

Short Database Report

Vegetation Database of Québec (MRNF)

Jocelyn Gosselin & Mélanie Major

Abstract: An ecological forest inventory was conducted from 1986 to 2000 in the portion of the Quebec province south of the 52nd parallel. The resulting database contains data from 28,425 ecological relevés located throughout the different bioclimatic domains of Quebec. For each relevé, information was gathered on both the vegetation composition and physical environment. Vegetation composition is described by several variables including tree species composition, floristic composition and species cover of different height strata for woody vascular plants as well as cover of herbaceous vascular plants, bryophytes and lichens. Variables describing the physical environment include altitude, slope inclination and aspect, microrelief, bedrock geology and surficial deposit, drainage, humus type, stoniness and soil texture. Data from these relevés form the basic structure underlying the hierarchical ecological classification system of the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune (MRNF). The data was also used to develop ecological classification field guides specific to each of the province's ecological regions, providing detailed ecological knowledge to forest managers throughout the province. Finally, data from ecological relevés were used to develop Canadian National Vegetation Classifications (CNVC) vegetation associations. This report describes the available content in the Vegetation Database of Québec (MRNF) (GIVD ID NA-CA-002).

Keywords: ecological forest inventory; ecological relevé; physical environment; vegetation composition.

GIVD Database ID: NA-CA-002	Last update: 2012-05-09
Vegetation Database of Québec (MRNF)	
Scope: An ecological forest inventory was conducted from 1986 to 2000 in the portion of the Quebec province south of the 52nd parallel. The resulting database contains data from 28,425 ecological relevés located throughout the different bioclimatic domains of Quebec. For each relevé, information was gathered on both the vegetation composition and physical environment.	
Status: finished	
Period: 1986-2000	
Database manager(s): Jocelyn Gosselin (jocelyn.gosselin@mrfn.gouv.qc.ca); Mélanie Major (melanie.major@mrfn.gouv.qc.ca)	
Owner: Direction des inventaires forestiers (DIF) du ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune (MRNF)	
Web address: [NA]	
Availability: according to a specific agreement	Online upload: no
Database format(s): [NA]	Export format(s): MS Access, Excel
Publication: SAUCIER, J.-P., J.-P. BERGER, H. D'AVIGNON et P. RACINE (1994). Le point d'observation écologique, Québec, ministère des Ressources naturelles, Direction de la gestion des stocks forestiers, Service des inventaires forestiers, 116 p.	
Plot type(s): normal plots	Plot-size range: 400-400 m ²
Non-overlapping plots: 28,425	Estimate of existing plots: 28,425
Total plot observations: 28,425	Number of sources: [NA]
Countries: CA: 100.0%	Completeness: 100%
Forests: [NA] — Non-forest: [NA]	Valid taxa: [NA]
Guilds: all vascular plants: 100%; bryophytes (terricolous or aquatic): 100%; lichens (terricolous or aquatic): 100%	
Environmental data: altitude: 100%; slope aspect: 100%; slope inclination: 100%; microrelief: 100%; surface cover other than plants (open soil, litter, bare rock etc.): 100%; soil pH: 33%; land use categories: 100%	
Performance measure(s): cover: 100%	
Geographic localisation: point coordinates less precise than GPS, up to 1 km: 100%	
Sampling periods: 1980-1989: 20.0%; 1990-1999: 79.0%; 2000-2009: 1.0%	
<i>Information as of 2012-07-12; further details and future updates available from http://www.givd.info/ID/NA-CA-002</i>	

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