

For Release
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By Major A. H. Thiessen
Science Service Meteorologist

Ice formation on aircraft! One of the natural perils of flying is the ice which forms on wings and other critical places. The explanation is not simple. It seems that ice does not form except when the plane is in the presence of some form of visible moisture such as rain or cloud with particles of the right amount, size and stability. Very small droplets seem to retain their spherical form and bounce harmlessly away. Large droplets seem more easily broken and they form a film of water which quickly turns to clear ice. There are also sizes of droplets which seem to adhere without breaking up and form opaque, porous ice, called rime. Clear ice sticks the hardest, rime is easier to remove.
