

TECHNICAL NOTES

December 8, 2006

MO-1 Technical Note Number 9 (2nd Revision)

Re: Manuscripts - Climatic Tables

The MO in conjunction with the National Water and Climate Center (NWCC) have developed recommended procedures for requesting climatic tables for soil surveys.

Soil Survey Climate Information from
National Water and Climate Center (NWCC)
NRCS, Portland, Oregon

Contact of NWCC: Jan Curtis, Applied Climatologist
National Water and Climate Center (NWCC)
1201 NE Lloyd Blvd. Suite 802
Portland, OR 97232
E-mail: jan.curtis@por.usda.gov
Phone: (503) 414-3017
FAX: (503) 414-3101

A list of climate stations by state along with the associated temperature, precipitation, and growing season is available at <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/climate/climate-map.html>. The tables for viewing and ordering are Taps, Frost and Growth. Do not select wetlands for manuscript tables.

Recommended procedures for ordering preliminary and final climate information for soil surveys:

Preliminary climate information: Temperature and precipitation, freeze dates, and growing season tables can be ordered for a soil survey at anytime. The request originates from the project office using the attached order form to the NWCC. The form can be completed electronically and submitted via E-mail or a hard copy mailed or faxed to the NWCC. The tables will be returned electronically to the E-mail address specified on the order form or via the mail if no address is provided. The information returned will be the formatted tables and will not include the narrative for the climate data. The narrative material is "hand generated" and is only developed at the time of request for final tables. The turnaround time for preliminary tables is about two weeks. It is important to order preliminary tables so that the stations requested can be analyzed as to whether adequate and appropriate data exists for the generation of future final tables and the narrative.

Final climate information: Tables and narrative requests originating from an MO office will be considered the final manuscript material for a soil survey. The final tables and narrative for soil survey manuscripts need to be ordered from the NWCC two months prior to their need at the project office. The request originates from the MO office using the attached order form. The NWCC will electronically transmit the formatted tables and narrative to the originating MO office. These tables and narrative will be captured and stored for the manuscript. The narrative and tables are posted to the Water Climate Center web site at <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/climate/clim-reports.html> then click on Climate Reports, select State and submit.

Station selection: Tables will only be generated for stations that have a sufficient period of record (20+ years).

Climate narrative: As previously mentioned, the climate narrative is generated for the final table order only! A climate narrative is only developed for First Order Stations. The NRCS State Climate Data Liaison (CDL) has a list of the First Order Stations. There is a very high probability that the station(s) selected for tables will not be a First Order Station. When this occurs, the NWCC will locate the nearest First Order Station within the same "environmental zone" in which the selected station(s) occurs. The narrative will be developed on this First Order Station(s). If the tables of the First Order Station are very similar to the selected station tables, the narrative for the First Order Station and tables for the selected station will be retained. If the tables of the First Order Station are significantly different then the tables for the selected station, the narrative for the First Order Station will be retained and a new set of tables will be generated for the First Order Station. The First Order Station tables will replace the originally selected station tables. Therefore, it is important to know if and where First Order Stations exist in your state.

All requests originating from project offices will be considered preliminary tables. They will not contain a climate narrative and will not be considered the final tables.

All requests originating from MO offices will be considered the final tables for a survey and will have an accompanying narrative, unless specifically stated that they are preliminary.

ORDER FORM
Preliminary Climate Information for Soil Surveys

Allow at least two (2) weeks for delivery

Project Office Information – Date of Order _____

Office Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____@_____

Contact Person _____

Soil Survey Information –

Soil Survey ID _____ Soil Survey Name _____

Location of Survey _____ County _____ State _____

Nearest City _____

Threshold Temperature to be used in Analysis for growing degree days if other than default (40) _____

Date Climate Information is Needed _____

Climate Station (s) Recommended by Project Office for Analysis

Return form by Mail, Fax or Email to:

Jan Curtis – email: jan.curtis@por.usda.gov
1201 NE Lloyd Blvd. Suite 802
Portland, OR 97232
Phone: (503) 414-3017
FAX: (503) 414-3101

ORDER FORM
Final Climate Information for Soil Survey Manuscript

Requests should be made two (2) months prior to Due Date

MLRA Office Information – Date of Order _____

Office Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

MO Email Address _____@_____

Contact Person _____

Soil Survey Information –

Soil Survey ID _____ Soil Survey Name _____

Location of Survey _____ County _____ State _____

Nearest City _____

Threshold Temperature to be used in Analysis for growing degree days if other than default (40) _____

Climate Station (s) Recommended for Analysis _____

Date Climate Information is Needed _____

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