

Solar Bulletin

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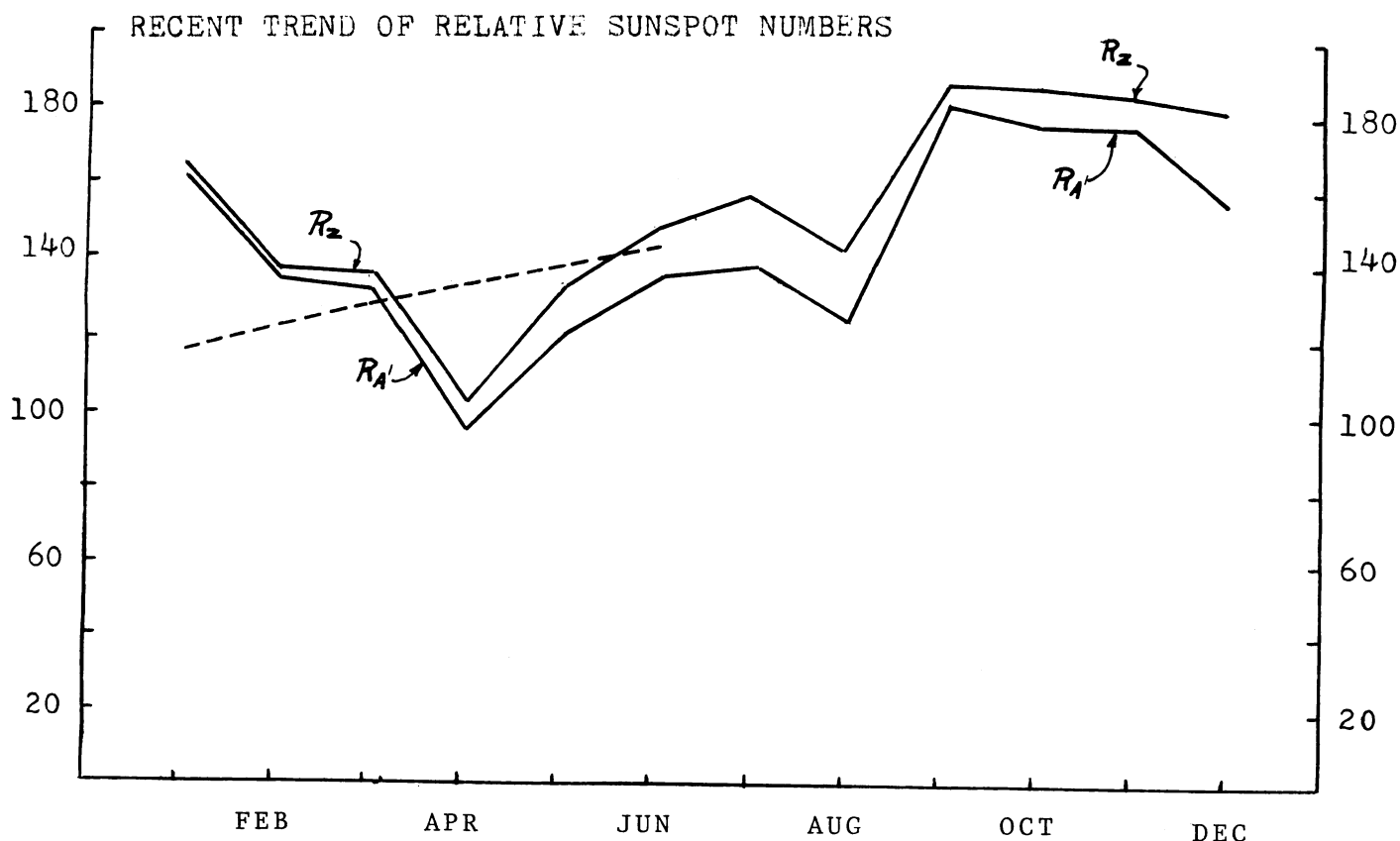
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SOLAR ACTIVITY DURING DECEMBER

After three high monthly means the American sunspot numbers ended the year by dropping to a December mean of 157.6, considerably below the autumn months. The 12-month smoothed mean nevertheless continued to rise, reaching 144.3 for June.

Ionospheric disturbances declined in numbers and intensity during December. Recordings of some of the interesting days are reproduced on page two. At the bottom of the page a recording of 73.6 kHz shows two rather small disturbances. This station in Nova Scotia is becoming increasingly popular as a signal source. Propagation paths along the eastern United States remain sensitive to ionospheric disturbances throughout the year and the station is seldom off the air other than a few hours during its weekly maintenance period. Because of its easterly longitude it provides sensitivity to early morning events.



AMERICAN (R₁) AND
ZURICH (R₂) RELATIVE
SUNSPOT NUMBERS FOR
DECEMBER 1979

Day	R ₁	R ₂
1	106	122
2	155	156
3	193	187
4	220	218
5	194	232
6	190	206
7	171	212
8	241	272
9	222	293
10	242	286
11	223	279
12	235	272
13	237	235
14	215	230
15	170	225
16	163	220
17	152	180
18	130	151
19	142	138
20	115	126
21	111	131
22	115	140
23	97	132
24	112	130
25	93	161
26	85	127
27	94	93
28	102	98
29	103	121
30	128	139
31	130	135
Mean	157.6	182.2

