

Cloud types & rain bearing clouds

**Cloud** is a large collection of very tiny droplets of water or ice crystals that are so small & light. Billions of these droplets come together they become a visible cloud.

**Showers** begin and end suddenly. Relatively short-lived, from cumulus clouds

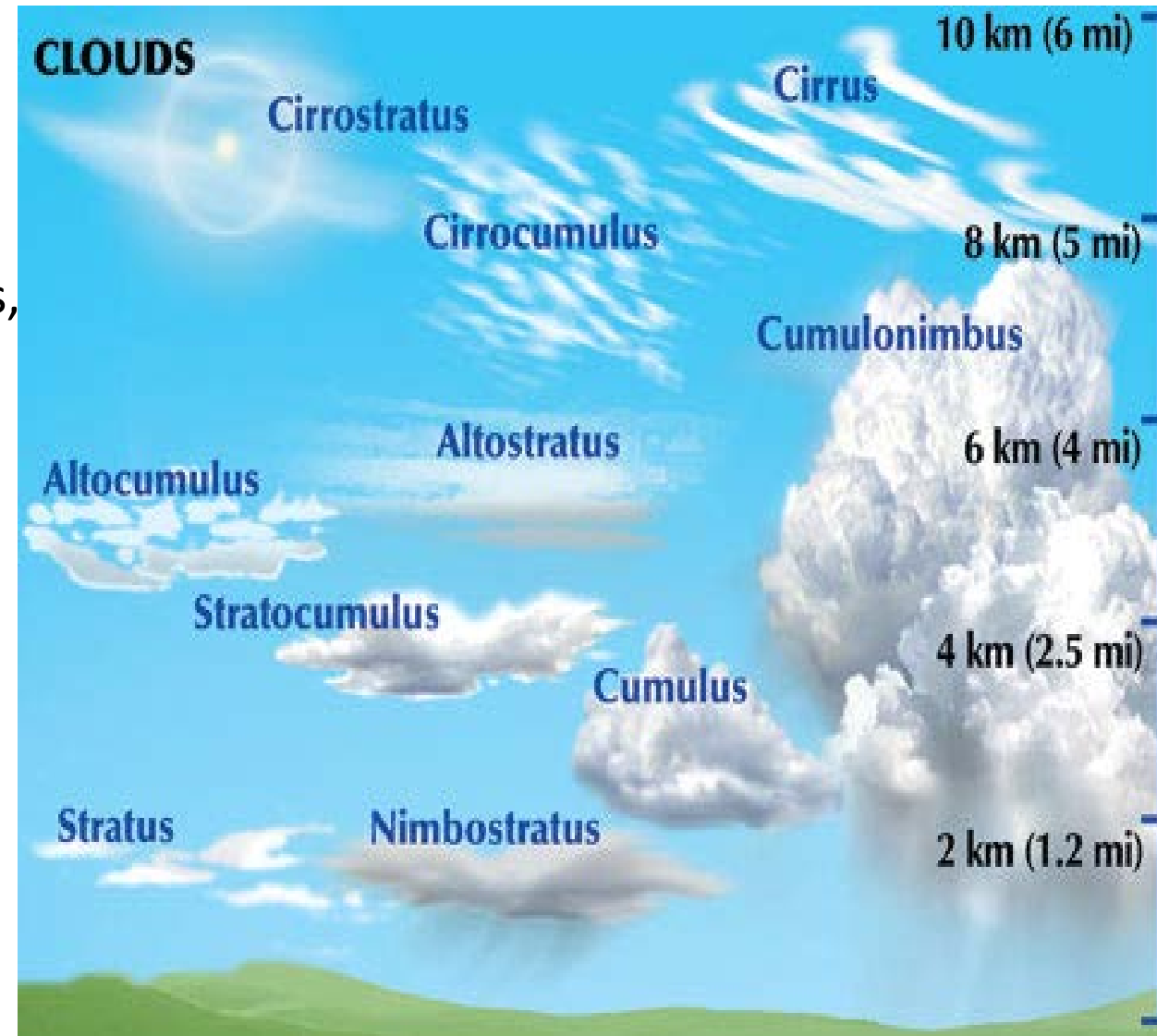
**Rain** is steadier and normally falls from stratiform (layer) cloud

**Drizzle** Fairly uniform precipitation composed exclusively of very small water droplets

**Convective rainfall** - Orographic rainfall - **Frontal rainfall** ( low-pressure area or a front)

Clouds are grouped into 4 clouds families based on their heights of troposphere:

- **High level clouds** (altitudes of 5-13 km), Cirrus, Cirrostratus, Cirrocumulus
- **medium level clouds** (2-7 km), Altostratus, Altocumulus, Nimbostratus
- **low level clouds** (0-2 km) cumulus, Stratus, Cumulonimbus, stratocumulus
- clouds with large vertical extending (0-13 km).



Source: sussie.org



No precipitation

Cirrocumulus show some characteristics of ice crystal



Cirrus clouds - No precipitation.

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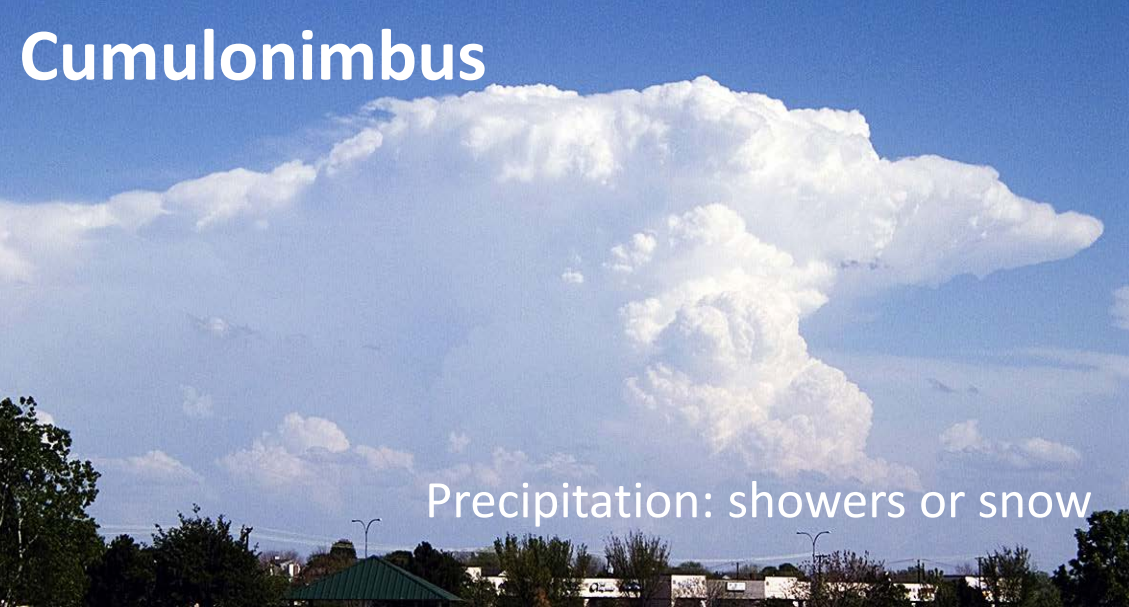
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Thunderstorms, hails and thunderstorms



Thank you