

The Pickering Seeing Scale

Below you will find a still version of the Pickering scale of rating atmospheric turbulence. This was produced using Abberator V2, and using Pickering's comments on the appearance of the Airy pattern at a giving rating.

The scale was devised by William H. Pickering (1858-1938) using a 5" (13cm) refractor.

Animations (http://uk.geocities.com/dpeach_78/pickering.htm) produced by Damian Peach.


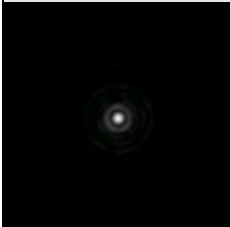
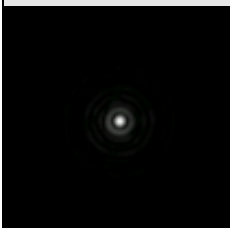
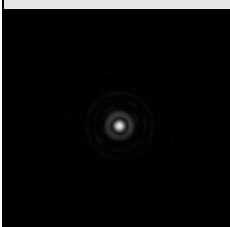
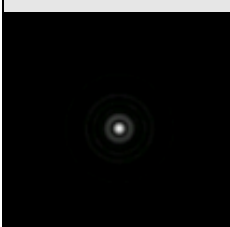
Pickering 1 rating - Very Poor.	
	<i>Star image 2x the diameter of the 3rd diffraction ring. Star image 13" in diameter.</i>
Pickering 2 rating - Very Poor.	
	<i>Star image occasionally 2x the diameter of the 3rd ring.</i>
Pickering 3 rating - Poor to Very Poor.	
	<i>Star image about the same diameter as the 3rd ring (6.7") and brighter at the centre.</i>
Pickering 4 rating - Poor.	
	<i>Airy disk often visible. Arcs of diffraction rings sometimes seen.</i>
Pickering 5 rating - Fair.	
	<i>Airy disk always visible. Arcs frequently seen.</i>

The Pickering Seeing Scale

Below you will find a still version of the Pickering scale of rating atmospheric turbulence. This was produced using Abberator V2, and using Pickering's comments on the appearance of the Airy pattern at a giving rating.

The scale was devised by William H. Pickering (1858-1938) using a 5" (13cm) refractor.

Animations (http://uk.geocities.com/dpeach_78/pickering.htm) produced by Damian Peach.

Pickering 6 rating - Fair to Good.	
	<i>Airy disk always visible. Short arcs constantly seen.</i>
Pickering 7 rating - Good.	
	<i>Disk sometimes sharply defined. Diffraction rings seen as long arcs or complete circles.</i>
Pickering 8 rating - Good to Excellent.	
	<i>Disk always sharply defined. Rings seen as long arcs/complete circles, always in motion.</i>
Pickering 9 rating - Excellent.	
	<i>Inner diffraction ring stationary. Outer rings occasionally stationary.</i>
Pickering 10 rating - Excellent/Perfect.	
	<i>The complete diffraction pattern is stationary.</i>