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**Comparative analysis of drought indices to assess drought conditions in agricultural regions of Northern Eurasia** / Emelina S.V., Khan V.M. // Hydrometeorological research and forecasts, 2025, no. 4 (398), pp. 144-152.

The paper analyzes two approaches to assessing drought conditions: the Selyaninov hydrothermal coefficient (HTC) widely used in Russian agrometeorological practice and the Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI). The study evaluates the frequency of extreme droughts in agricultural regions of the European part of Russia and Central Asia from 1991 to 2020. The results of a comparison of the time series of these indices with observed soil moisture data are presented. Statistical analysis of droughts based on HTC and SPEI over the study period demonstrates similar results. However, SPEI generally exhibits slightly higher correlation coefficients with observational data than HTC. Recommendations are provided for the operational and research use of HTC and SPEI indices by the North Eurasian Climate Centre.

*Keywords:* drought indices, Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI), hydrothermal coefficient (HTC)

Tab. 2. Fig. 2. Ref. 12.