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The following extract is taken from the revised (1942) edition of Air Ministry Publication M.O.420 b, Meteorological Office Professional Notes No.82:

"Ice Accretion on Aircraft: Notes for Pilots" by G.C. Simpson.

Forecasts of Ice Accretion. - The following are the existing instructions for forecasts of ice accretion:-

(a) The approximate height above mean sea level of the freezing level is given in all forecasts for aviation. When there are two levels both are given. The heights are given to the nearest 500 ft. for levels up to 5,000 ft. and to the nearest 1,000 ft. for higher levels.

(b) When no cloud is expected or only cloud below the freezing level this is indicated in the forecasts.

(c) When cloud is anticipated at the levels at which the temperature is favourable for icing, the estimated icing conditions are indicated by one of the following terms :-

Icing index high.
Icing index moderate.
Icing index low.

These terms indicate broadly the relative amount of water which it is anticipated will be in the cloud available for deposition as ice on aircraft. The amount actually deposited on aircraft will be dependent on the period during which the aircraft is flying in the levels concerned.

(d) If a stratified (or Layer) cloud is anticipated in the layers favourable for ice formation, i.e. the layers between temperatures of 32°F. (0°C.) and 15°F. (-9°C.) normally about 4,000 ft. in vertical extent, the forecast will include a statement in the form "Layer cloud; base at X extending above Y, icing index I in cloud between P and Q", X being the probable height of the base of the layer, Y the freezing level, I the icing index, P and Q the heights between which icing is expected. If X is above Y the statement will be in the form "Layer cloud; base at X, icing index I, in cloud between X and Q". When it is possible to do so, both the upper and lower limits of the cloud will be indicated.

(e) If clouds of the cumulonimbus type are expected to extend above the freezing level, the conditions favourable for ice formation may extend to levels of temperature down to 0°F. (-18°C.) i.e. through about 8,000 ft. of vertical extent. The likelihood of such clouds will be indicated in the forecasts by a statement in the form "Cumulus or cumulonimbus cloud; base at X extending above Y, icing index I, in cloud between P and Q."

(f) If icing caused by supercooled rain falling from a warmer upper layer is anticipated, specific reference to it is given in the forecast.