

effects research gained nationwide recognition, event collection of precipitation under the MAP3S, EPRI, and SPN networks focused on providing data for atmospheric models though these data could also be used for ecological studies. Plans are now being made to coordinate networks on both a national and international level. A summary of these networks is given in Table 3. Reviews of precipitation chemistry activities have been documented in Miller and Wisniewski, 1976; Niemann et al., 1979; and Wisniewski and Kinsman, 1981.

3. Data Evaluation Criteria

Because different network objectives and monitoring techniques, it is difficult to evaluate one set of data with another. Networks with similar protocol such as EPRI and MAP3S have been shown to be compatible (Pack, 1980). How measurements of precipitation chemistry from diverse networks can be used to show trends and areal distributions is a difficult question. Some of the factors that must be taken into account are the following:

Collection Methods

- type of collectors, i.e., bulk or wet only
- materials used in collector
- aerodynamics of collector
- period of collection, i.e., event, daily, weekly, monthly
- reliability of collector