

FÖHN AS A RARE PHENOMENON

Burri, K., B. Dürr, T. Gutermann et al.

Abstract: All in all most of the people perceive the foehn as a quite common weather situation north of the Alps although our statistical research shows clearly the foehn as a rare phenomenon. The «Working Group Foehn-Research Rhine Valley/Lake Constance» (AGF) is measuring the meteorological parameters in the Rhine valley since the early 1970ies and made it their task to find plausible criteria for a reliable Foehn forecast. We will also discuss the question what exactly can be accepted as a foehn case in alpine valleys. Therefore, we will show some feasible diagnostic criteria for different, present several examples to verify the algorithms, and will moot the corresponding critical values. In addition we will bring forward the latest statistic about the number of foehn cases for the decade 1985 2004; and last but not least we will be able to evidence the achieved success in increasing the quality of the foehn gale warning so far for the Lake Constance.

Klaus Burri (Working Group Foehn-Research Rhine Valley/Lake Constance, Zürich, Switzerland)