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Meadville, PA 16335. *Surfaces of general type with zero geometric genus*. Preliminary report.

Surfaces of general type with no holomorphic one-forms or two-forms have self-intersection of the canonical class satisfying $1 \leq K^2 \leq 9$. There has been much work on these surfaces, but a complete classification is still unknown. We discuss the classification of surfaces with $p_g = 0$ and $K^2 = 5$ using the bicanonical map, and construct some new examples as bidouble covers. (Received September 22, 2006)