PHENOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS IN CATALONIA

- Phenological observations in Catalonia began officially in 1932 with the former Meteorological Service of Catalonia (SMC, 1921-1939) in response to the Copenhagen Conference call done in 1919, when weather services were urged to begin this specific observations.
- In 1936 the SMC published "First results of the phenology observations in Catalonia (1932-1935)"
- Catalan phenological observation were subsequently managed by the State Meteorological Network (now AEMet), who re-started the observations in 1942.
- The number of phenological observers in Catalonia decreased significantly from the SMC period (50 observers) to the last AEMet period.

PHENOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS IN CATALONIA

1- FENOCAT uses BBCH international codification

BBCH scale is a system for a uniform coding of phenologically similar growth stages of all mono- and dicotyledonous plant species, it is used broadly in monitoring natural systems across Europe (Meier 2001; Koch et al. 2007), and more recently in USA (Schwartz et al. 2013).

2- FENOCAT follows the observation guidelines of the USA National Phenology Network

The American system registers all the phenophases existing each time an observation is done, carrying out a periodic assessment of the status of the phenophase for an organism, rather than simply recording the date of an event (Donny et al. 2014).

It is possible to quantify the onset, duration, and intensity of phenological stages of plants and animals to understand how life cycles track environmental variation.

3- FENOCAT is an example of citizen science

All FENOCAT observers are volunteer citizens with very different backgrounds and interests, but all of them are committed to science.

4- FENOCAT forms part of Pan European Phenology Database (PEP725 project)

This phenology network has the aim of being useful to science. Therefore, from the first year of life, has sent their recorded data to the Pan European Phenology Database (PEP725)