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Composition of particulate organic matter sampled in the troposphere over Siberia

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In this paper we present some results of the analysis of organic compounds contained in the particulate matter sampled in the Siberian air shed during monthly research flights in 2012-2013. Aerosol sampling was performed in the tropospheric layer from 500 to 7000 m over the Karakan pine forest located on the east bank of the Novosibirsk Reservoir (River Ob). The Optik TU-134 aircraft laboratory was used as a research platform for in-situ measurements of atmospheric trace gas species and aerosols, as well as a particulate matter collection on PTFE filters.

Analysis of the particulate organic matter sampled in the Siberian air shed in 2012-2013 allowed us to draw the following conclusions:

the total content of n-alkanes increases in the spring and decreases in the winter.

the length of the n-alkane homologous series had no seasonal dependence.

maximum in the molecular weight distribution of n-alkanes varies depending on the season; compounds with C_{17} , C_{22} and C_{25} chains dominated in winter and spring 2012, whereas in summer – C_{17} ones; in 2013 compounds with C_{17} chains dominated in winter, C_{18} – C_{20} – in spring, and C_{21} and C_{23} – in summer.

Carbon preference index (CPI) value for a given chain length of the homologous series (on the average from C_{12} to C_{28}) did not reflect the contribution of sources of n-alkanes in the atmosphere.

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