South Pole Snowstake Details

South Pole measures the snowstakes once per month, usually on the last day of the month or first day of the new month. They are measured same way each time in relation to the snowstake. If there is a snowdrift that has accumulated near the stake then observers try not to measure from the drift but from where the ground is flat and always next to the stake. Also, observers "reset" the stakes twice a year(April and October) so that the top of the stake is 30 inches above the surface and the reset is accounted for in the following month's measurement.