



ICE ACCRETION

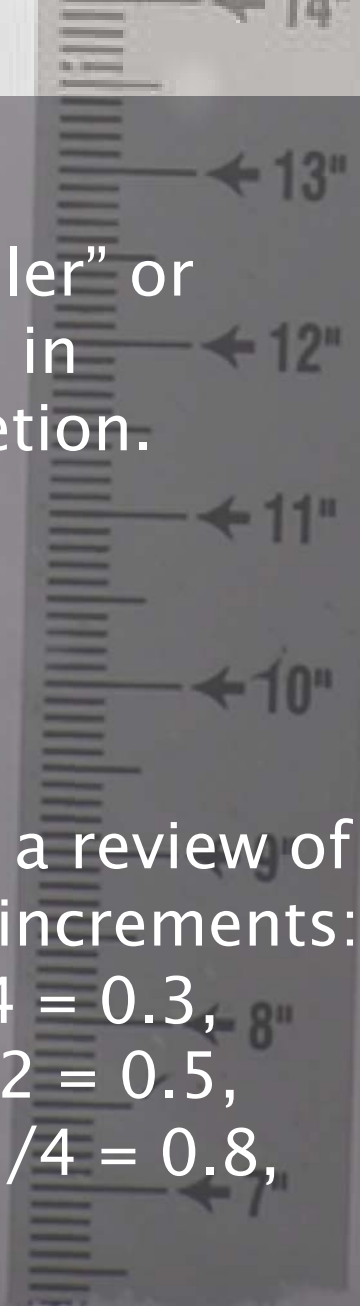
Ice Accretion occurs when rain or drizzle falls with surface temperatures at or below freezing.

This is commonly called
“freezing rain” or “freezing drizzle”

- The best way to measure Ice Accretion is to break off a very small branch or twig from a tree. Use a ruler to measure the thickness of ice in tenths of an inch. You can also measure Ice Accretion on a flat surface. If there is only a small amount of Ice Accretion which is less than a tenth of an inch report it as Trace (T). If there is no Ice Accretion report it as zero (0.0”).

Accumulation is also called “*glaze*”



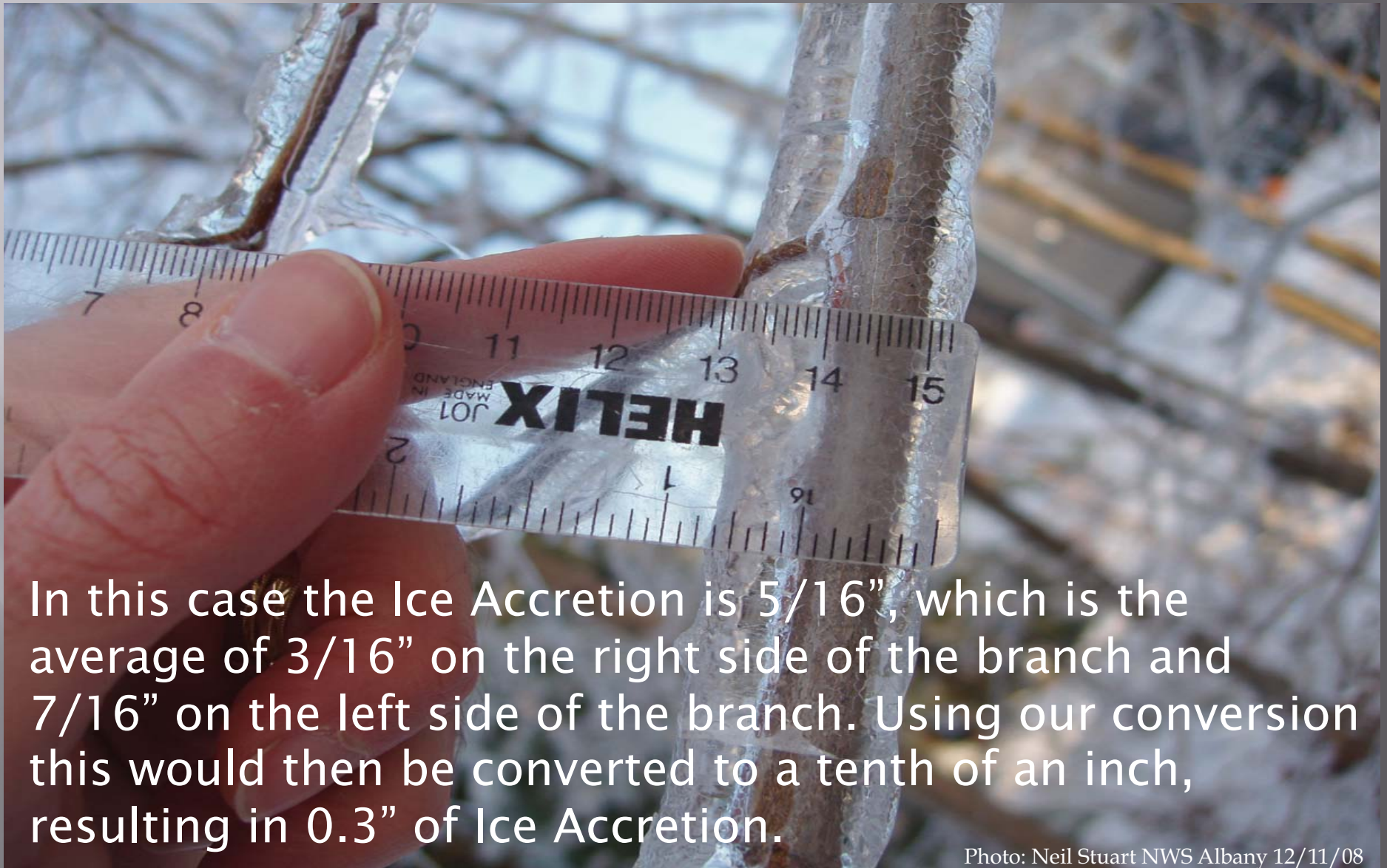


It is best to use a “CoCoRaHS Snow Ruler” or an engineering ruler that is graduated in tenths of an inch to measure Ice Accretion.

If you are using a regular ruler here is a review of the conversions to the nearest tenth-inch increments:

$1/16 = 0.1$, $1/8 = 0.1$, $3/16 = 0.2$, $1/4 = 0.3$,
 $5/16 = 0.3$, $3/8 = 0.4$, $7/16 = 0.4$, $1/2 = 0.5$,
 $9/16 = 0.6$, $5/8 = 0.6$, $11/16 = 0.7$, $3/4 = 0.8$,
 $13/16 = 0.8$, $7/8 = 0.9$, $15/16 = 0.9$

ICE ACCRETION EXAMPLES



In this case the Ice Accretion is $\frac{5}{16}$ " , which is the average of $\frac{3}{16}$ " on the right side of the branch and $\frac{7}{16}$ " on the left side of the branch. Using our conversion this would then be converted to a tenth of an inch, resulting in 0.3" of Ice Accretion.

Photo: Neil Stuart NWS Albany 12/11/08

ICE ACCRETION EXAMPLES



In this case the Ice Accretion measured from the top of the metal post is 0.5”.

Photo: Neil Stuart NWS Albany 1/15/07

REPORTING ICE ACCRETION

Data Entry : Daily Precipitation Report Form

Precipitation Report Form

Station Number : CO-LR-284

Station Name : FCL 3.0 W

* Denotes Required Field

***Observation Date** ?

***Observation Time** ?

***Rain and Melted Snow to the nearest hundredth inch that has fallen in the gauge during the past 24 hours** ?

Yes No **Report was taken at registered location?**

Observation Notes: (This will be available to the public) ?

Rain to Freezing rain overnight. Measured Ice accretion on tree branch is 0.3"

On your CoCoRaHS “*Daily Precipitation Form*” you can list the amount of Ice Accretion (measured to the tenth of an inch) in the “*Observation Notes*” box.