

Precipitation element: A falling liquid or solid water particle for example, raindrop, snowflake, hail stone, etc.

Precipitation regime: Precipitation of a certain relatively uniform type such as steady precipitation along a front or showery precipitation in the summer.

Precursor: In atmospheric chemistry, a species which is the forerunner of another in a chemical transformation.

Primary particles (or primary aerosols): Dispersion aerosols formed from particles that are emitted directly into the air and that do not change form in the atmosphere.

Radicals (free): Chemical species that are characterized by an excess electron, normally therefore highly unstable and reactive.

Reactive hydrocarbons: Usually used to denote all hydrocarbons in the atmosphere that play a role in the NO_x - oxidant chemistry. Therefore, almost any hydrocarbon except methane.

Receptor: An organism, ecosystem or object which is the direct or indirect recipient of atmospheric deposition.

Receptor Sensitivity: The degree to which a receptor (or receptors) exhibit damage in response to a (pollution-imposed) stress.

Removal Processes: Collectively, those mechanisms by which atmospheric constituents are removed from the atmosphere.

Removal Rate: The rate at which species are removed from the atmosphere.

Residence Time: A term used to characterize the length of time that a substance remains in a particular environmental reservoir.