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Measuring ground frost

The present network consists of approximately 40 ground frost stations that are situated across the country, and represent a variety of climatic conditions in different soil, forest and mire terrains. These stations, together with the ground frost observations made at the groundwater monitoring sites, and the small catchments areas monitoring sites form a combined ground frost monitoring network that consists of approximately 700 measuring sites.

Ground frost has been measured by different methods throughout the 20th century. Methylene blue tubes replaced other methods in the 1970's and have been used exclusively since then because the results it produces are more comparable than those obtained with previous methods. Observations are made during the winter time every 6th, 16th and 26th day of the month. Moreover this, the observations are denser when ground frost is thawing. The ground frost stations measurements represent results from naturally occurring ground frost and snow cover. All ground frost observations from the national program are stored into the POVET database.

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