

Re: Eyepiece heater question

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From: Roger (roger[at]rogergroom.com)

Date: 11/28/04

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Joe,

The less heating the better. It is important to let your scope temperature equalize with the ambient temperature as much as possible to improve seeing quality. I have never used the Kendrick heaters, but I have made my own for occasional use when Dew is extremely bad.

Eyepieces:

I have never used heaters on eyepieces. I find they don't dew up unless I leave them on the scope when I'm not looking through it for a reasonable period of time. Simply resting a lens cap on the eyepiece or taking the eyepiece out usually keeps the dew off no problem. I expect if you have very bad problems where the eyepiece dews up constantly, it would be easy enough to swap the Kendrick between eyepieces, but I wouldn't know for sure.

EXT-90:

I don't have an EXT-90, but what I do with my Megrez 80 is if I get dew, I rest the heating element inside the dew tube, loosely place the lens cap on, leave it for 10 minutes and then the dew is gone for another hour or 2, without heating the actual body of the scope. Placing the heater around the scope would mean the whole metal case of the scope and inner cavity would also heat up somewhat. Arguably this could interfere with viewing conditions.

Dob:

I doubt the dew heater would be of any use on dob or newtonian. I used to use a 4.5" newt lots (only 90cm focal length – so a tube about the same length) and never had dew on the mirror, simply because you already have a 90cm dew tube in front of the mirror.

Roger.

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* Astronomy, Photography & Astro Photography

* "Southern Amateur Astronomy" Info Pages.
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sci.astro.amateur: Re: Eyepiece heater question

"Joe S." <nobody@nowhere.net> wrote in message
news:cob4ar026aq@news4.newsguy.com...

> *I am preparing to buy a Kendrick heater system and have some questions. I
> have two scopes -- ETX-90 and 8-inch Dob.*

>

> *I'm planning to buy the standard controller, a heater for the Autostar
> controller hand paddle for my ETX scope, and one or more eyepiece heaters.*

>

> *Eyepiece heaters:*

> *What do I do when I change eyepieces? Pull the heater off the eyepiece
> being replaced and wrap it around the eyepiece I am sticking into the
scope?*

> *Or, should I get 2-3 eyepiece heaters and put one on each eyepiece, even
> when the eyepiece is not inserted into the scope?*

>

> *ETX-90:*

> *I have a dew shield on the ETX-90 and have never had a problem with dew
> forming on the main lens -- dew does form on the finder scope and the
> eyepiece -- do I really need a heater to wrap around the end of the scope
> where the main lens is located?*

>

> *For the Dob:*

> *Do I really need a heater for the mirror in the Dob? I thought I was
> supposed to let the mirror cool down before using it -- which is why I
have*

> *a fan on my mirror -- I have never had a problem with dew forming on the
> primary mirror. The dew forms on the eyepieces, finder scope, and Telrad.*

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> *Thanks.*

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> *Joe S.*

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