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COMET 73P/SCHWASSMANN-WACHMANN

M. L. Sitko, University of Cincinnati and Space Science Institute; R. W. Russell, D. K. Lynch, R. Ford, and K. Crawford, The Aerospace Corporation; E. F. Polomski, University of Minnesota; and W. Golisch, D. Griep, and P. Sears, Infrared Telescope Facility (IRTF), NASA, report on observations made of comet 73P's components 'B' and 'C' using the IRTF (+ BASS) on May 18 and 19 UT. Both components exhibited a smooth continuum between 3 and 13 μm, on top of which a silicate emission band from 8.5 to 12.2 μm was observed. For component 'C', an underlying blackbody, normalized to the continuum fluxes at 7.8 and 12.5 μm, yielded grain temperatures of 295 K on May 18.73, 295 K on May 19.65, and 300 K on May 19.75, with an estimated uncertainty of $\pm$ 5 K. For 'B', the temperatures were 285 K on May 18.66 and 300 K on May 19.70. These derived temperatures were between 2 and 7 percent higher than that of an equivalent blackbody at the heliocentric distance of the comet. The feature-to-continuum ratios in the silicate band for 'C' were 1.25 on May 18.73, 1.25 on May 19.65, and 1.23 on May 19.75. For 'B', the ratio was 1.18 for both nights. These values are consistent with those previously reported for 'B' observed on Apr. 29.5 (*IAUC* 8708), but the silicate band in 'C' was slightly weaker than on Mar. 17.05 (*IAUC* 8701). On both nights in May, the spectrum of 'B' showed the possible presence of the 3.4-μm organic emission band. The feature was undetected in 'C'. The measured flux between 10.5 and 11.0 μm, using the $3''.4$ circular entrance aperture of BASS, was 28.7 $\pm$ 0.3 Jy (equivalent magnitude $m_N = 0.37 \pm 0.01$) on May 18.73. On May 19.76, the flux had dropped to 9.0 $\pm$ 0.2 Jy ($m_N = 1.62 \pm 0.02$), but brightened to 15.0 $\pm$ 0.2 Jy ($m_N = 1.07 \pm 0.01$) only 2 hr later. For 'B', the flux was 7.7 $\pm$ 0.1 Jy ($m_N = 1.79 \pm 0.01$) on May 18.66 and 5.5 $\pm$ 0.02 Jy ($m_N = 2.16 \pm 0.01$) on May 19.70.

COMETS C/2006 G3 AND C/2006 H2 (SOHO)

Additional Kreutz sungrazing comets have been found on SOHO website images (cf. *IAUC* 8714). C/2006 G3 was elongated and diffuse, reaching mag 7.5 at $7.1R_\odot$ on Apr. 14.563 UT, when it had an $84''$ tail. C/2006 H2 was tiny but slightly elongated and too faint for photometry.

Comet	2006 UT	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Inst.	F	*MPEC*
C/2006 G3	Apr. 14.526	$1^h38^m.8$	$+8^\circ38'$	C2	HS	2006-K29
C/2006 H2	Apr. 17.493	1 49.0	+ 9 40	C2	HS	2006-K29

  Daniel W. E. Green