

New cloud types defined for first time in decades

By Sean Rossman, USA Today

The world's cloud authority, having not classified a new cloud in three decades, arose this month to name about a dozen new types, including a rolling, slalom-like form known to blanket the Iowa sky.

The asperitas cloud is among the stars of the World Meteorological Organization's scarcely published International Cloud Atlas. A new version of the atlas, last published in 1987, was unveiled on World Meteorological Day.

Adding asperitas to the atlas' about 100 cloud combinations was the work of the world-wide Cloud Appreciation Society.

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