

For Release  
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Heat thunderstorms! As the name implies, these are a summer phenomenon in the temperate zones. The condition for their formation is ascending, warm, moist air with little or no wind. This condition is realized best in summer after a spell of hot weather. The sun heats the earth's surface which in turn heats the overlying layer of air. A hot surface layer of air is unstable, and due to the convection thus set up it rises, cools, and forms the characteristic thundercloud. In a mountainous country the warm air ascending a mountain side frequently produces thunderstorms. The period of greatest frequency over land is from 2 to 4 p.m.

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