



Meteorological and phenological observations of the Bohemian Patriotic-Economic Society, 1817–1847

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Scholarly and economic societies played an important role in beginnings of meteorological observations in Central Europe. In Bohemia it concerned of the I. R. Bohemian Patriotic-Economic Society which organised a network of meteorological and phenological stations and published results of observations from 1817 to 1847. Some of these stations continued then in observations in the network of the Central Institute for Meteorology and Geomagnetisms (established in Vienna in 1851) which had responsibility for observations in the Czech Lands (recent Czech Republic) and published their results in yearbooks up to 1918. Following meteorological variables were observed: air pressure and temperature, precipitation, wind, meteorological phenomena. Phenological observations included important phenophases of field crops, forest and fruit woody species. Analysis of these observations allowed obtaining of information about temporal and spatial patterns of climate and phenophases of vegetation in Bohemia during the above period. They were further compared with the modern times (1961–1990). Meteorological series of the stations used extend in several cases modern meteorological series of secular stations. This analysis is a contribution to the early instrumental meteorological observations and historical phenology in Central Europe.