



Description of a hailstorm episode in Basque Country area.

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In this paper a study of a storm event over Basque Country (North Iberian Peninsula) is made. During the analyzed episode some localized areas in the country were affected by hail and very heavy precipitation. In order to understand the development and evolution of this severe weather situation, synoptic characteristics and mesoscale situation are analyzed. Local aspects are considered, including information from the Basque Country Automatic Weather Station Mesonet, Kapildui Radar, Lighting discharge system and MSG.

During the case study (30 May 2011) the synoptic situation affecting Basque Country is marked by a trough passage from west to east, with relatively cold air in height. This trough was reflected in low atmospheric levels, with the formation of relative low pressures and the passage of an instability line associated with. Early in the afternoon of May 30, storm cells start to form in the vicinity of the Basque Country; these convective cells have a large vertical development reaching or exceeding 10 km in the vertical. Some heavy rains episodes, accompanied with hail, were observed especially in the surroundings of Gorbea Mountain where over 110 mm in one hour was registered as a consequence of a single cell storm passage.