The course of potential evapotranspiration in the vegetation season of the year 2000

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A b s t r a c t : The weather during this year's vegetation season was characterized by a great variability. After a precipitation-rich first half of March, a period of low, a few millimetre precipitation started, lasting till half of May. For the characterisation of the period from January till May this year, we used data on potential evaporation and evapotranspiration with the help of the modified way of calculation by the method of Penman-Monteith, which gives rational and physically substantiated way of calculating the water balance from various surfaces. For our evaluation, calculations for grass growth, bare soil, and water surface were made. It was proven that in the months of April and June 2000 the daily sums of potential evaporation and evapotranspiration often exceeded more than twice the normal value computed for the period of 1961 to 1990, and that the total sum of evaporation for this period corresponds to the normal period of January till the second decade of June.

The vegetation period of the year 2000 was in its first half typical by higher values of potential evapotranspiration and evaporation than the normal, but in the second half, from July to September, the values were normal. The vegetation period is then regarded as slightly above-normal, despite the fact that the vegetation at the beginning was strongly dry.

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