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COMETS C/2005 V2–V9 (SOHO)

Additional near-sun comets have been found on SOHO website images (cf. *IAUC* 8648), all being Kreutz sungrazers except for C/2005 V8 (which is not a member of a known group). C/2005 V2 was very faint and diffuse. C/2005 V3 was tiny, stellar in appearance, and very faint. C/2005 V4 was small and stellar in appearance in C3 images, and stellar with a hint of tail in C2 images, reaching mag 7.6 at $6.2R_\odot$ on Nov. 5.004 UT. C/2005 V5 was extremely faint and diffuse. C/2005 V6 was bright and stellar in appearance with no tail in C3 images, reaching mag 6.5 at $10.5R_\odot$ on Nov. 8.929; in C2 images, the comet showed a very faint tail reaching a length of $\sim 7'$ at $5.1R_\odot$ on Nov. 9.271. C/2005 V7, a companion to C/2005 V6, was very faint and elongated. C/2005 V8 was extremely faint, very small, and stellar in appearance. C/2005 V9 appeared abruptly at $\sim 22R_\odot$ and brightened rapidly to 4th magnitude (reaching mag 3.9 at $11.1R_\odot$ on Nov. 14.221 in C3 images), developing a long, thin tail that reached a length of $40'$ on Nov. 14.704 at $4.6R_\odot$ in C2 images.

Comet	2005	UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Inst.	F	*MPEC*
C/2005 V2	Nov.	2.629	$14^h27^m.4$	$-16^\circ14'$	C2	HS	2005-Y02
C/2005 V3		3.979	14 32.5	−16 32	C2	HS	2005-Y02
C/2005 V4		4.488	14 25.7	−17 57	C3/2	TS	2005-Y03
C/2005 V5		7.788	14 49.0	−17 55	C2	RM	2005-Y03
C/2005 V6		8.346	14 37.6	−20 00	C3/2	HS	2005-Y03
C/2005 V7		9.314	14 54.4	−18 18	C2	HS	2005-Y03
C/2005 V8		9.604	15 08.6	−16 26	C2	HS	2005-Y07
C/2005 V9		13.488	15 01.7	−22 53	C3/2	HS	2005-Y07

SUPERNOVAE 2005md AND 2005mf

M. Modjaz, R. Kirshner, P. Challis, and S. Blondin, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, report that a spectrogram (range 350–740 nm) of SN 2005md (cf. *IAUC* 8647), obtained by P. Berlind on Dec. 28.31 UT, shows it to be most probably a young type-II supernova. The spectrum consists of a featureless, blue continuum and is similar to an early spectrum of SN 1993J (Matheson *et al.* 2000, *A.J.* **120**, 1487). A spectrum of SN 2005mf (cf. *IAUC* 8648), obtained by Berlind on Dec. 28.40, shows it to be a supernova of type Ic. The spectrum is similar to spectra of SN 1994I (Filippenko *et al.* 1995, *Ap.J.* **450**, L11) taken a few days before maximum.

2005 December 29 *Daniel W. E. Green*