16.0	101.9		984	
1988	2	8	1200	16.0	101.2		984	
1988	2	8	1800	16.0	100.3		984	
1988	2	9	0000	16.0	99.2		984	
1988	2	9	0600	15.9	98.0		983	
1988	2	9	1200	15.9	96.8		982	
1988	2	9	1800	15.9	95.8		979	
1988	2	10	0000	15.8	95.0		976	
1988	2	10	0600	15.8	94.3		966	
1988	2	10	1200	15.7	93.4		958	
1988	2	10	1800	15.7	92.5		953	
1988	2	11	0000	15.8	91.7		950	
1988	2	11	0600	16.1	91.1		947	
1988	2	11	1200	16.5	90.7		945	
1988	2	11	1800	16.8	90.3		943	
1988	2	12	0000	17.1	90.0		941	

Figure 1, Best Track for Tropical Cyclone *Gwenda*, 6 – 12 February 1988.
All times in WST.

