

A&M, three states work on plan Cloud seeding studied in Texas

Direction of a study of the effects of cloud seeding has rotated to Texas A&M University. The study is funded by several agencies. The project focuses a large amount of equipment and expertise in developing methods to make clouds produce rain. Overall administration and direction of the project under the Texas Department of Water Resources. It is funded by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and three states -- Montana, Kansas and Texas. The project is called HIPEX, for High Plains Cooperative Experiment. Chief scientist this year is Dr.

James R. Scoggins, Texas A&M meteorology professor. He will direct the field program this summer in the Big Spring area with an official of the Texas Department of Water Resources. Clouds over a 4,000-square-mile area in West Texas will be seeded and their characteristics studied. Some will grow into thunderstorms, producing rainfall. They will be sampled and measured from the ground and air to determine conditions and what effect seeding has on the cloud, Scoggins said. "Sufficient research of this nature has not been carried out," he added. Scoggins noted that HIPEX is a

large, diversified program, involving scientists with Meteorology Research Inc. of Altadena, Calif., Texas Tech's Geosciences Department, the Colorado River Municipal Water District at Big Spring, TDWR and Texas A&M. They joined to conduct field programs in 1976 and 1977, and again this summer. The project utilizes three weather radars, four aircraft, four atmospheric sounding systems and a 15-minute surface weather station network. Three of the planes will seed clouds with silver iodide and carbon dioxide seeding agents. Two of the aircraft are instrumented to take cloud physics measurements, Scoggins said. Cloud growth, amount of water, droplet size, how ice crystals have

been altered and precipitation obtained will be measured. Data from the various sources will then be compared to determine seeding effects. Analysis of the three summers' work is expected to define conditions in which precipitation by seeding is feasible. Scoggins said the 1978 field work will be conducted in June and July, from Big Spring. Texas A&M now has a contract to analyze data from the two previous summers. "We anticipate support for analyses of data this coming summer," Scoggins added. At Texas A&M, the project involves research assistant Greg Wilson, three graduate assistants and three other students on a part-time basis in addition to the chief scientist.

campus activities

Tuesday
Saddle & Sirion, 7 p.m., 115 Kleberg Center
Ag Eco Club, 7:30 p.m., 102 Zachary
Corpus Christi Area Hometown Club, 7:30 p.m., 206 MSC
Student Government, 7:30 p.m., 139 MSC
Townhall, "Andre Watts," 8 p.m., Rudder Auditorium
Aggie Cinema, "Singing in the Rain," Rudder Theater

Wednesday
Traffic Appeals, 3:30 p.m., 216 MSC
Bridge Club, 7:15 p.m., MSC
Class of '80, 7:30 p.m., 401 Rudder
Women in Communication, 7:30 p.m., 504 Rudder
Arts Committee, chamber orchestra rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., 206 MSC

Thursday
Traffic Appeals, 3:30 p.m., 216 MSC
TAMU in Spain, 7 p.m., 202 Academic
Water Ski Club, 7 p.m., 601 Rudder
Dance Arts Society, modern jazz classes, 7:30 p.m., 206 G. Rolfe White
Richardson Hometown Club, 7 p.m., 504 Rudder

Friday
Health & P.E. Club, Hoe Down, 50 cents admission, 7 p.m., 201 MSC
Aggie Cinema, "Fun with Dick and Jane," 8 p.m., Rudder Theater and "Electra Glide," 12 midnight, Rudder Theater

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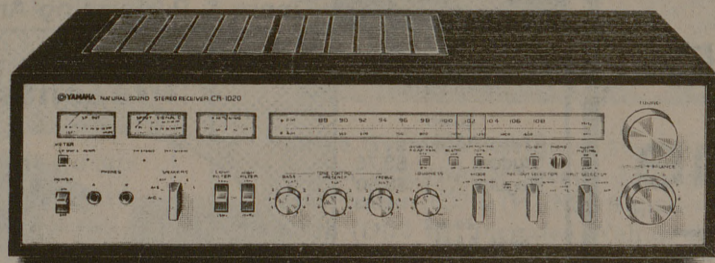
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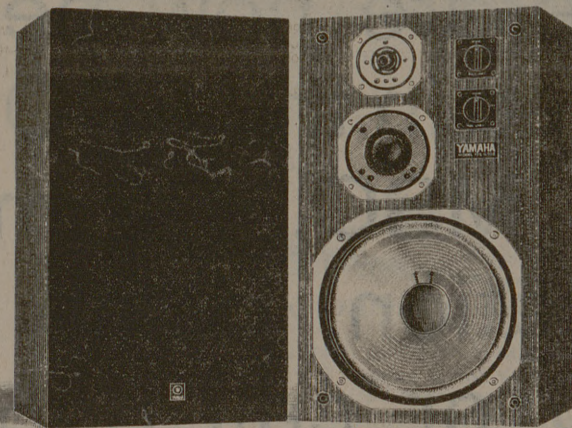
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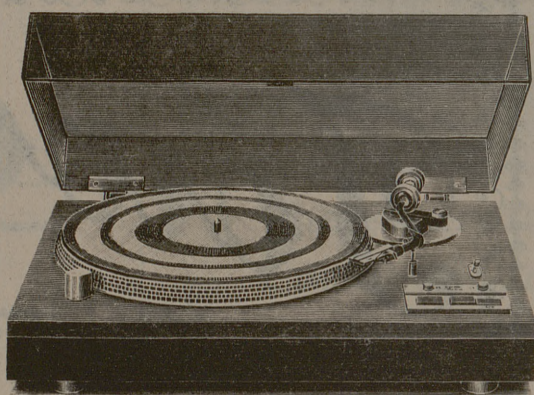
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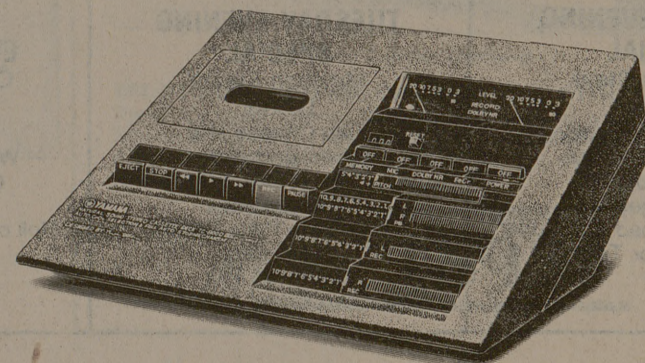
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