

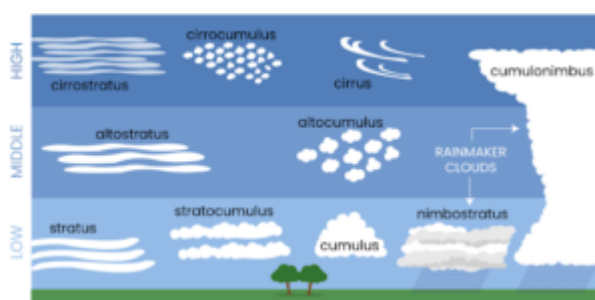
Mammatus Clouds

February 18, 2023

In news– NASA has released a picture of Mammatus clouds and termed it as Astronomy Picture of the Day on February 12 2023.

What are Mammatus Clouds?

- Mammatus clouds are among the most extraordinary and easily recognizable cloud formations, with a **pattern of protuberances or sacs extending from the base of the cloud.**
- The shapes of mammatus formations can vary greatly; they can range from the typical **bulging shape to a more elongated tube dangling from the cloud above.**
- **These clouds generally appear in connection with substantial cumulonimbus clouds.**
- The **turbulence within the cumulonimbus often leads to the formation of Mammatus clouds**, particularly on the bottom of the projecting anvil as it quickly descends to lower altitudes.
- This breaks from the conventional upward growth process of cloud formation, resulting in an irregular cloud base.
- These clouds usually emerge in association with Cumulonimbus clouds, which bring thunderstorms due to their massive quantity of unstable air.



Note:

Astronomy Picture of the Day is a website provided by NASA and Michigan Technological University. According to the website, each day a different image or photograph of our universe is featured, along with a brief explanation written by a professional astronomer.