

cumulonimbus cloud

in atmospheric chemistry

Heavy masses of dense cloud whose cumuliform summits rise in the forms of towers, the upper parts having a fibrous texture and often spreading out into the shape of an anvil; these clouds generally produce showers of rain and sometimes of snow, hail or soft hail, and often develop into thunderstorms; up to 12 000 m; summits may be as cold as $-50\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$; strong convective motions with vertical velocities of 3 to greater than 30 m s^{-1} .

Source:

PAC, 1990, 62, 2167 (*Glossary of atmospheric chemistry terms (Recommendations 1990)*) on page 2180