

Variations in pollen grains in an shallow ice core drilled from Fedchanko Glacier in Pamir, Central Asia.

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Ice cores drilled from the polar or alpine glaciers contain pollen grains blown from vegetation surrounding the glaciers. Abundance and compositions of pollen grains in ice cores could be a proxy of paleoenvironment, but there are only few studies on pollen grains in ice cores. In this study, we analyzed the pollen grains in two pits and an shallow icecore drilled on Fedchanko Glacier in Pamir, Central Asia. We found seven species of pollen grains in the ice core and they could be reflective of surrounding vegetation and be used to identify annual summer layers.