



Cooperation between National meteorological service and amateur meteorological associations in the Czech republic

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National meteorological service cooperation with amateur meteorological associations is an important part of severe storm mapping. There are two major amateur societies in the Czech Republic: Amateur Meteorological Society (AMS) and Czech Thunderstorm Research Association (CTRA), which cooperate with Czech Hydrometeorological Institute (CHMI) on the basis of bilateral agreements. At the same time, these associations also cooperate with ESSL and deliver quality reports of the occurrence of dangerous phenomena to the European Severe Weather Database (ESWD). Currently CHMI is not capable to provide sufficient coverage of all occurrences of dangerous phenomena, particularly in the case of strong storms in the Czech Republic. The cooperation with amateur societies seems to be the most useful. Based on sample case studies that associations have dealt with, we point to the usefulness of their work and the scientific contribution to mapping impacts and damage in the field. AMS dealt with the situation of a very strong storm on August 11, 2017, which had a wider impact on several Central European countries, especially Poland, and in which 3 derechos were subsequently detected. CTRA dealt with the study of strong storms on the cold front from September 23, 2018, when two tornadoes were occurred most likely in the west of the Czech Republic. Both case studies show that even the amateur meteorologist sector can provide valuable and quality data that can be used as a basis for various scientific studies, but can also be a valid source of information for the wider public.