RECOMMENDATION ITU-R P.832-1

WORLD ATLAS OF GROUND CONDUCTIVITIES

(1992-1997)

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

a) that for ground-wave field strength prediction, it is essential to know the electrical characteristics of the ground along the path. In cases involving coordination between administrations, it is therefore often necessary to know the ground characteristics existing outside national boundaries;

b) that the most important electrical characteristic of the earth for frequencies below 3 MHz is the conductivity;

c) that there is a need for suitable conductivity charts when planning all types of radiocommunication, including navigational services, in the VLF, LF and MF bands;

d) that conductivity maps are not yet available from all administrations;

e) that long range navigation systems use the phase information of the ground wave, paths often cross several countries, and that it is important to have reliable conductivity information along the whole path;

f) that it is of importance to keep accurate information on secondary phase conditions, which again depend on conductivity,

recommends

1 that the information contained in Annex 1, which is a World Atlas of Ground Conductivities, be used to obtain the best estimate of conductivity for planning purposes;

2 that in presenting new or revised conductivity maps for updating the Atlas, standard values be used as indicated in Table 1.

ANNEX 1

World Atlas of Ground Conductivities

1 Introduction

This Annex gives information about the ground conductivities in various areas of the world, in the form of a World Atlas of Ground Conductivities. This information is intended to be used for field-strength predictions in connection with the ground-wave propagation curves contained in Recommendation ITU-R P.368.

2 Preparation of conductivity maps

In its work on the World Atlas, the ITU-R needs information from every administration. Conductivity maps have been presented in different ways, but in future it would be helpful if they were presented with the same standard set of values of conductivity as indicated in Recommendation ITU-R P.368 and as shown in Table 1.

3 The Atlas

The contents of the Atlas are as follows:

Figs. 1-6: VLF conductivity maps

Figs. 7-43: MF conductivity maps

TABLE 1

Standard values and ranges of ground conductivity for the presentation of the maps

Standard values (S/m)	Limiting values of the range (S/m)	
	Upper limit	Lower limit
5	7	3
3×10^{-2}	5.5×10^{-2}	1.7×10^{-2}
10^{-2}	1.7×10^{-2}	5.5×10^{-3}
3×10^{-3}	5.5×10^{-3}	1.7×10^{-3}
10^{-3}	1.7×10^{-3}	5.5×10^{-4}
3×10^{-4}	5.5×10^{-4}	1.7×10^{-4}
10^{-4}	1.7×10^{-4}	5.5×10^{-5}
3×10^{-5}	5.5×10^{-5}	1.7×10^{-5}
10^{-5}	1.7×10^{-5}	5.5×10^{-6}

3.1 The conductivity maps for the VLF part of the spectrum (Figs. 1 to 6) give values of effective ground conductivity in mS/m and are subject to the following conditions:

– they are limited in application to frequencies up to 30 kHz,

– they contain no allowance for seasonal variations,

– they have been calculated from physiographical and geological data used to define boundaries of the land areas of given conductivity, together with actual conductivity data derived from measurements,

– they represent effective ground conductivities (the effect of terrain is included in the values),

– as it seems likely that seasonal variations will become more important with increasing frequency (as the penetration depth decreases), maps for higher frequencies may need to be presented in such a way that the annual variations are shown. However, data recorded by the Administration of India indicate that at frequencies as high as 1 MHz seasonal variations in the tropics have a negligible influence on propagation.

3.2 The maps for MF, Figs. 7 to 42 and Table 2, give the effective ground conductivities in mS/m. (The maps are standardized to 1 MHz.) These maps are based on measurements and other relevant information provided by the various countries. They contain no allowance for seasonal variations.

3.3 For those areas for which results of conductivity measurements are not available, provisional information for MF use is shown in Fig. 43. It is expected that this information will be superseded by later editions of the World Atlas to be published by the ITU.

3.4 The conductivities on the MF maps are shown as presented by administrations. For those countries not represented in the Atlas, no information has been made available.

4 Future revision of the Atlas

4.1 Administrations are asked to check and, if necessary, revise the information given in this Atlas.

4.2 Administrations are asked to adjust areas of given conductivity so that each conductivity is one of the standard values given in Table 1.

4.3 It is recognized that because of the use of different methods for measuring ground conductivity, discontinuities will occur at the borders between countries. However, administrations are requested to resolve these problems bilaterally.

MAPS OF GROUND CONDUCTIVITY

VLF maps

MF maps

NOTE 1 – The denomination of a country or of a territory on these maps, as well as the tracing of any borders, do not imply, on the part of the ITU, any position with respect to the political status of such a country or territory, or official recognition of these borders.

FIGURE 1

Africa

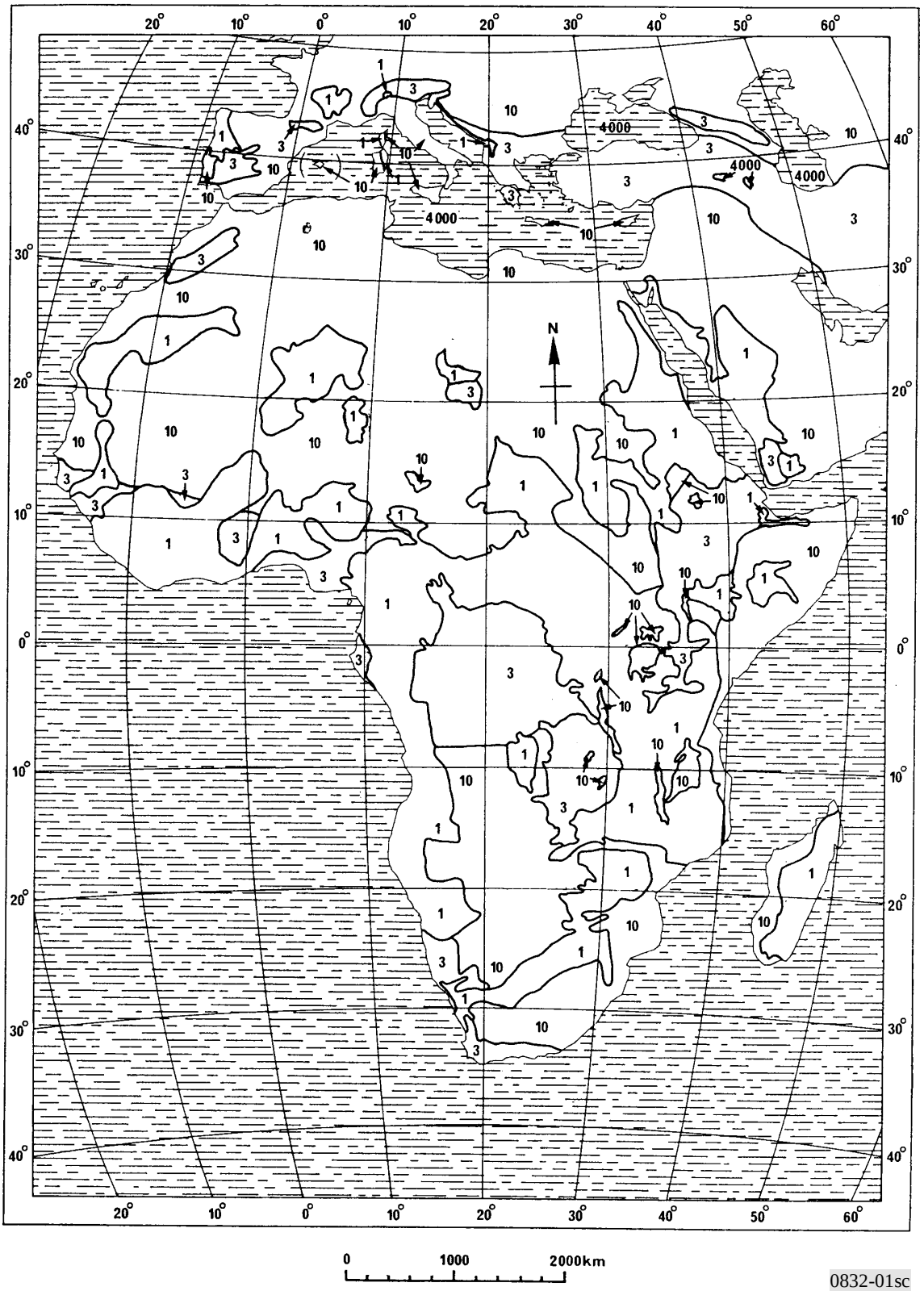

FIGURE 2

Asia

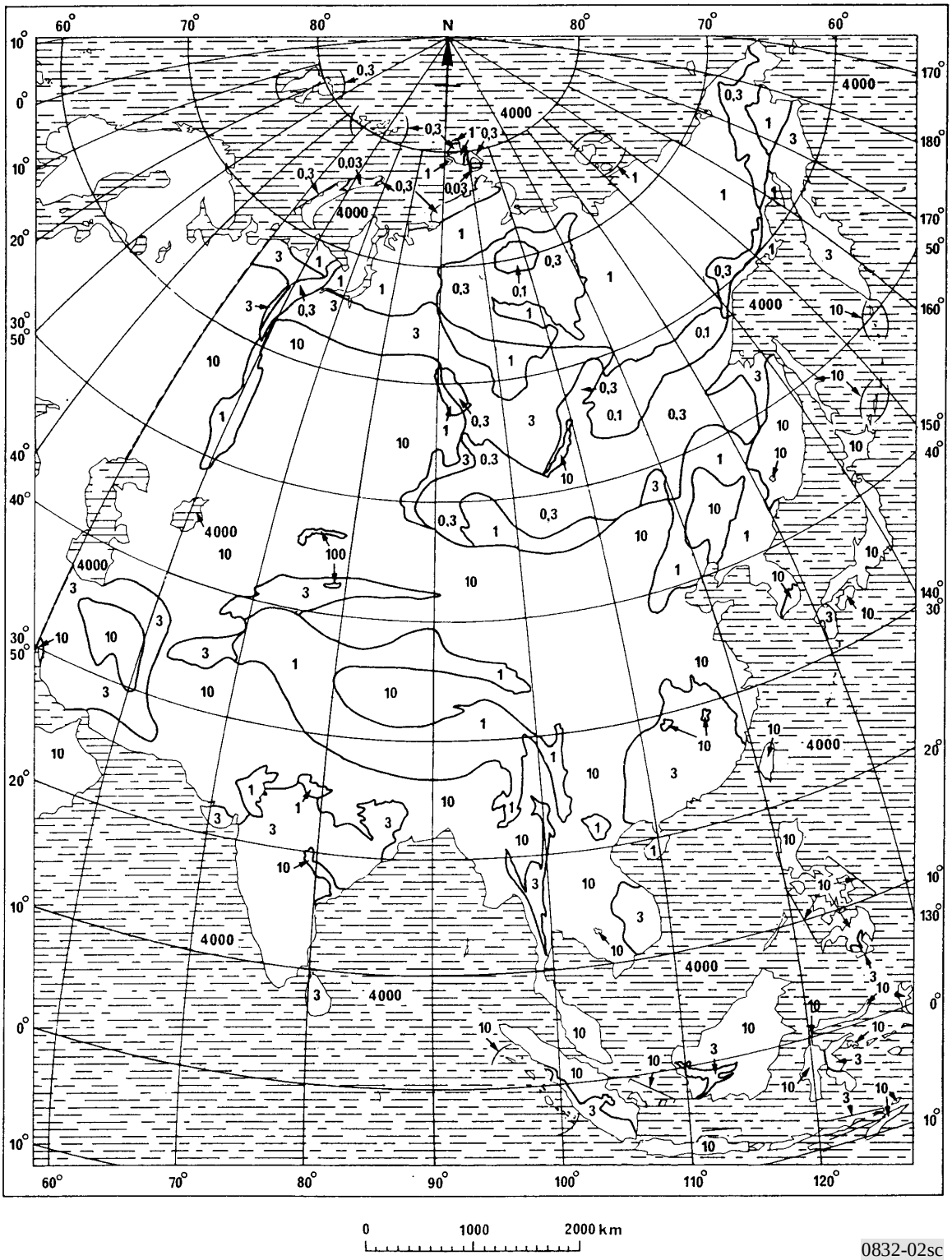

FIGURE 3

North America

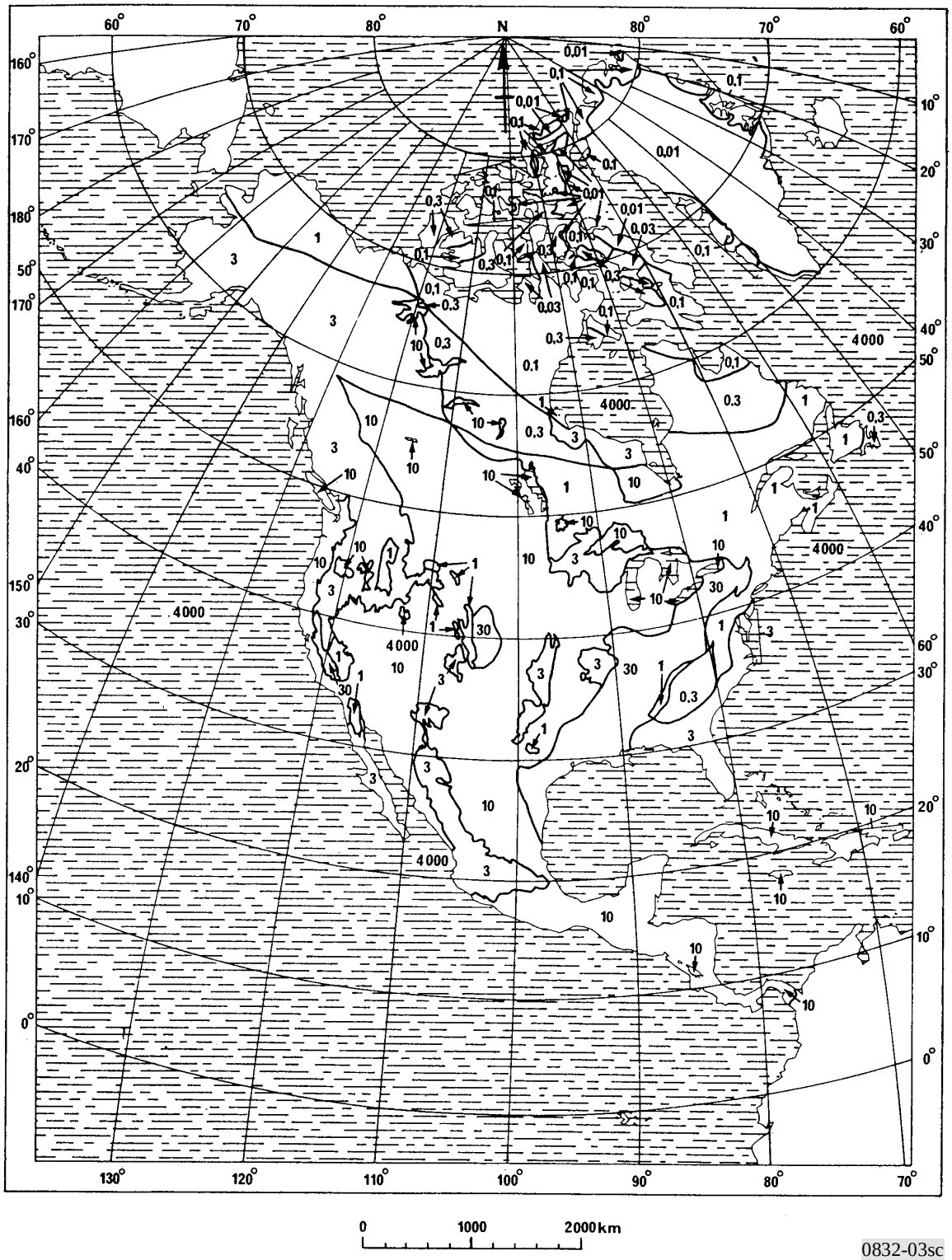

FIGURE 4

South America

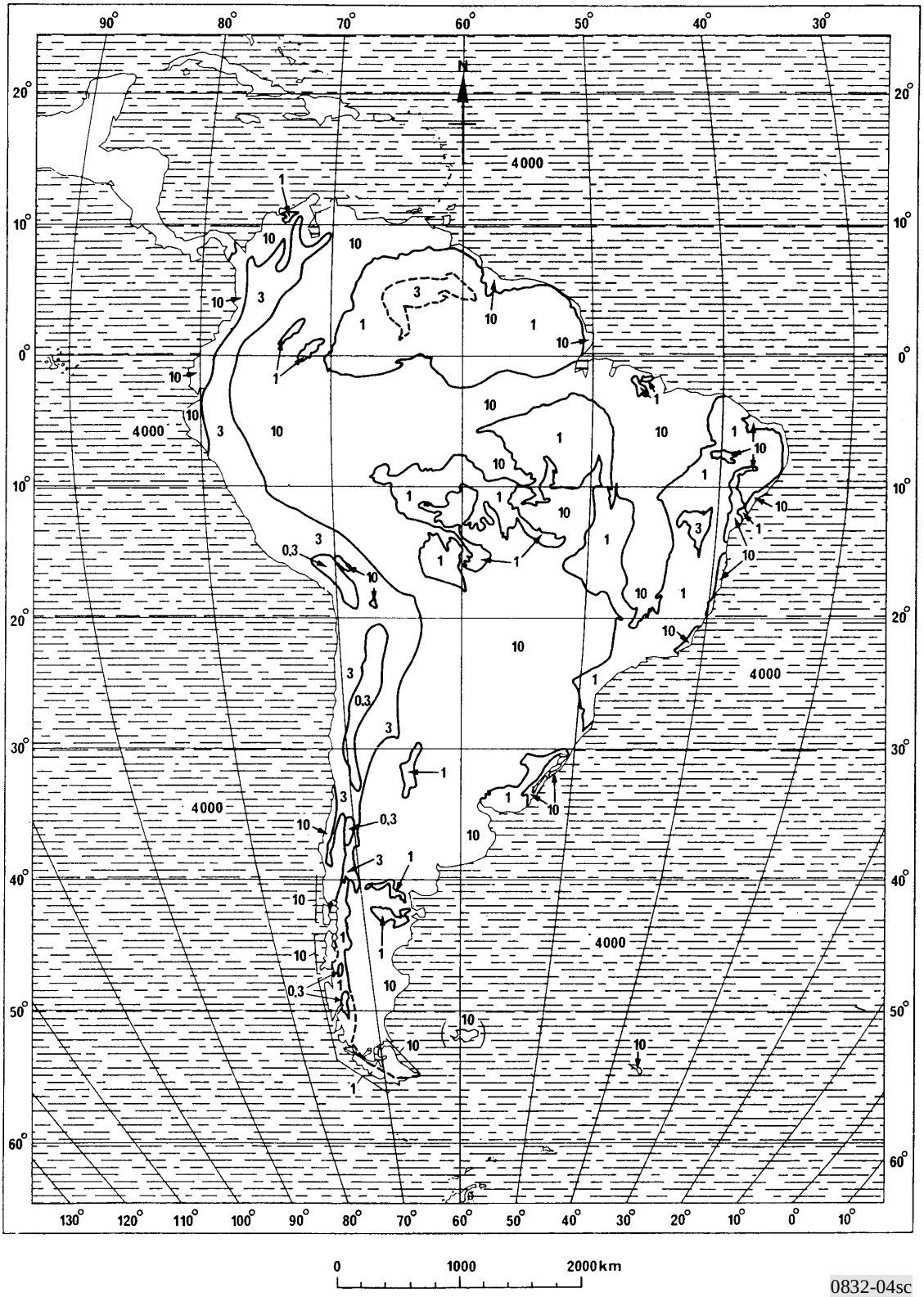

FIGURE 5

Australia

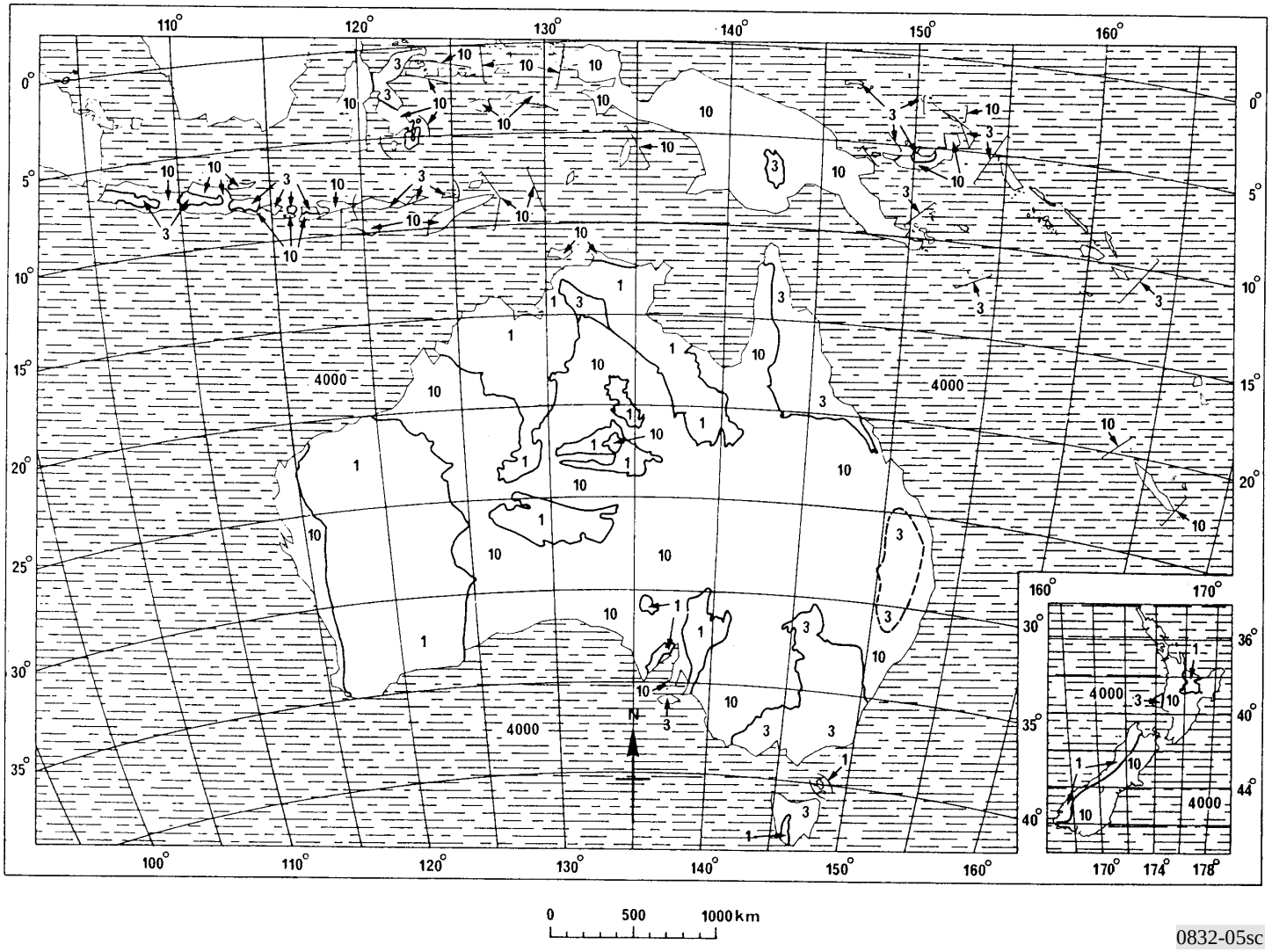

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FIGURE 6

Europe

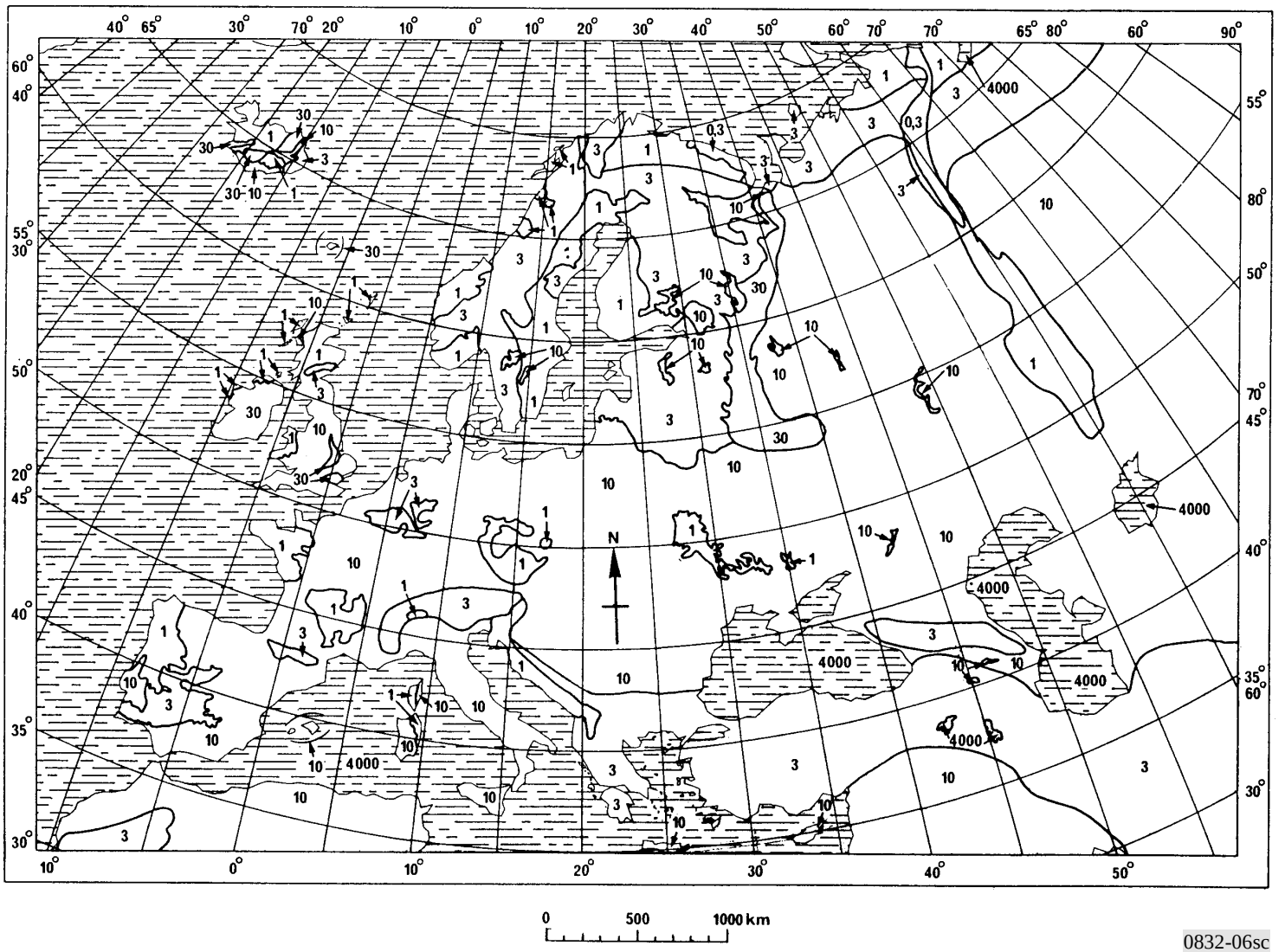
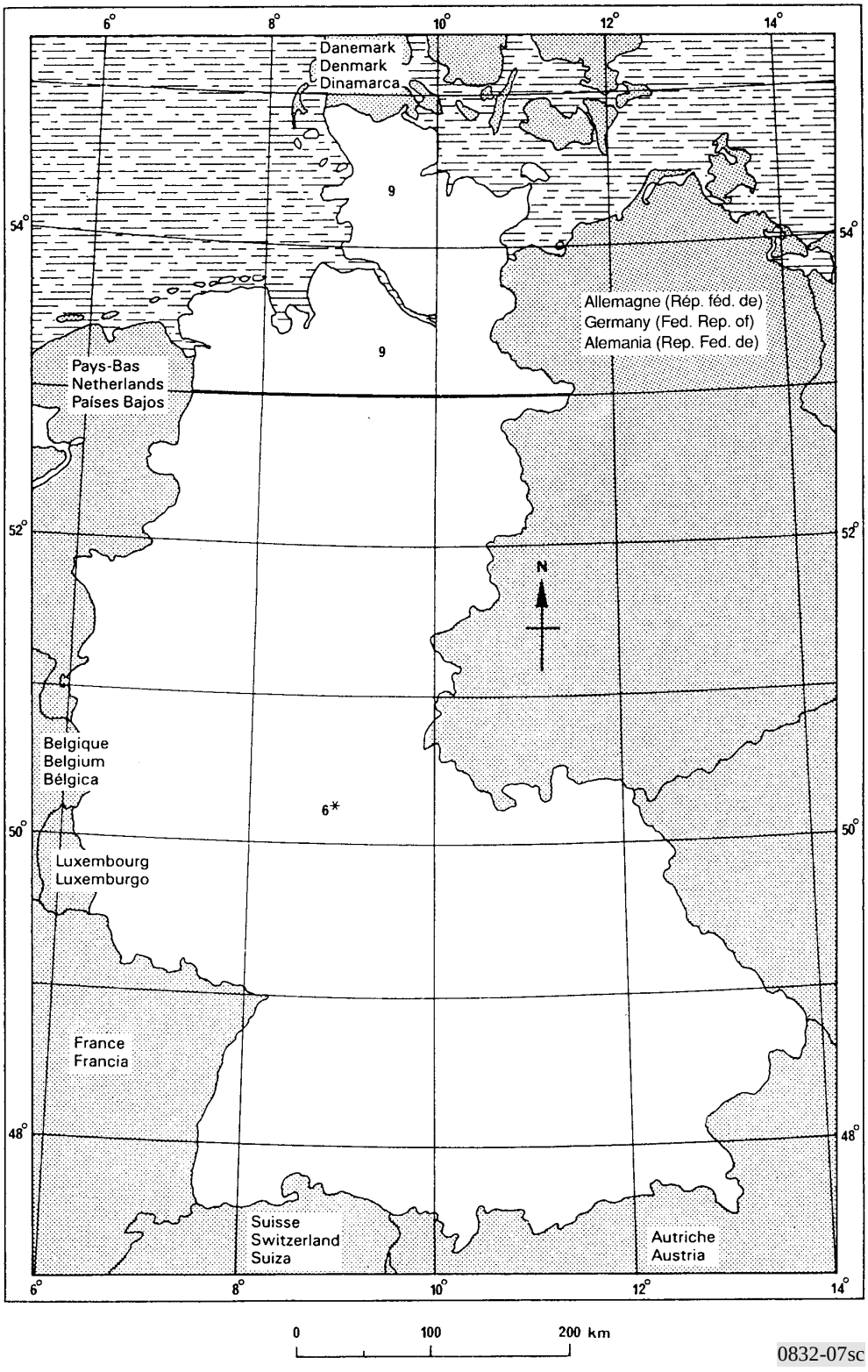


FIGURE 7

Germany (Federal Republic of) – Western part



* In particularly mountainous regions, well below 1 mS/m.

FIGURE 8

Austria

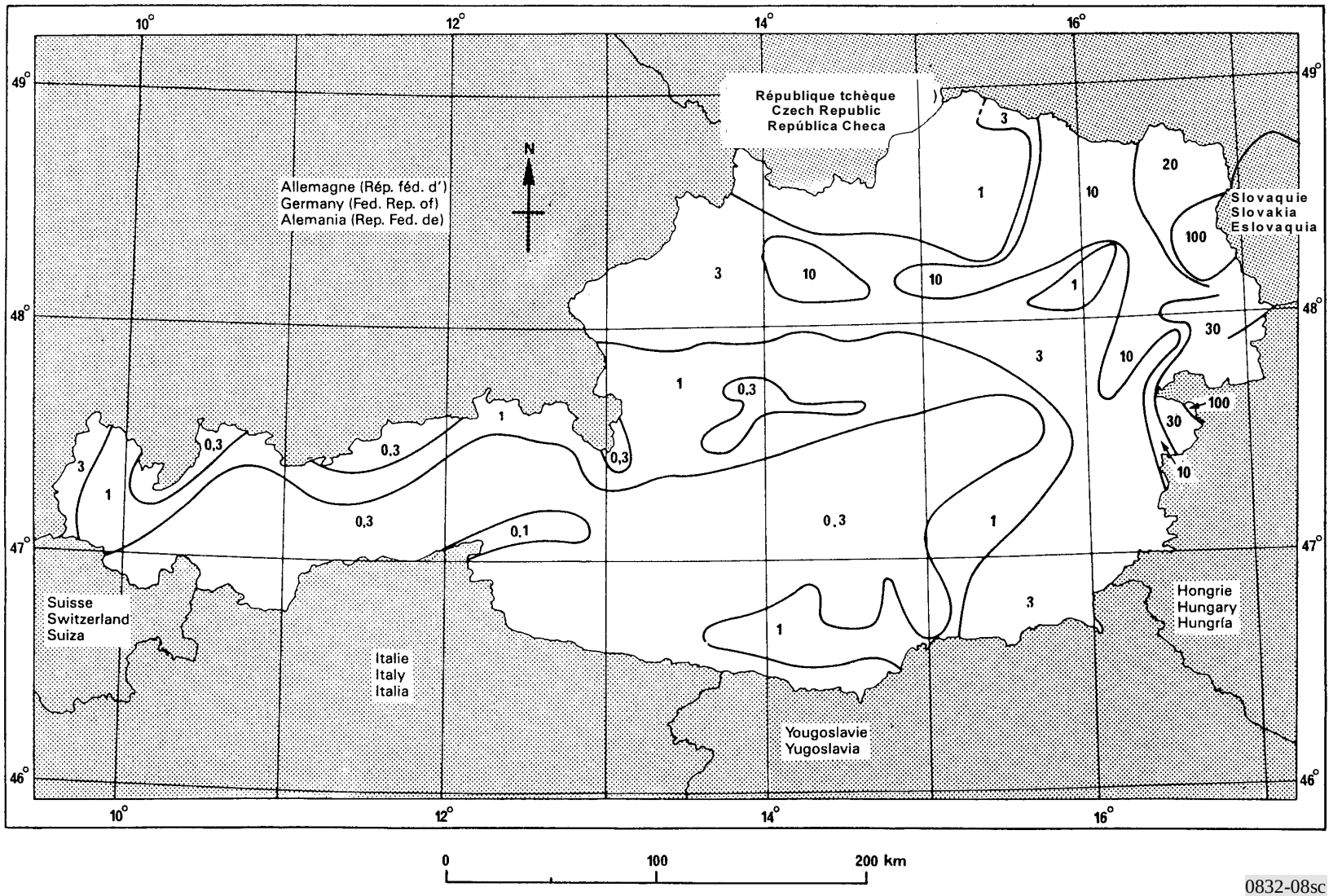


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FIGURE 9

Belgium

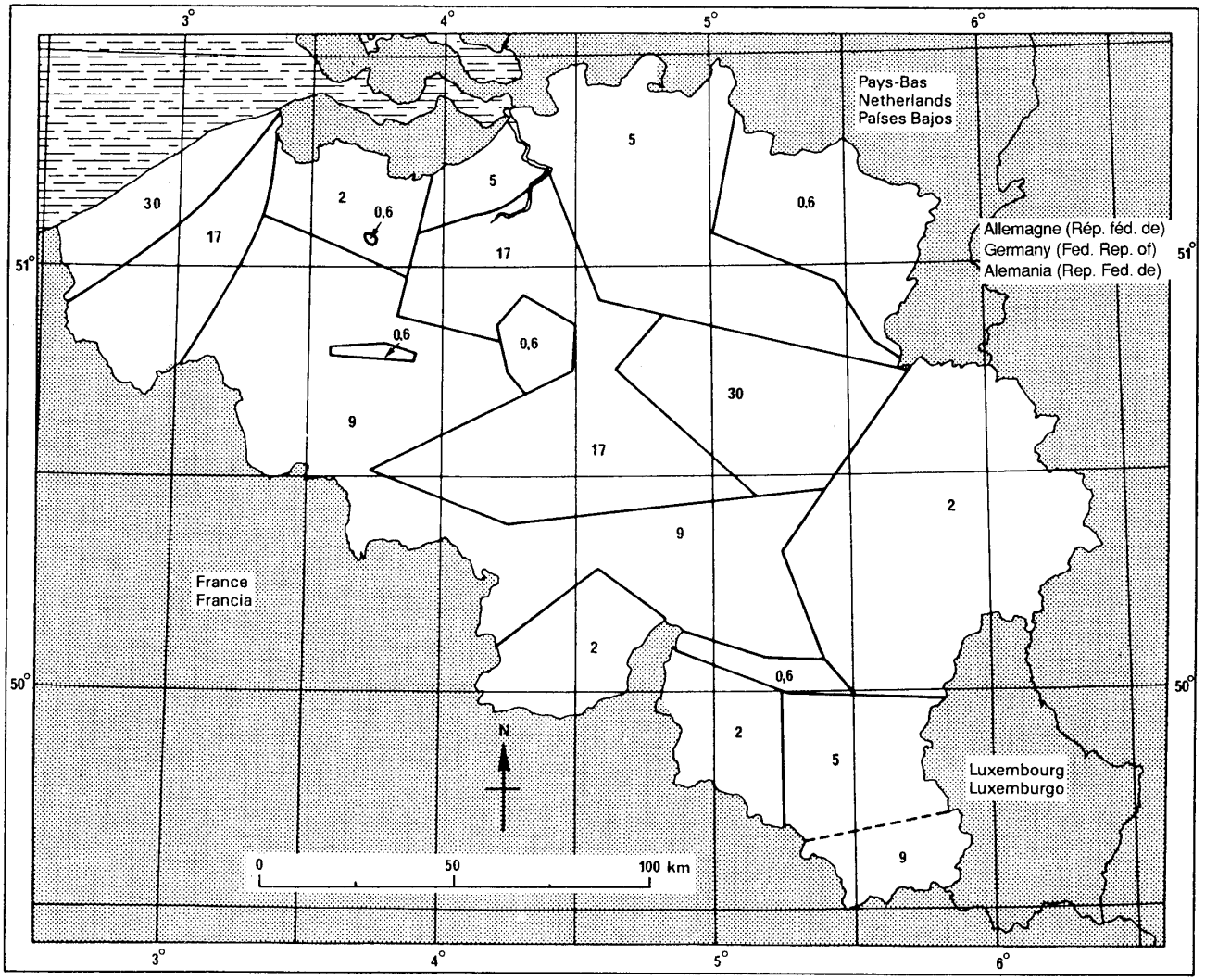

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FIGURE 10

Denmark

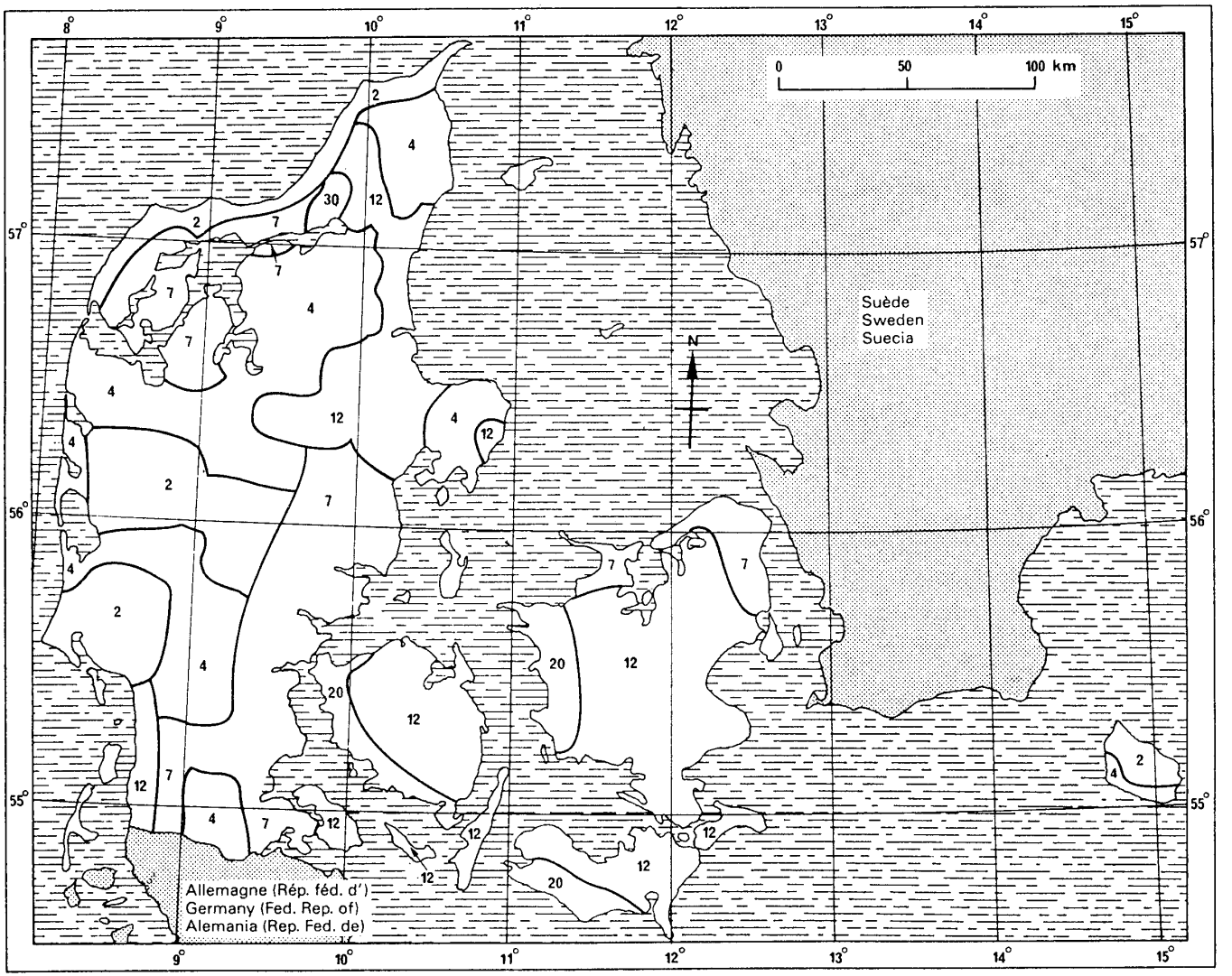

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FIGURE 11

Spain

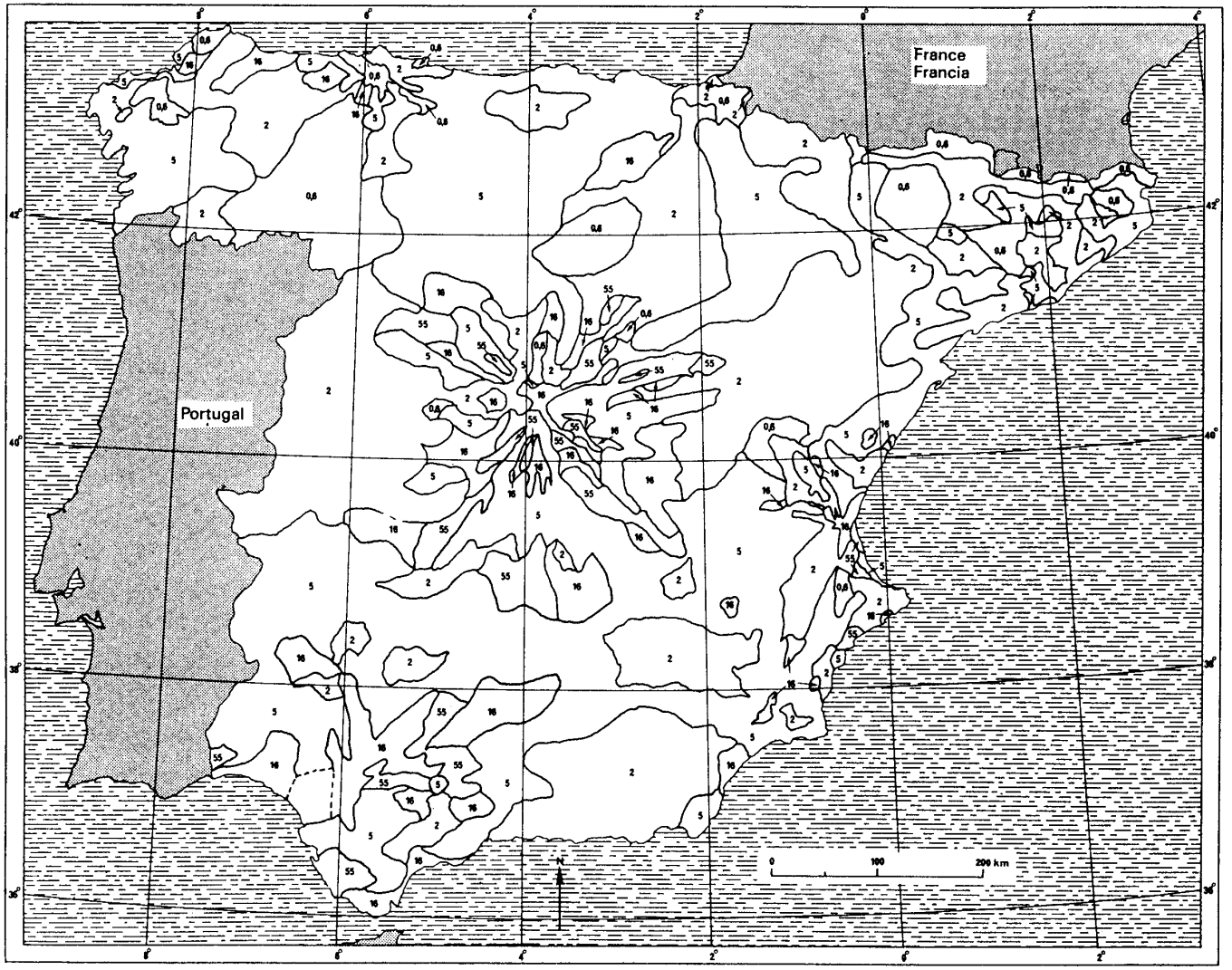

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FIGURE 12

Finland

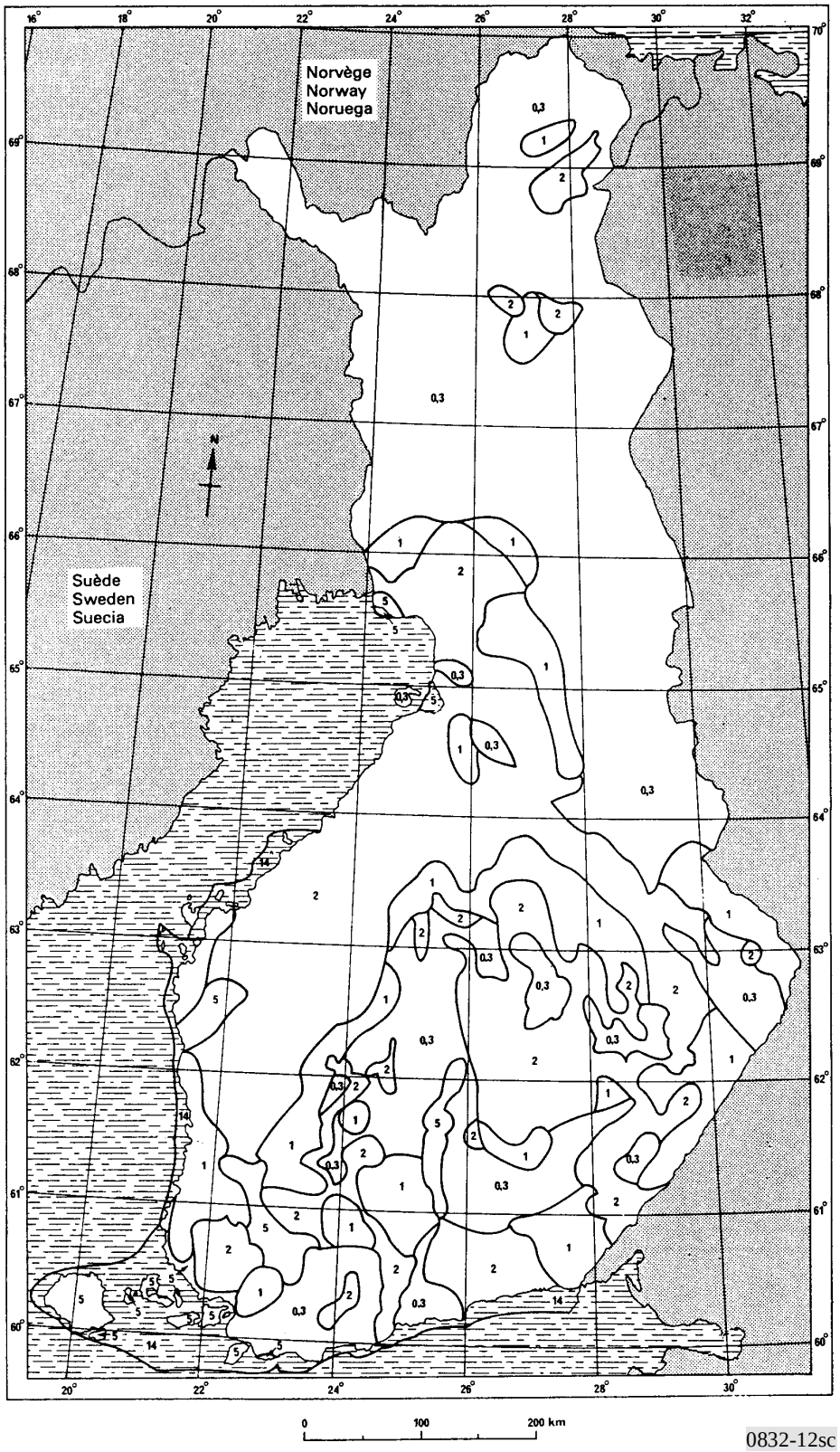

FIGURE 13

Greece

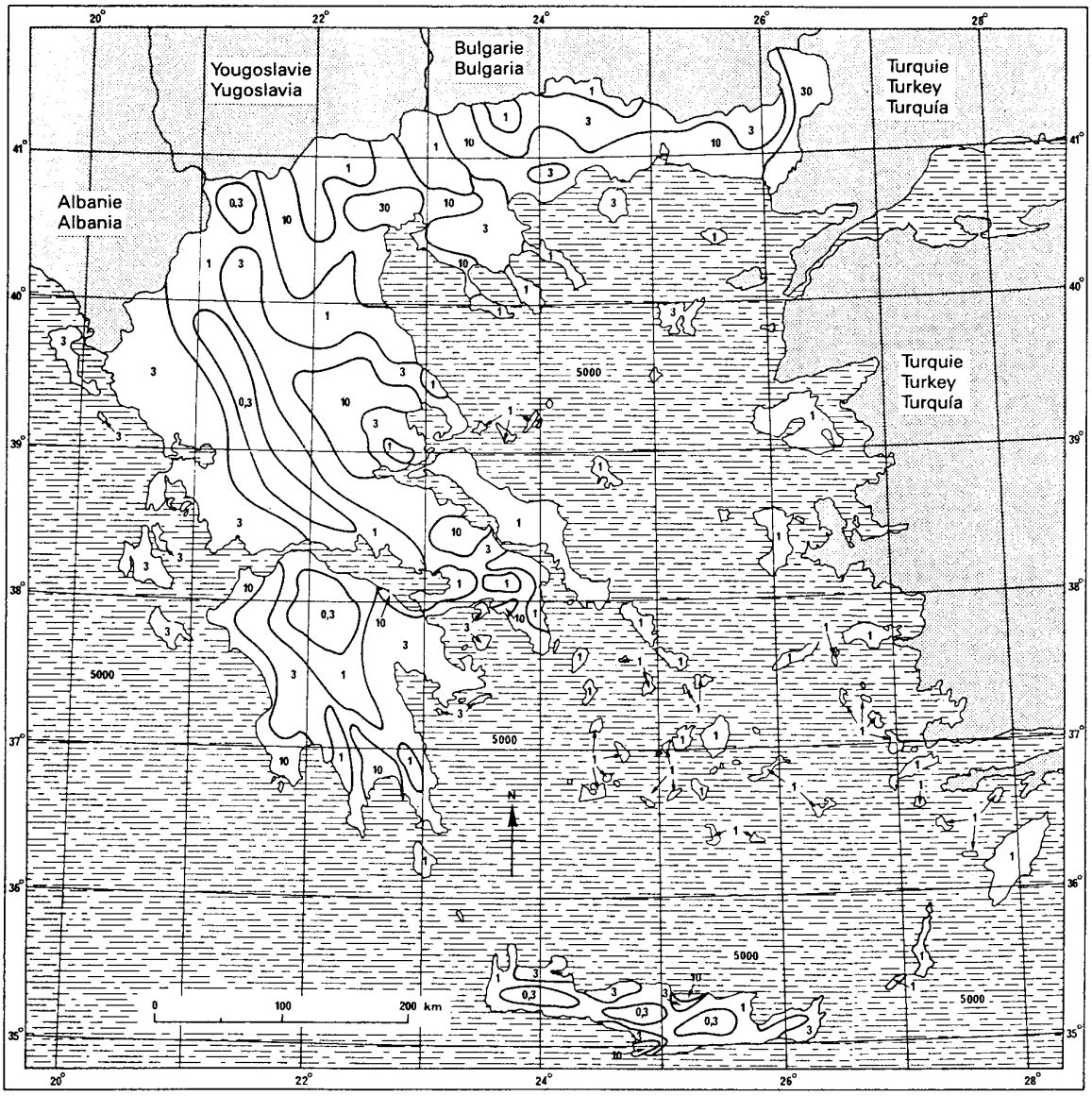

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FIGURE 14

Hungary (Republic of)

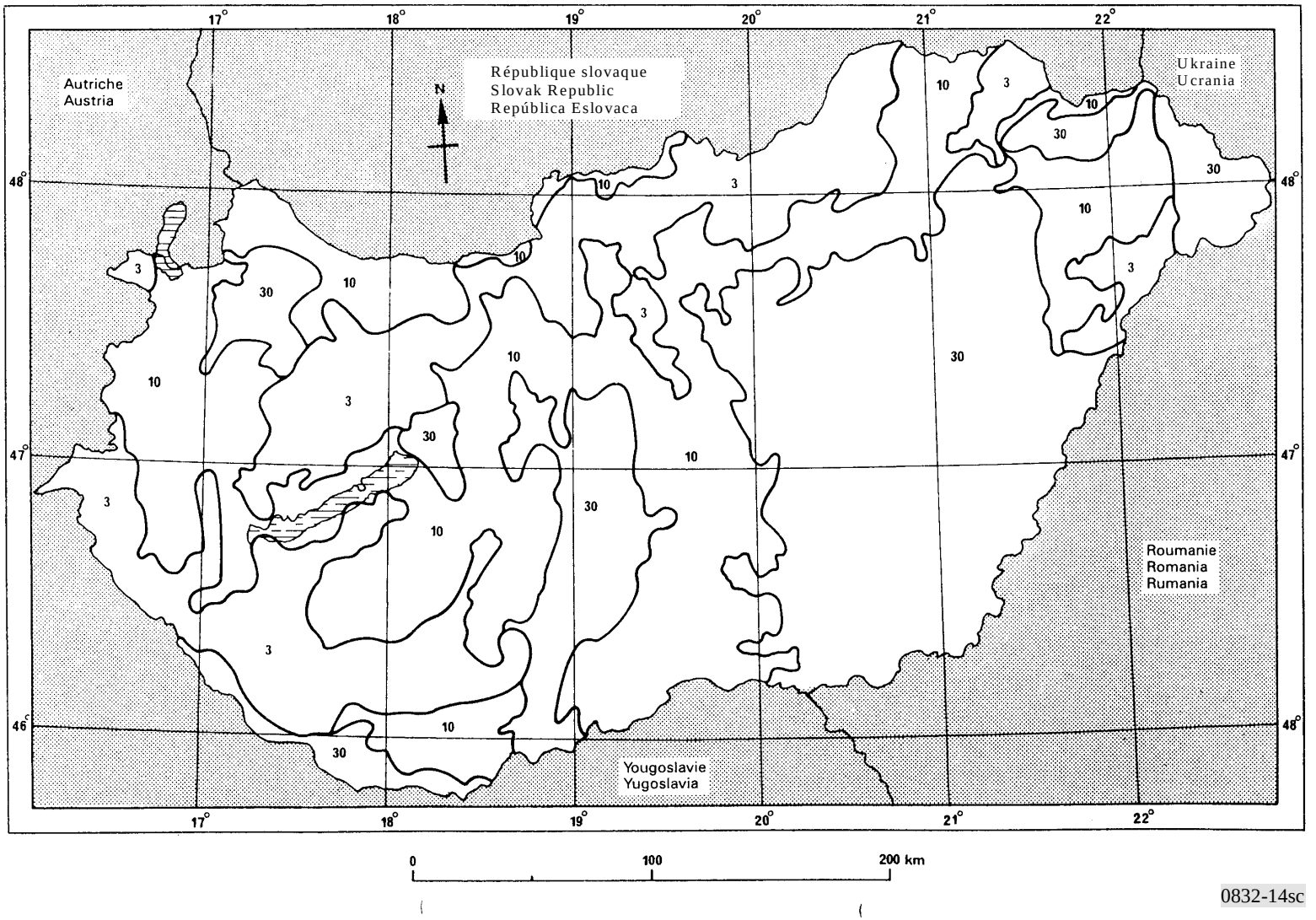

FIGURE 15

Italy

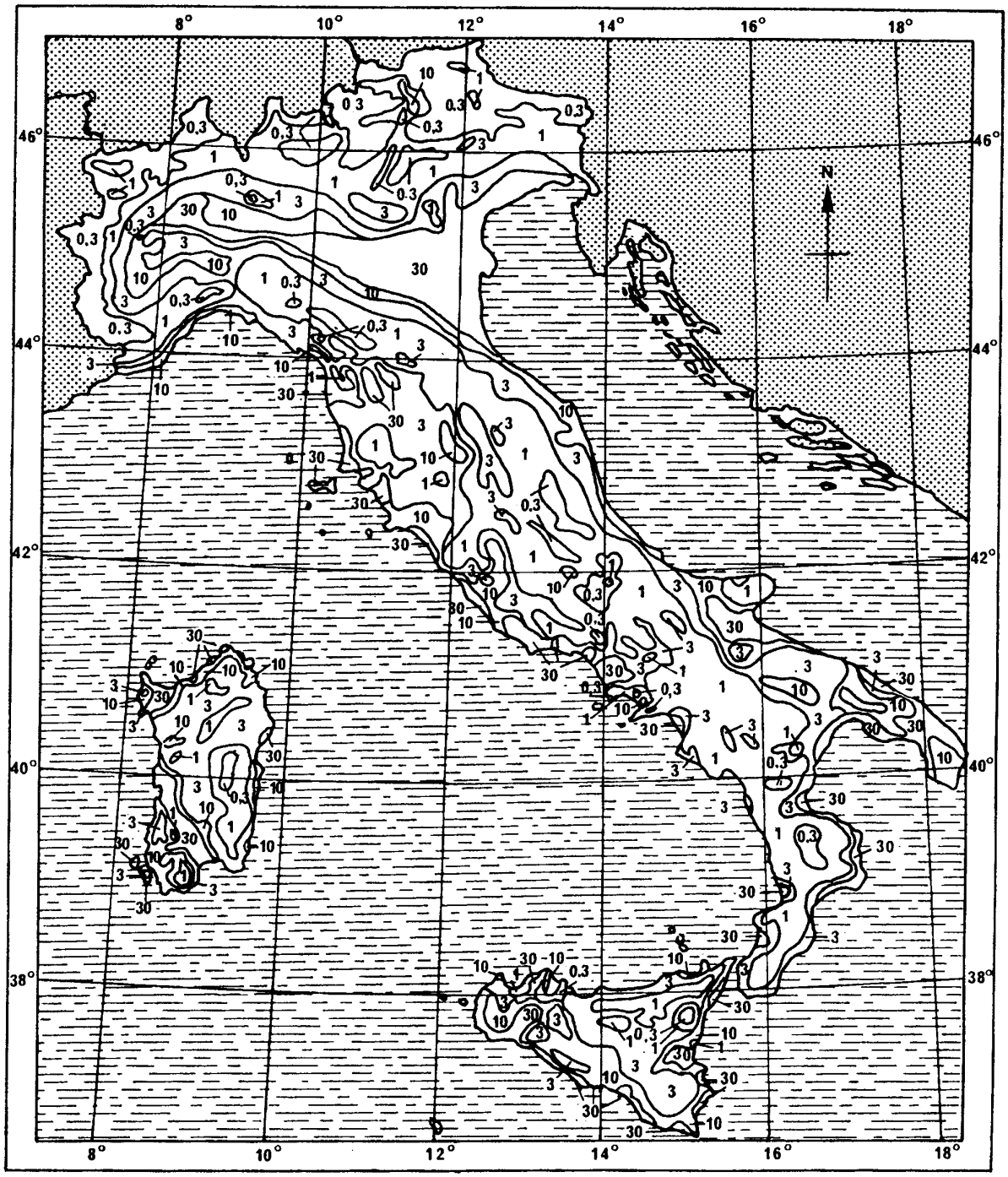

FIGURE 16

Norway

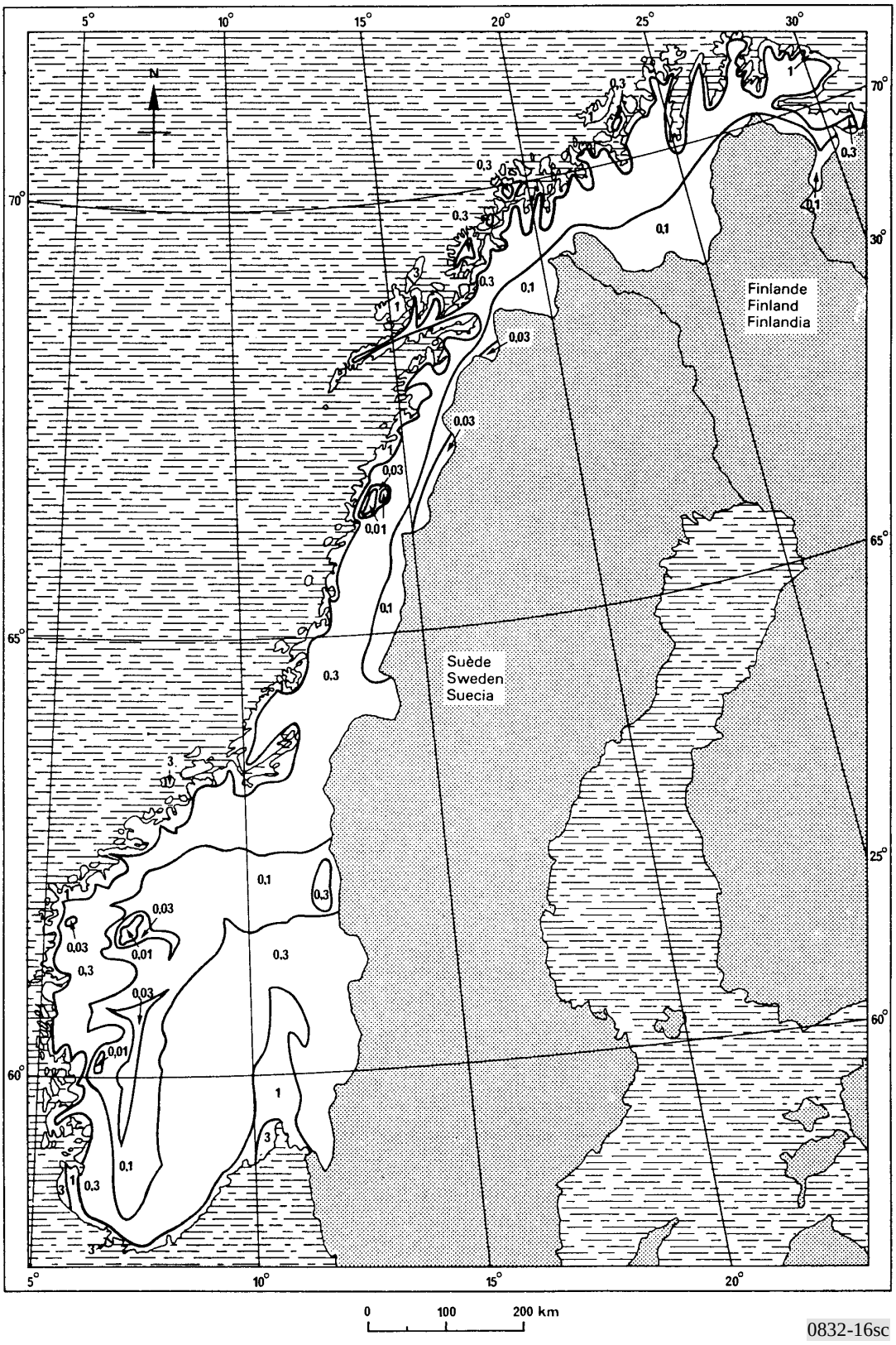

FIGURE 17

Netherlands (Kingdom of the)

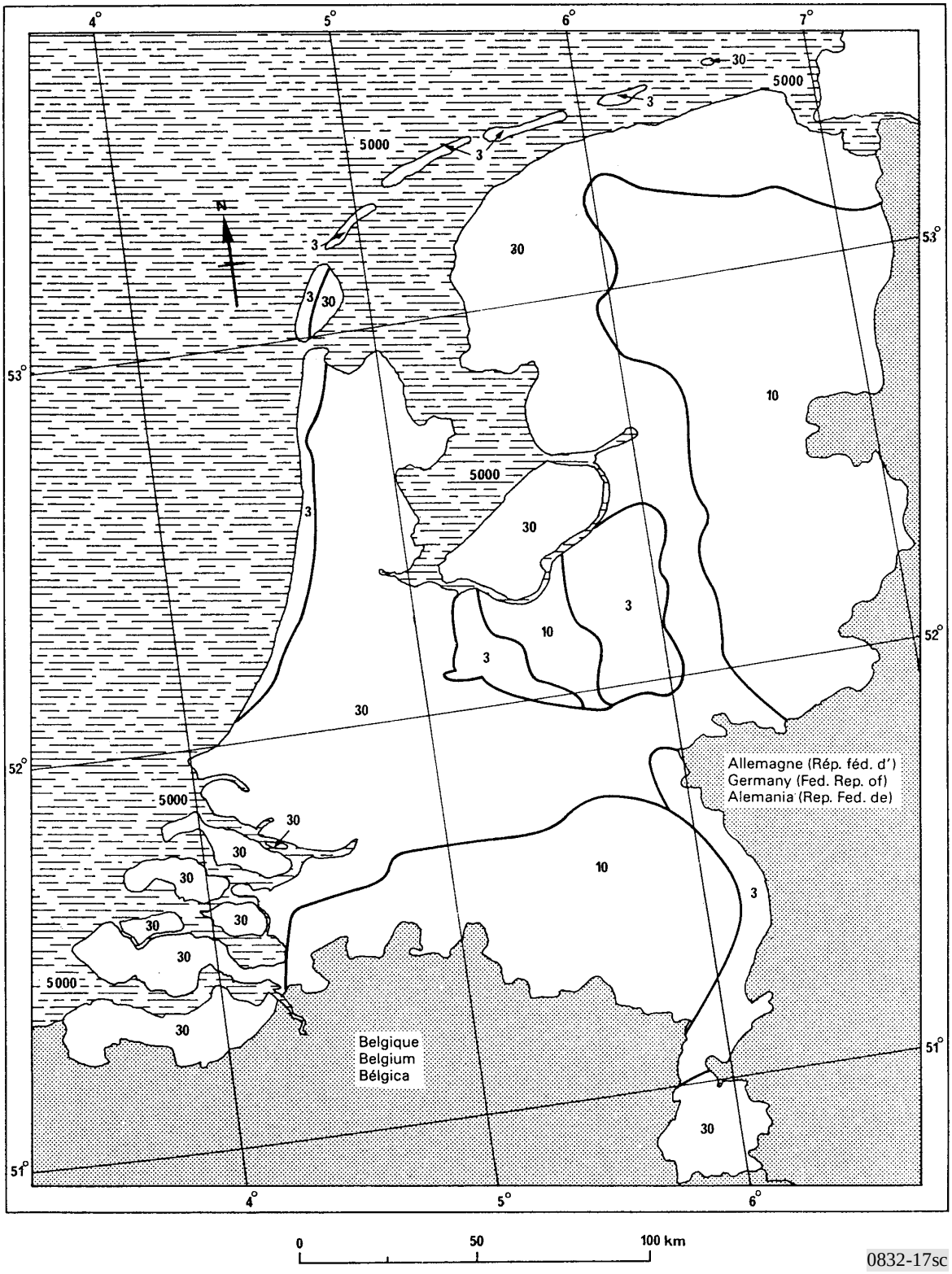

FIGURE 18

Portugal

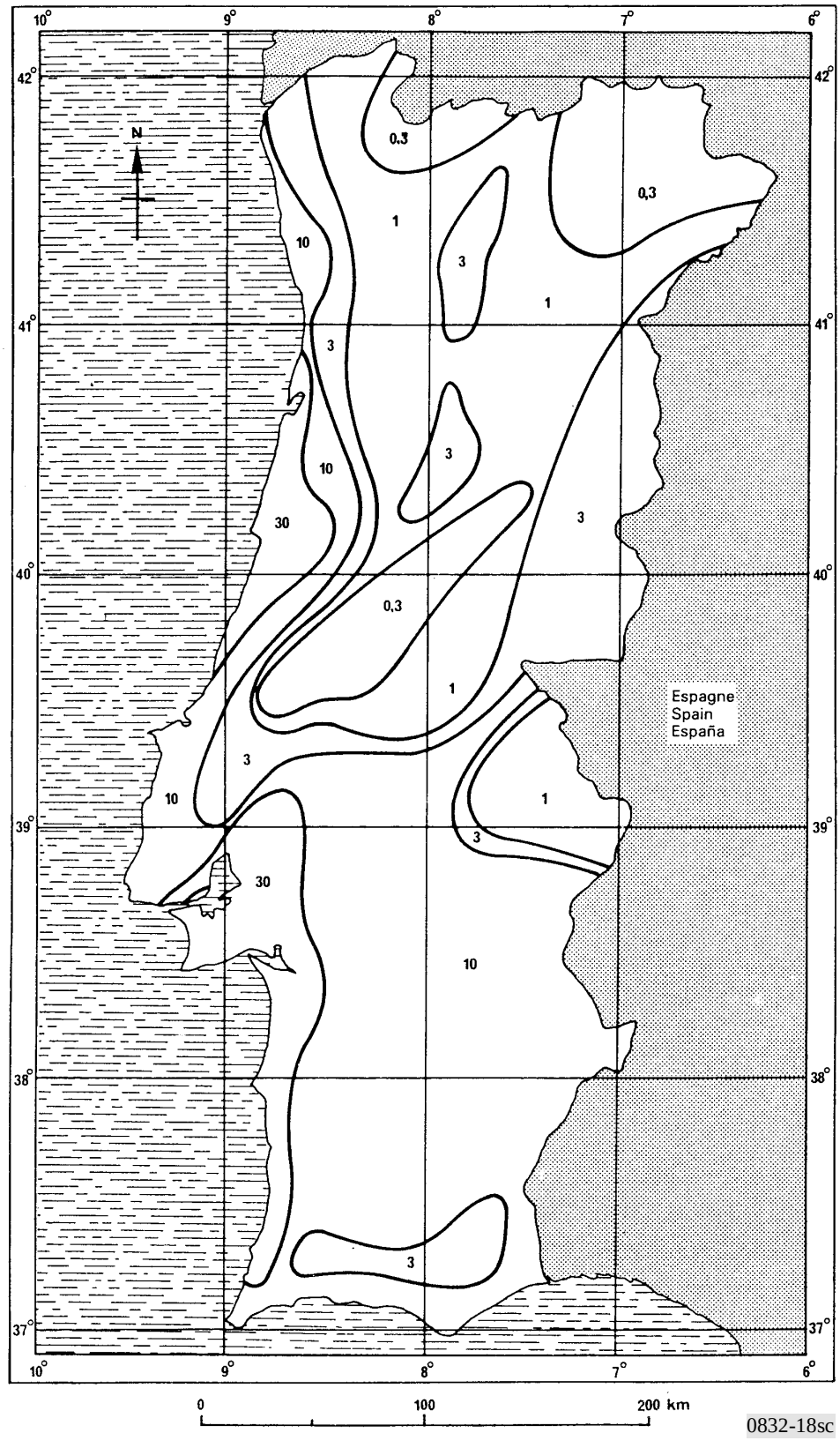

FIGURE 19

Germany (Federal Republic of) – Eastern part

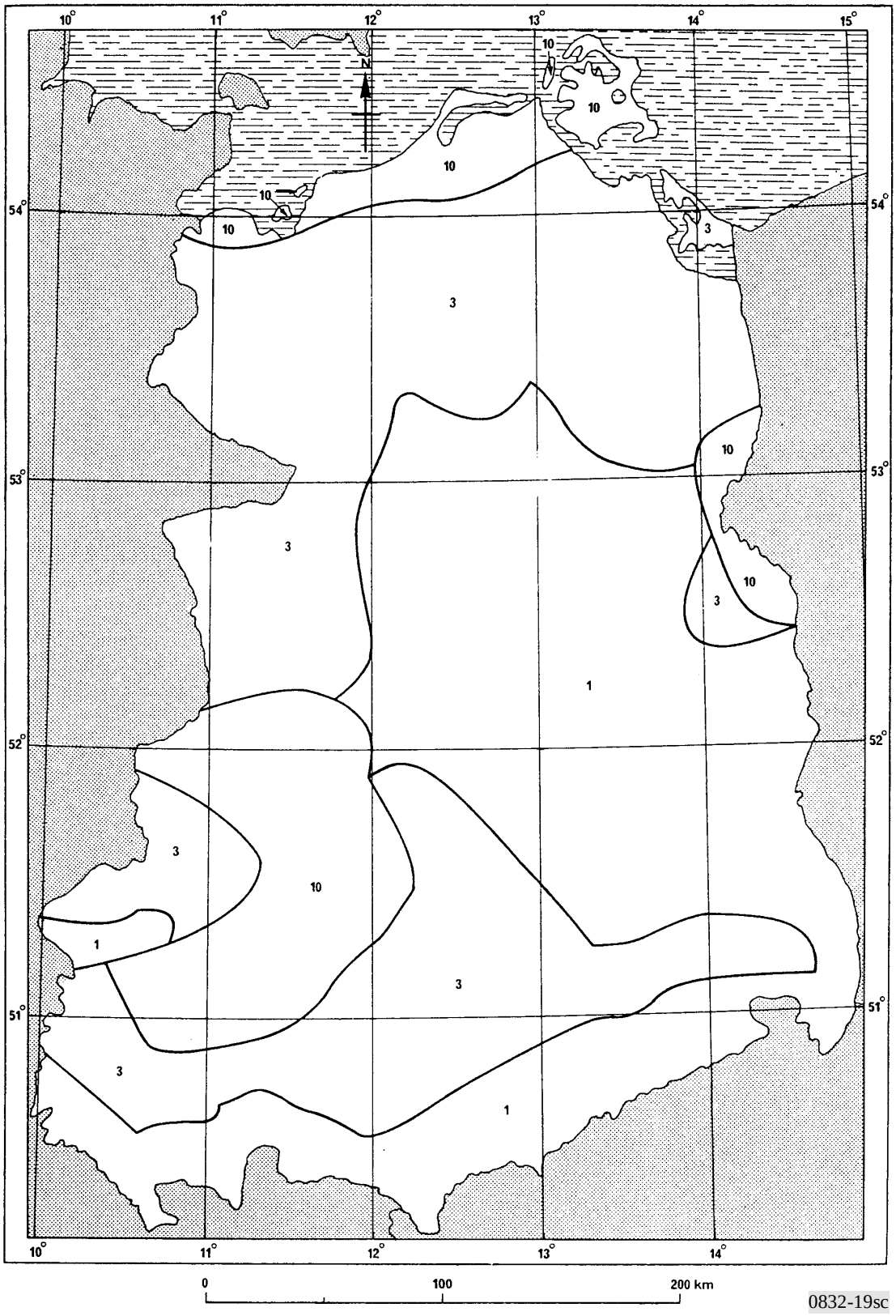

FIGURE 20

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

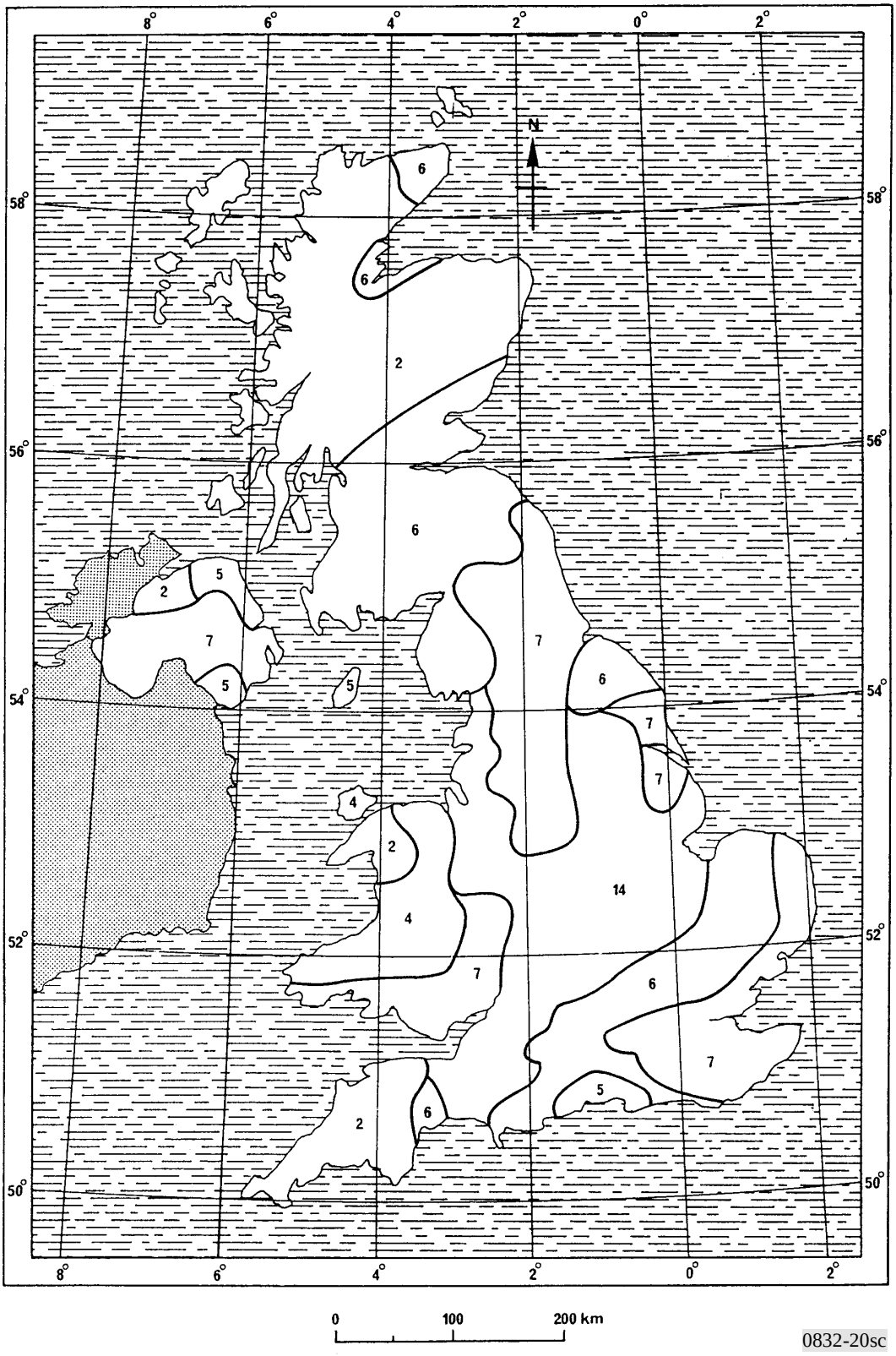

FIGURE 21

Sweden

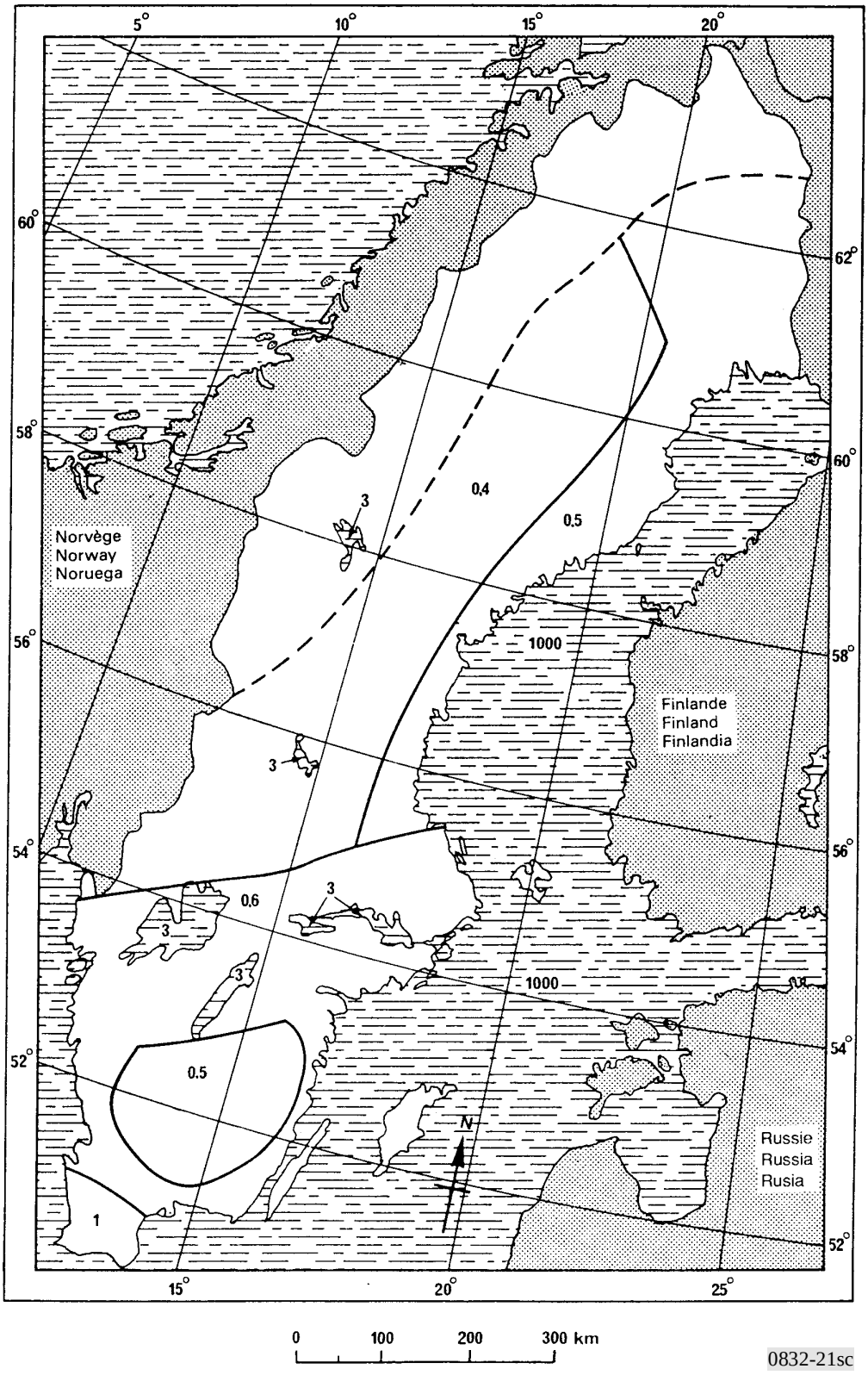

FIGURE 22

Armenia(Republic of), Azerbaijani Republic, Belarus (Republic of), Estonia (Republic of), Georgia, Kazakstan (Republic of), Latvia (Republic of), Lithuania (Republic of), Moldova (Republic of), Uzbekistan (Republic of), Kyrgyz Republic, Russian Federation, Tajikistan (Republic of), Turkmenistan, Ukraine

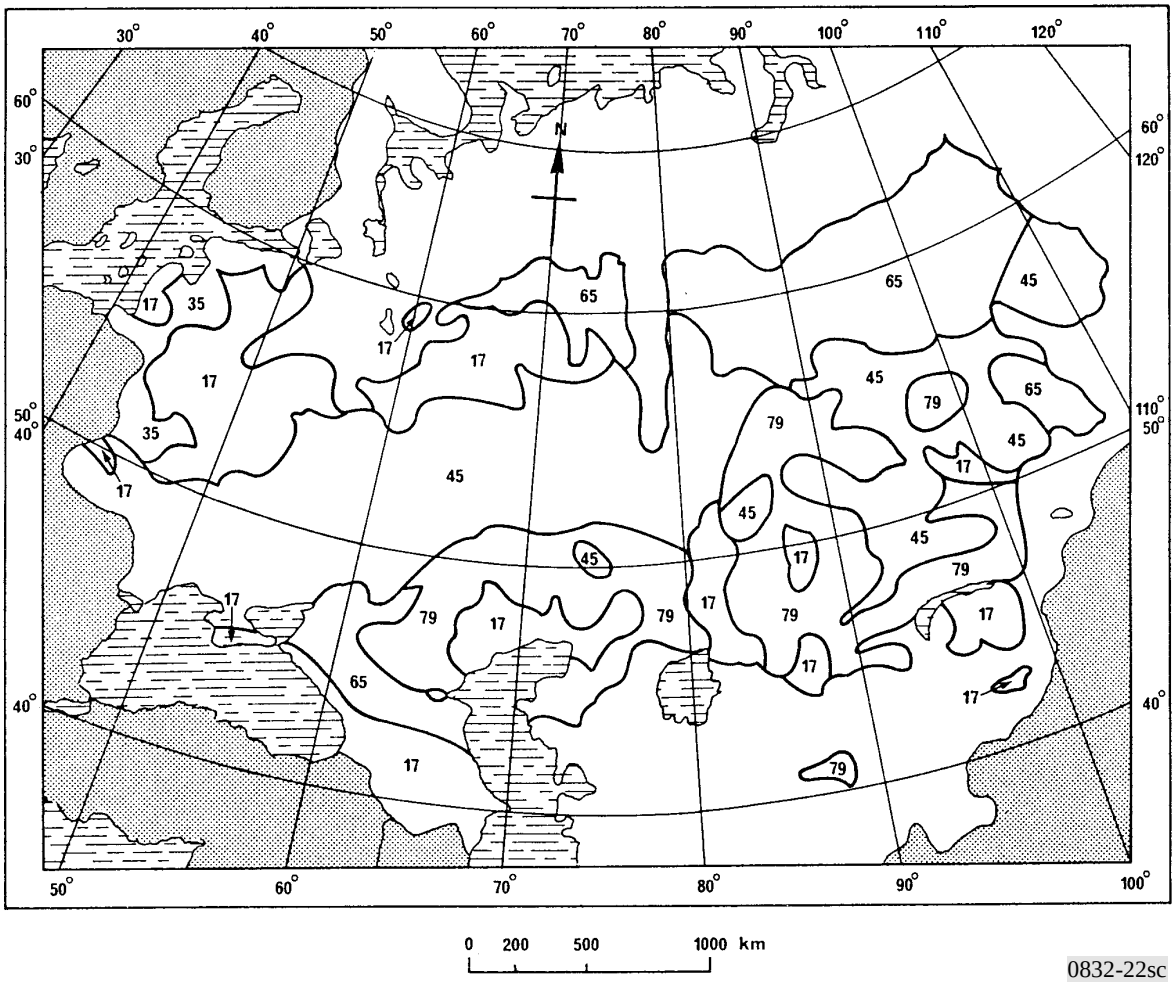

FIGURE 23

Bosnia and Herzegovina (Republic of), Croatia (Republic of), The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Slovenia (Republic of) and Yugoslavia (Federal Republic of)

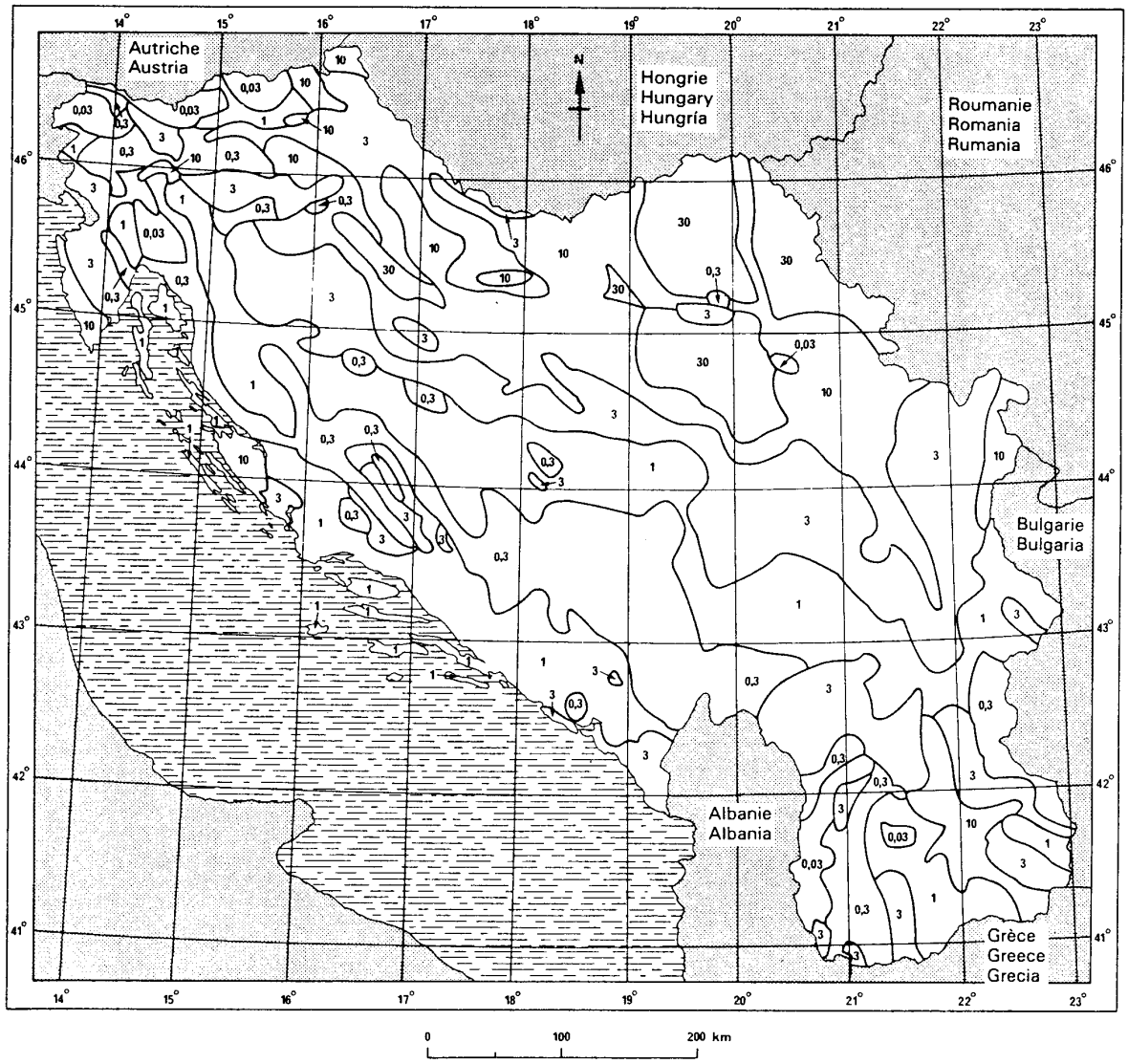

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FIGURE 24

Bangladesh (People's Republic of)

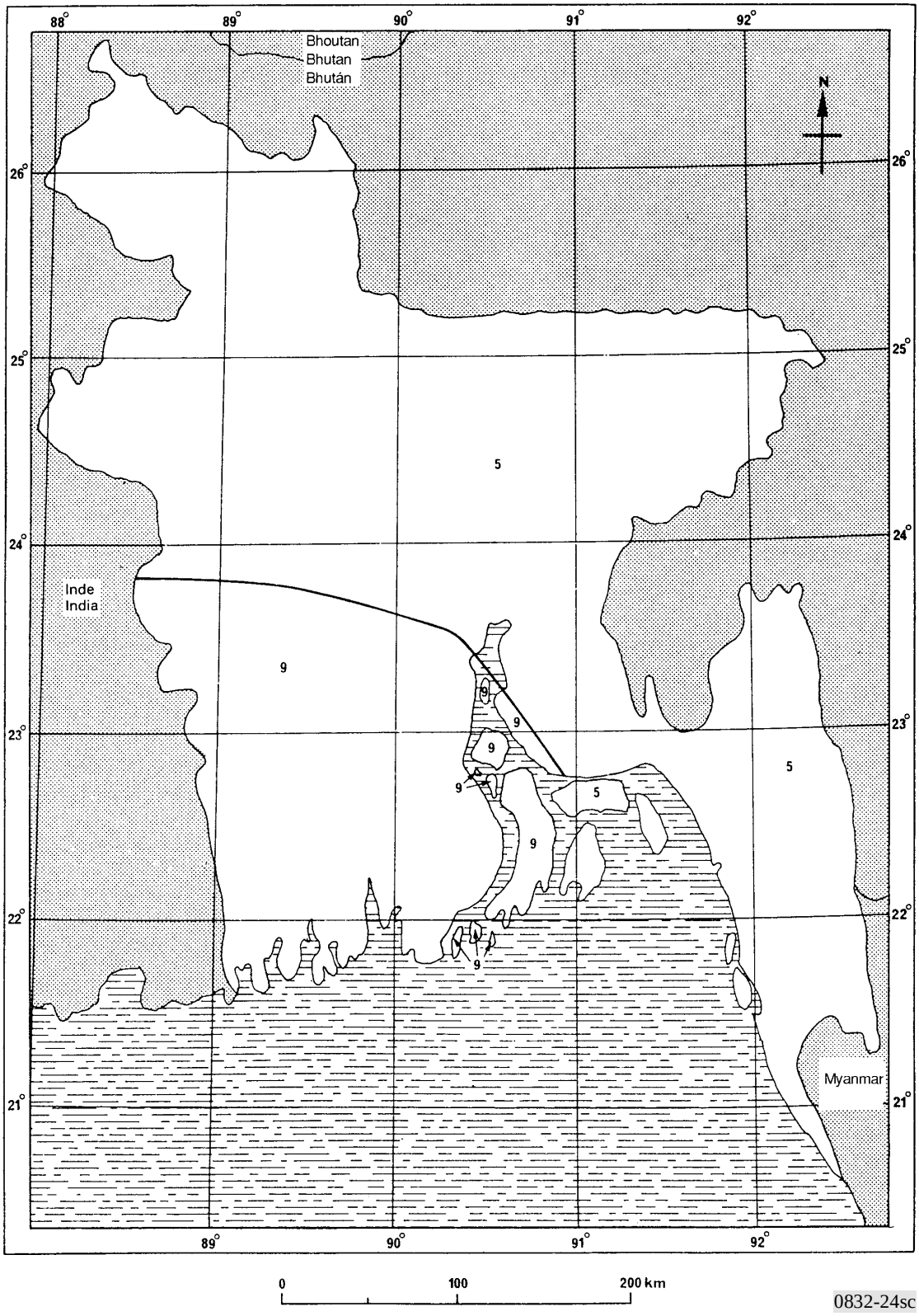

FIGURE 25

Korea (Republic of)

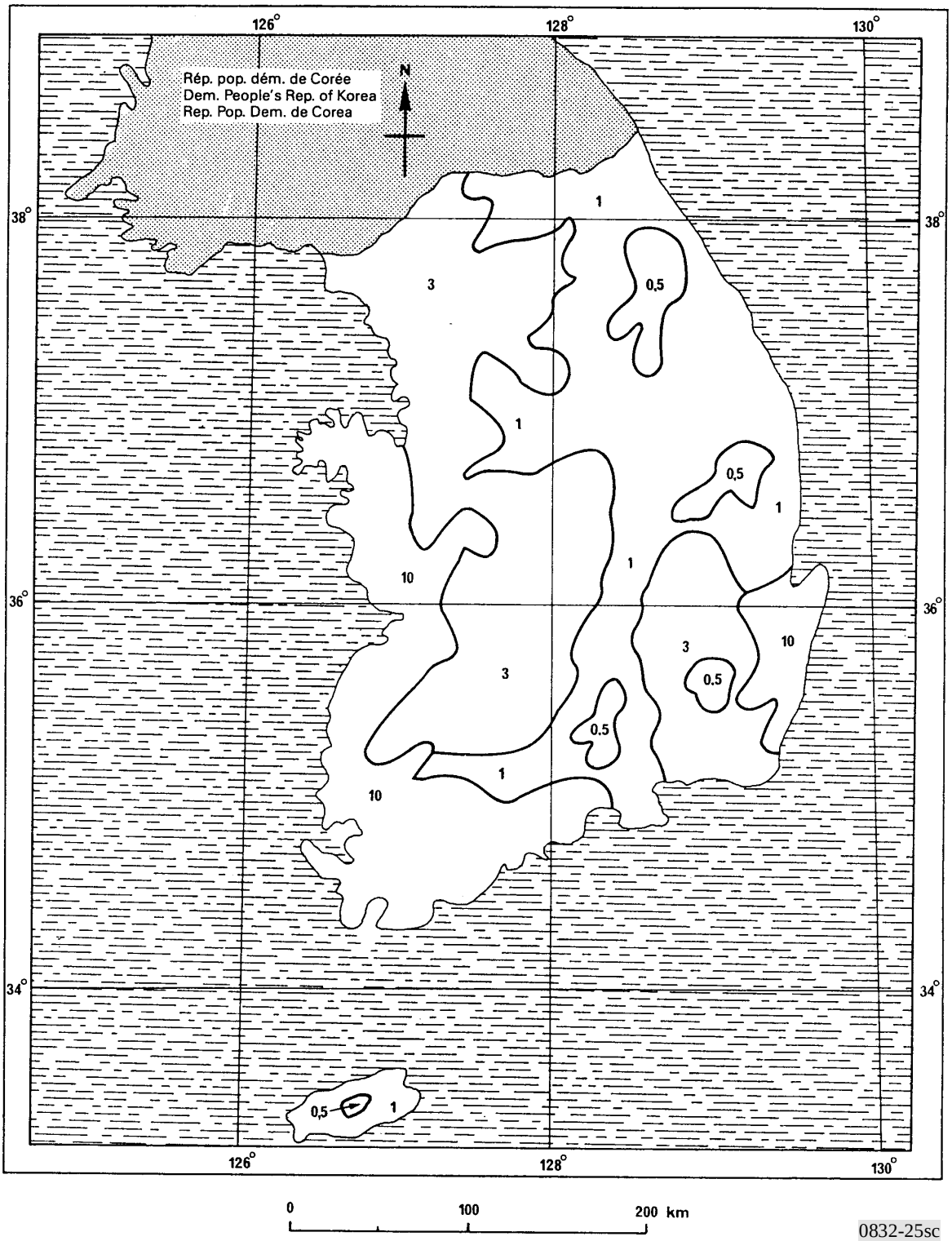

FIGURE 26

India (Republic of)

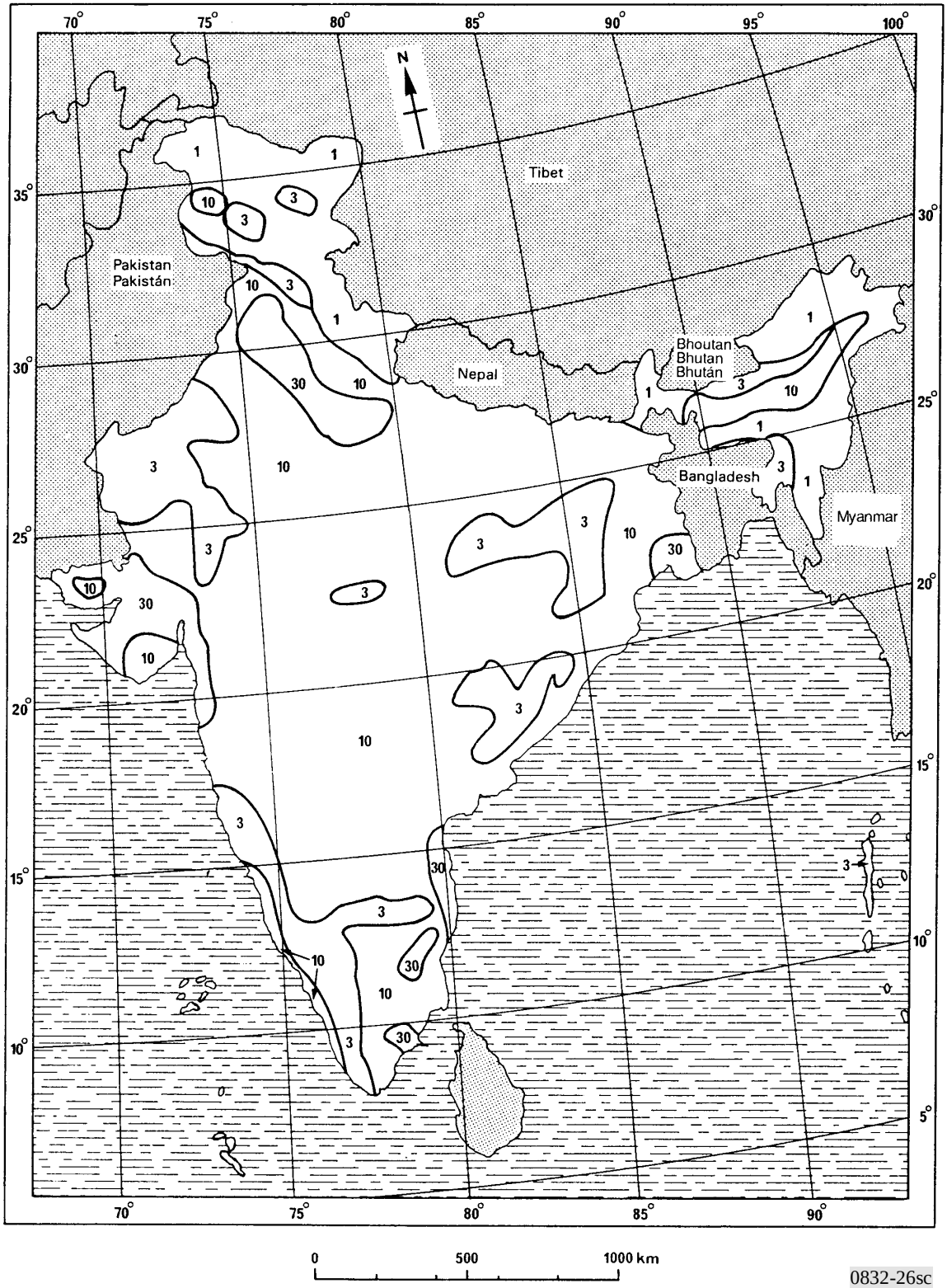

FIGURE 27

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

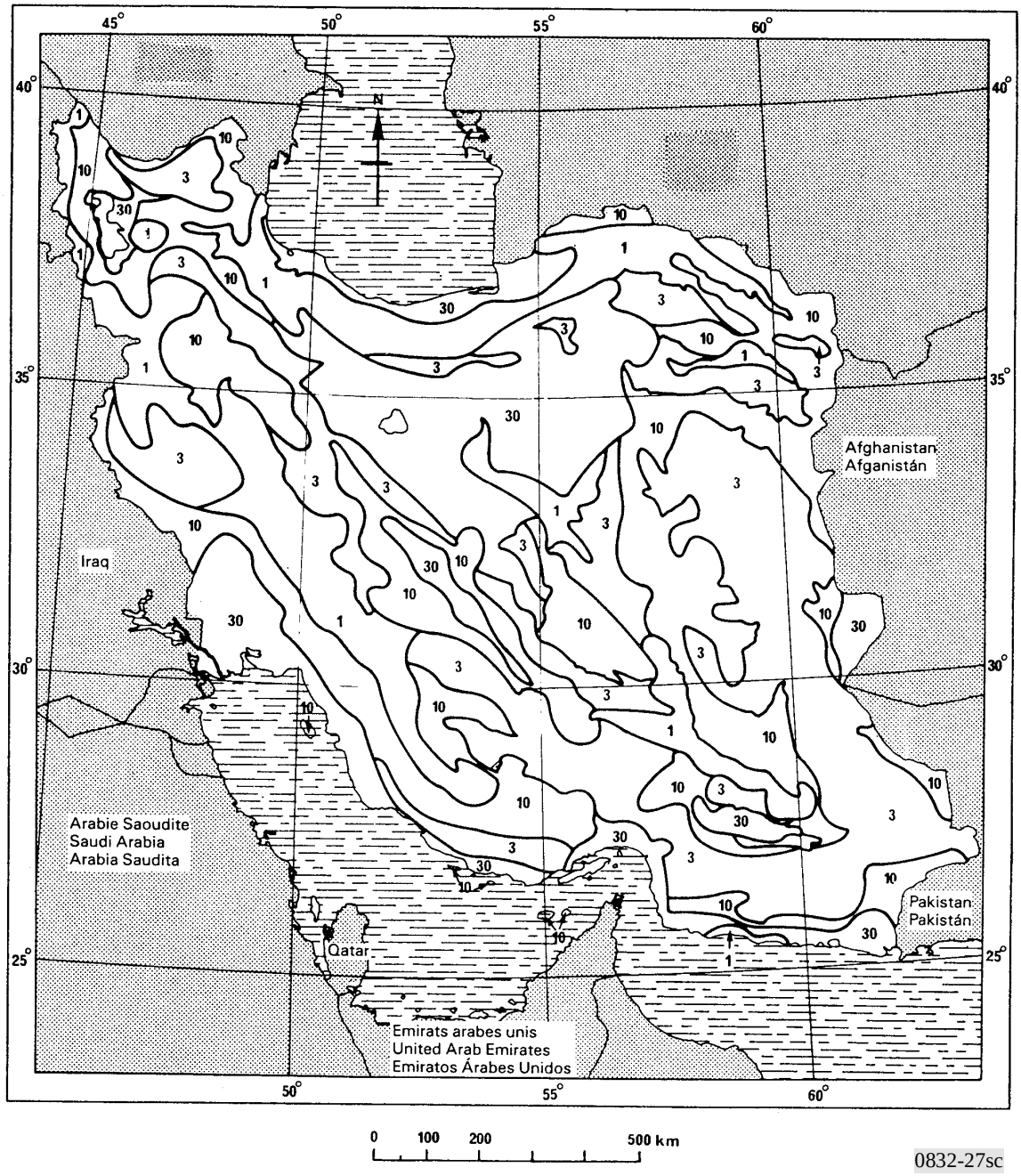

FIGURE 28

Israel (State of)

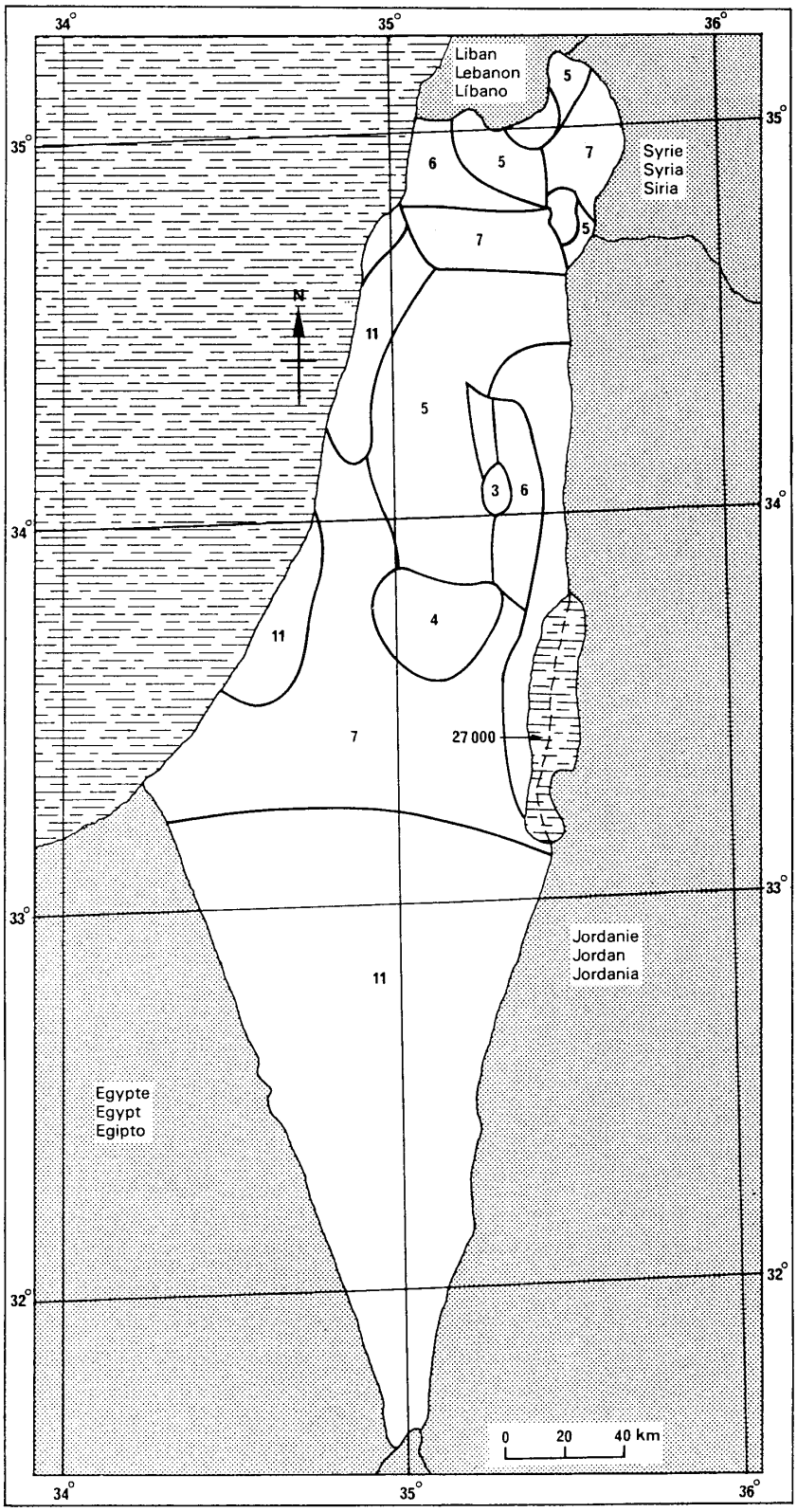

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FIGURE 29

Japan

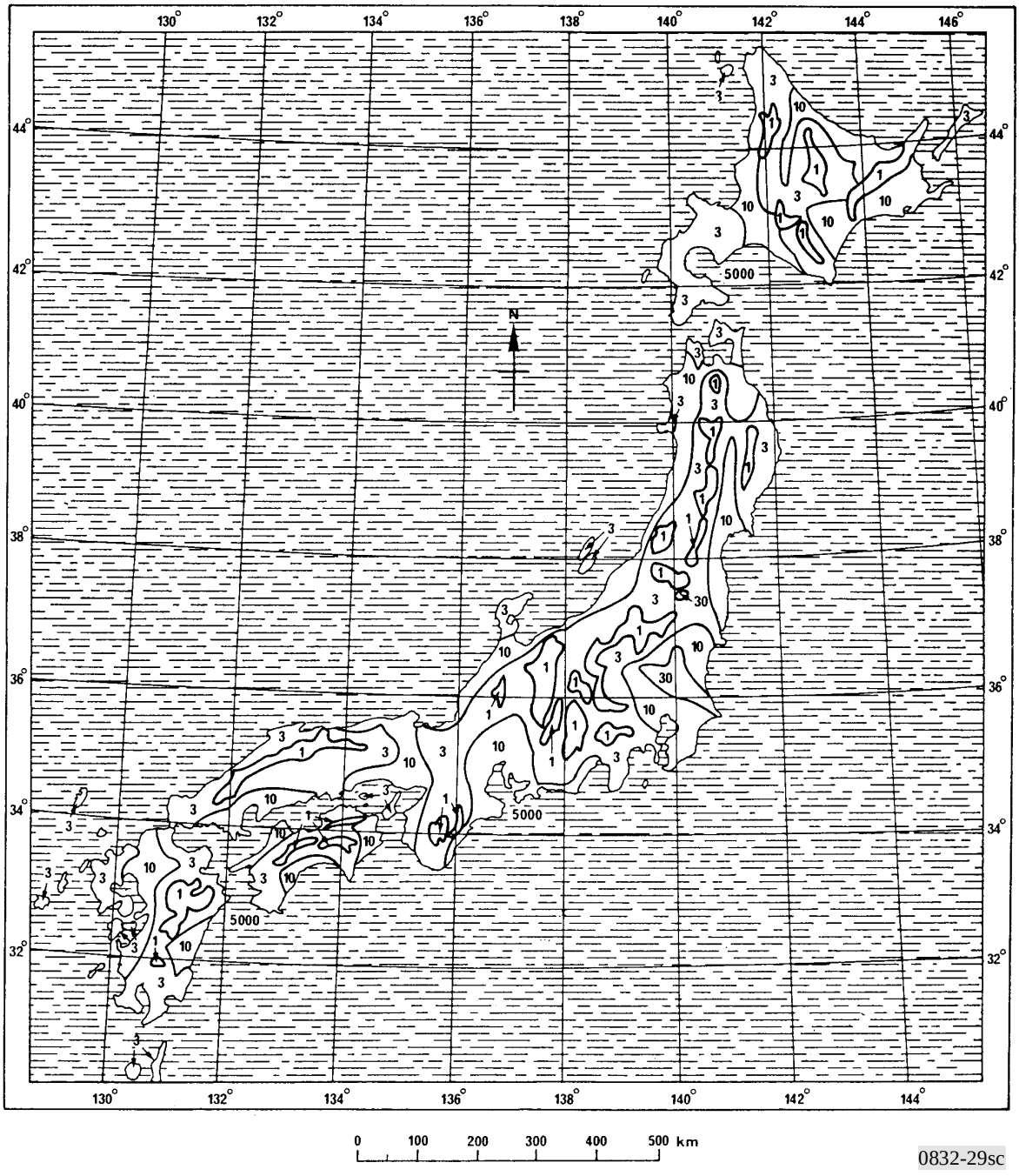


FIGURE 30

Jordan (Hashemite Kingdom of)

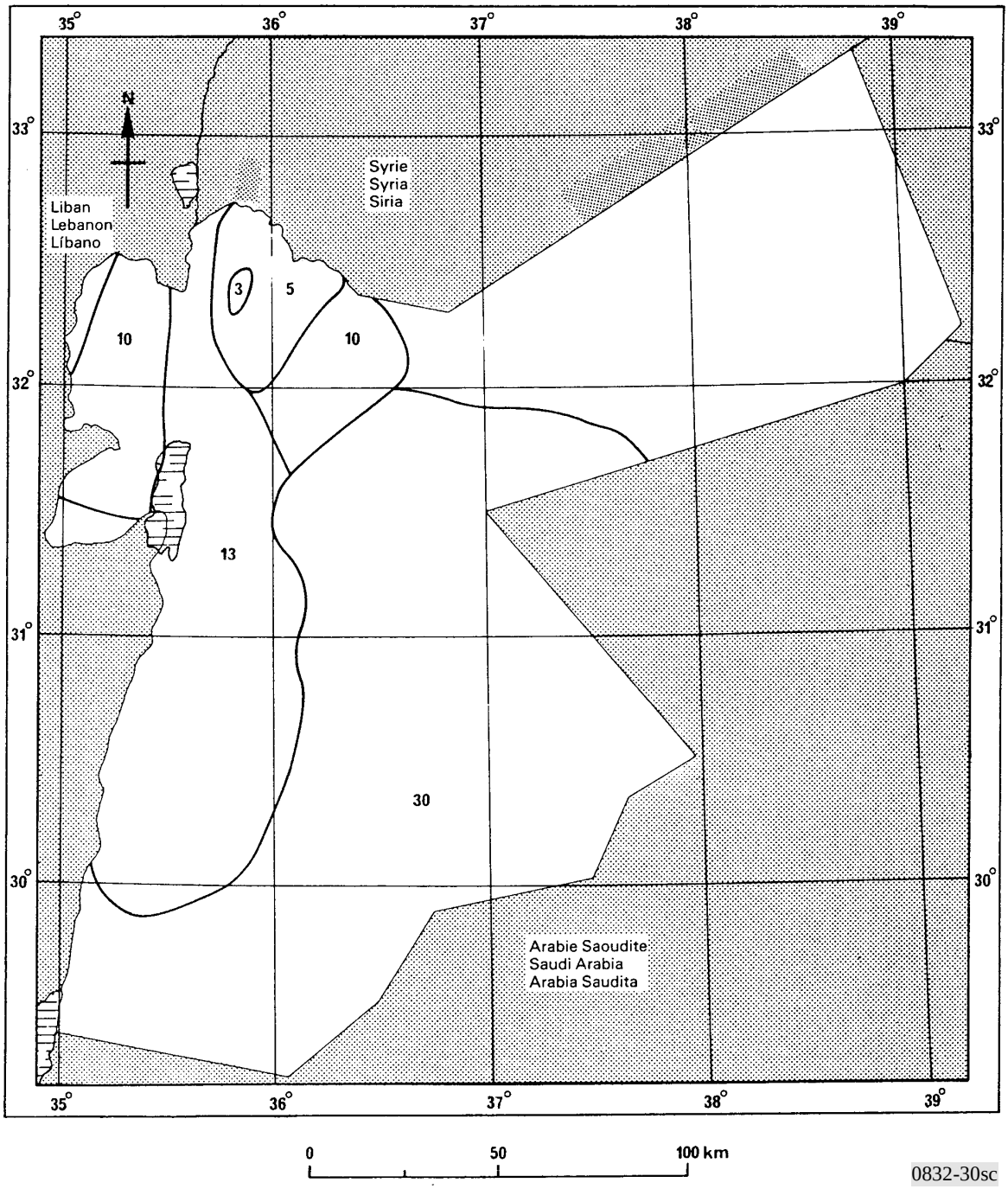
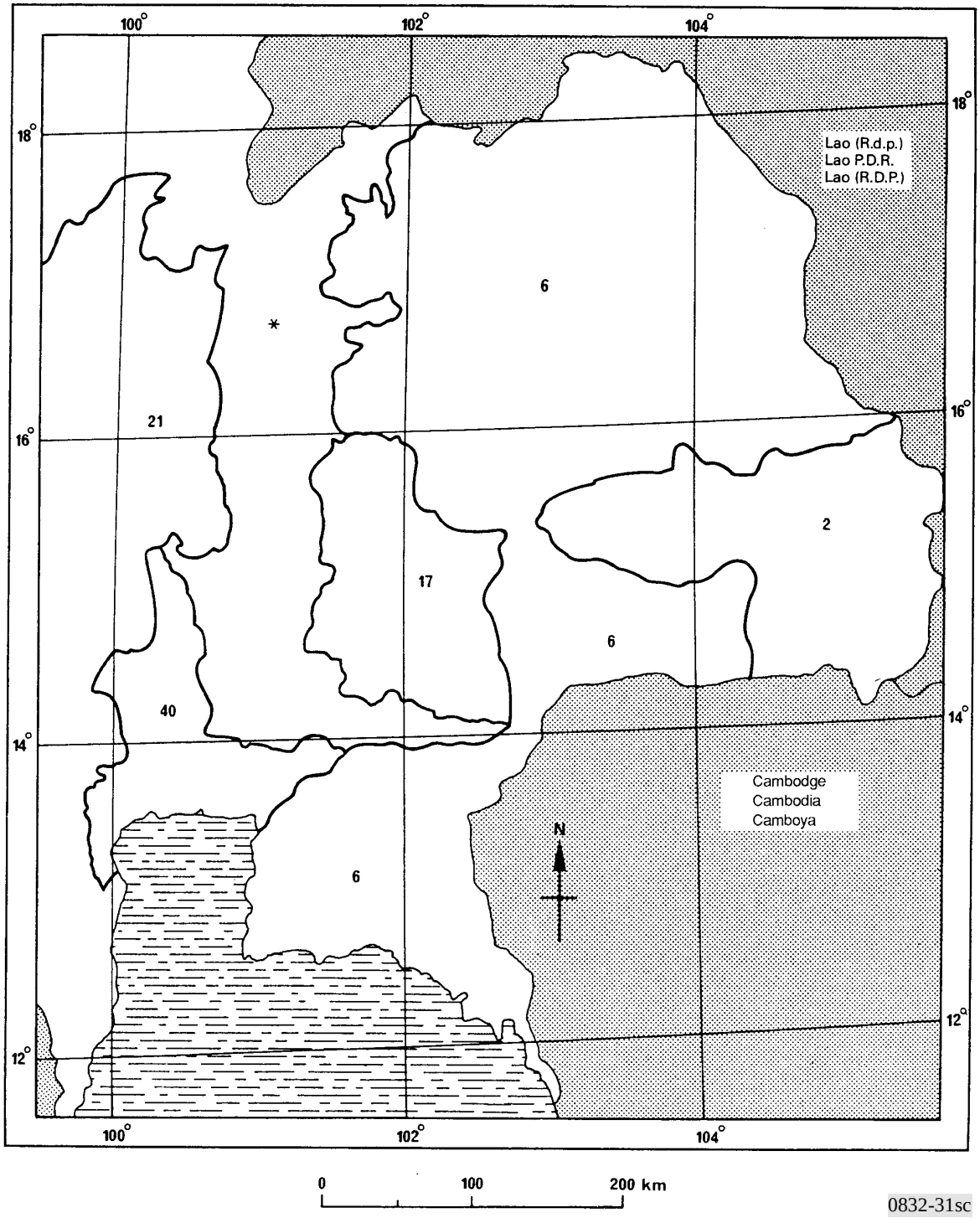


FIGURE 31

Thailand



* Mountainous terrain.

FIGURE 32

Lesotho (Kingdom of), South Africa (Republic of), Swaziland (Kingdom of)

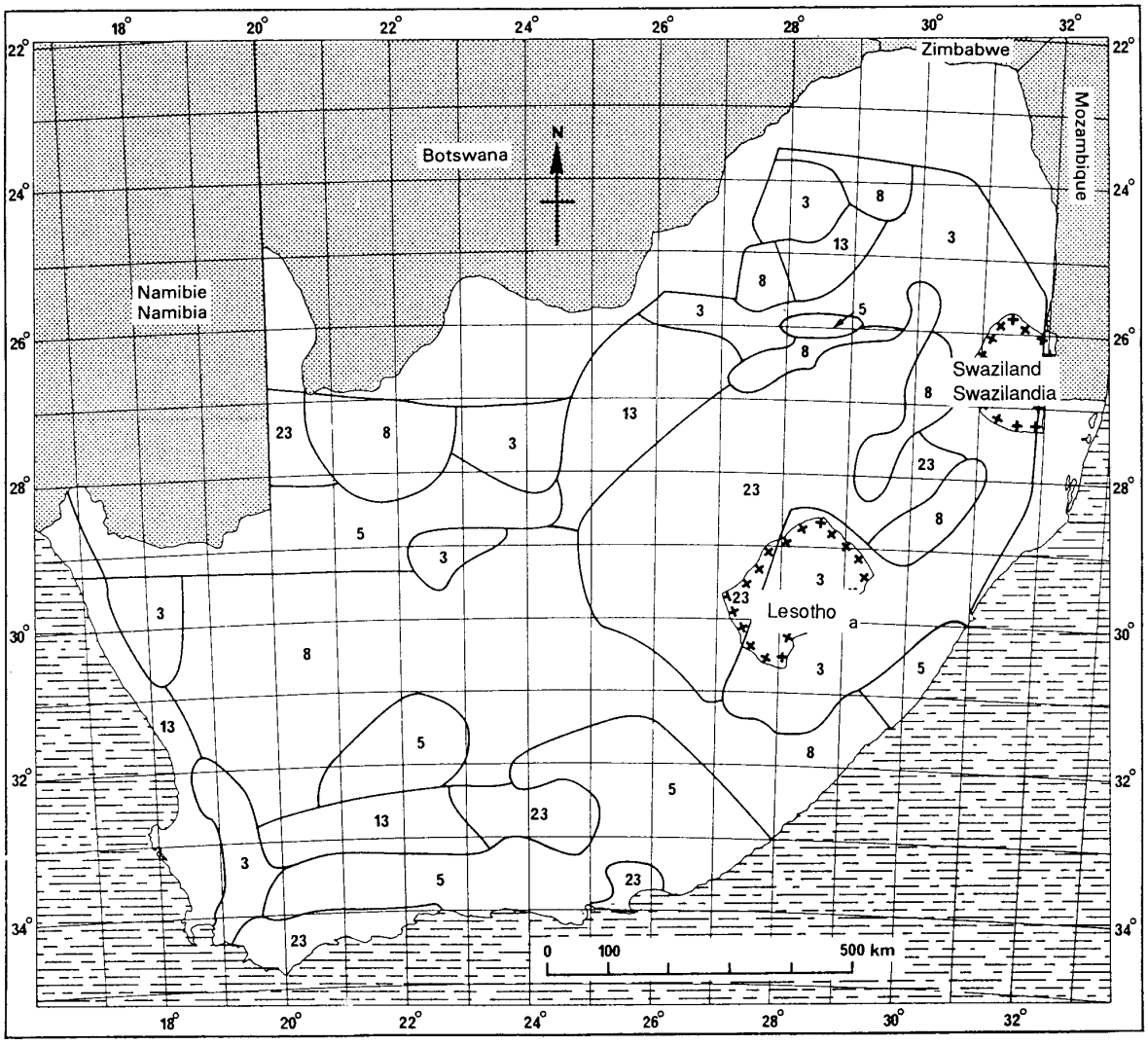


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FIGURE 33

Botswana (Republic of)

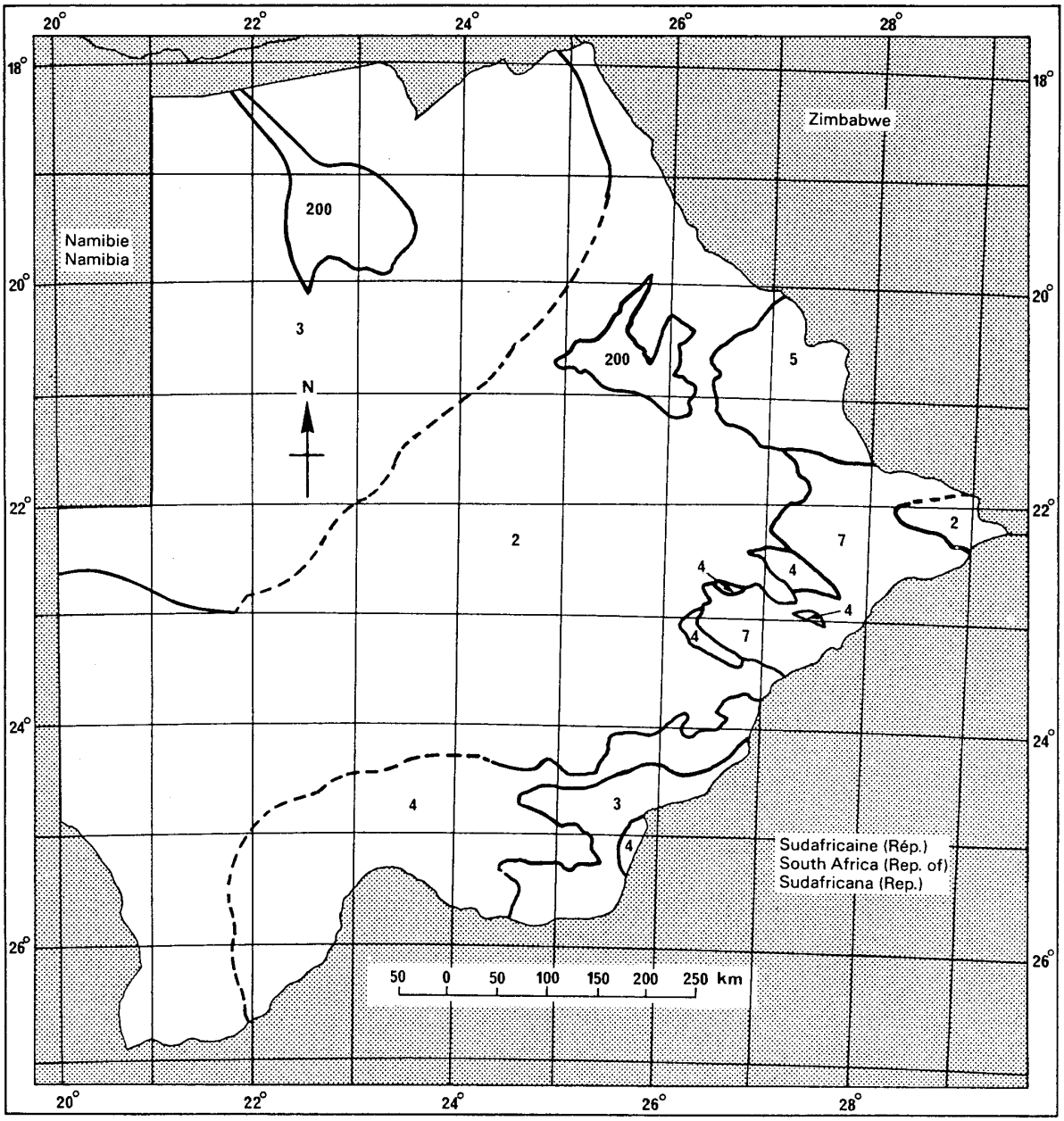

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FIGURE 34

Namibia (Republic of)

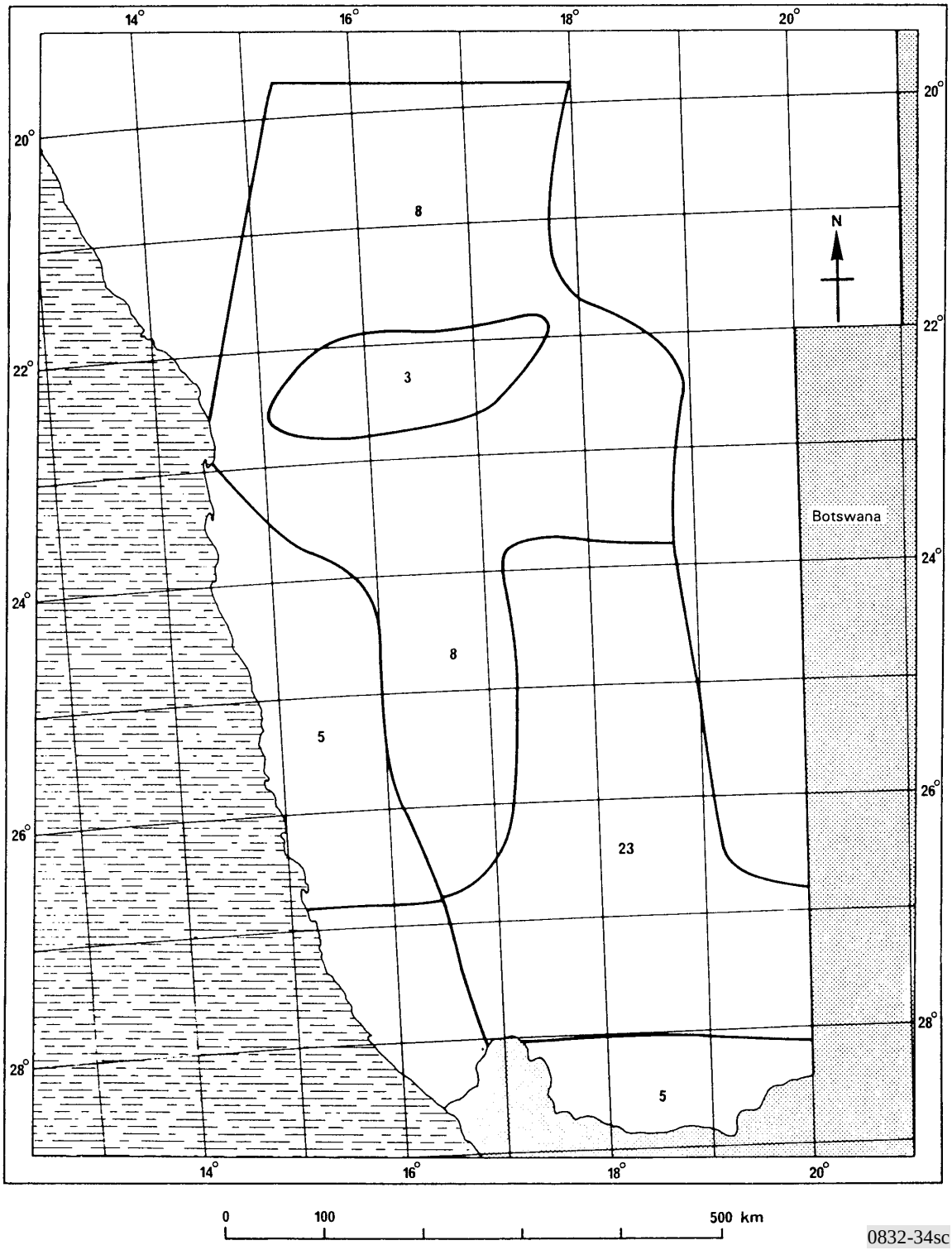

FIGURE 35

North America (excluding Canada)

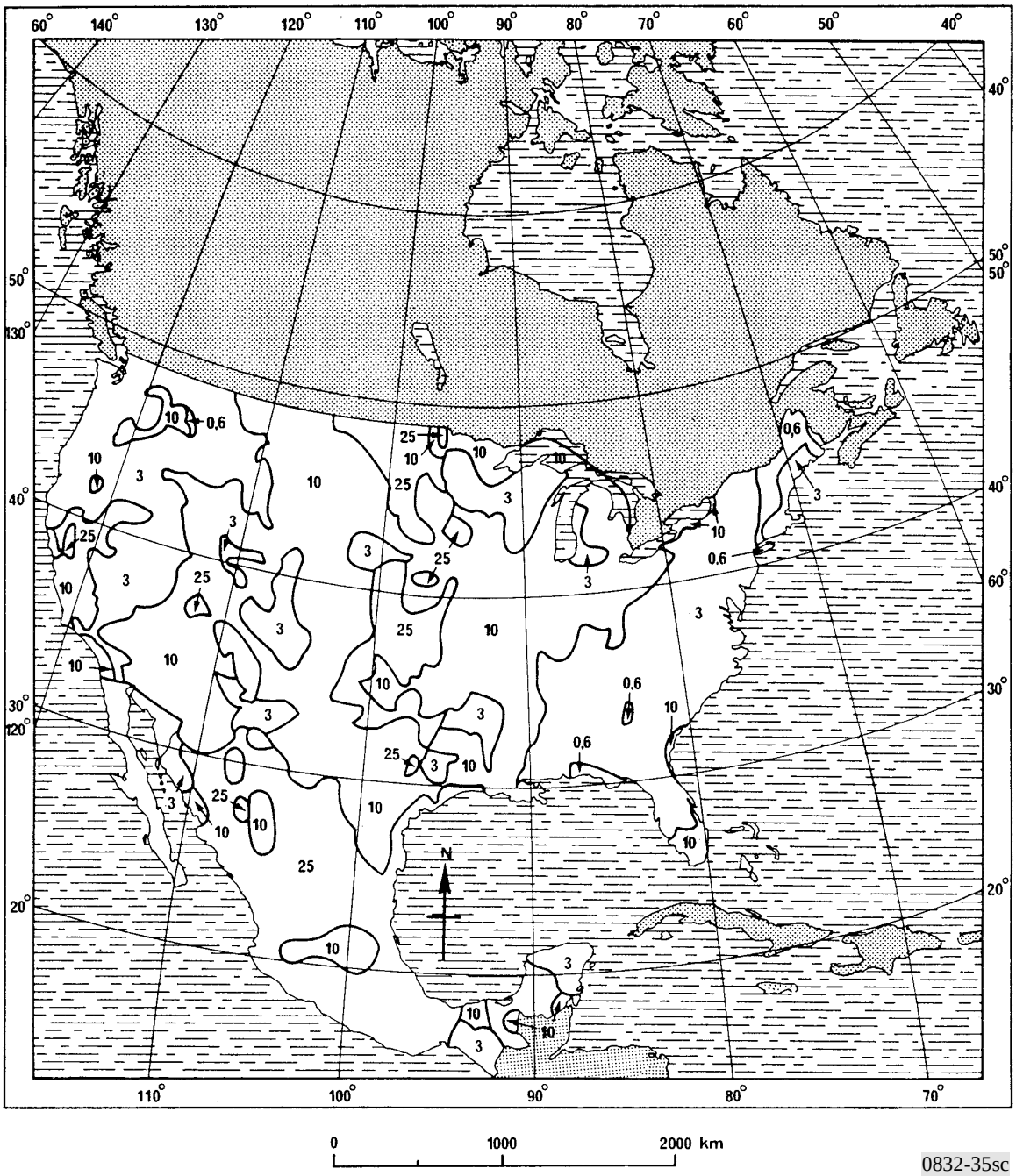

FIGURE 36

Central America

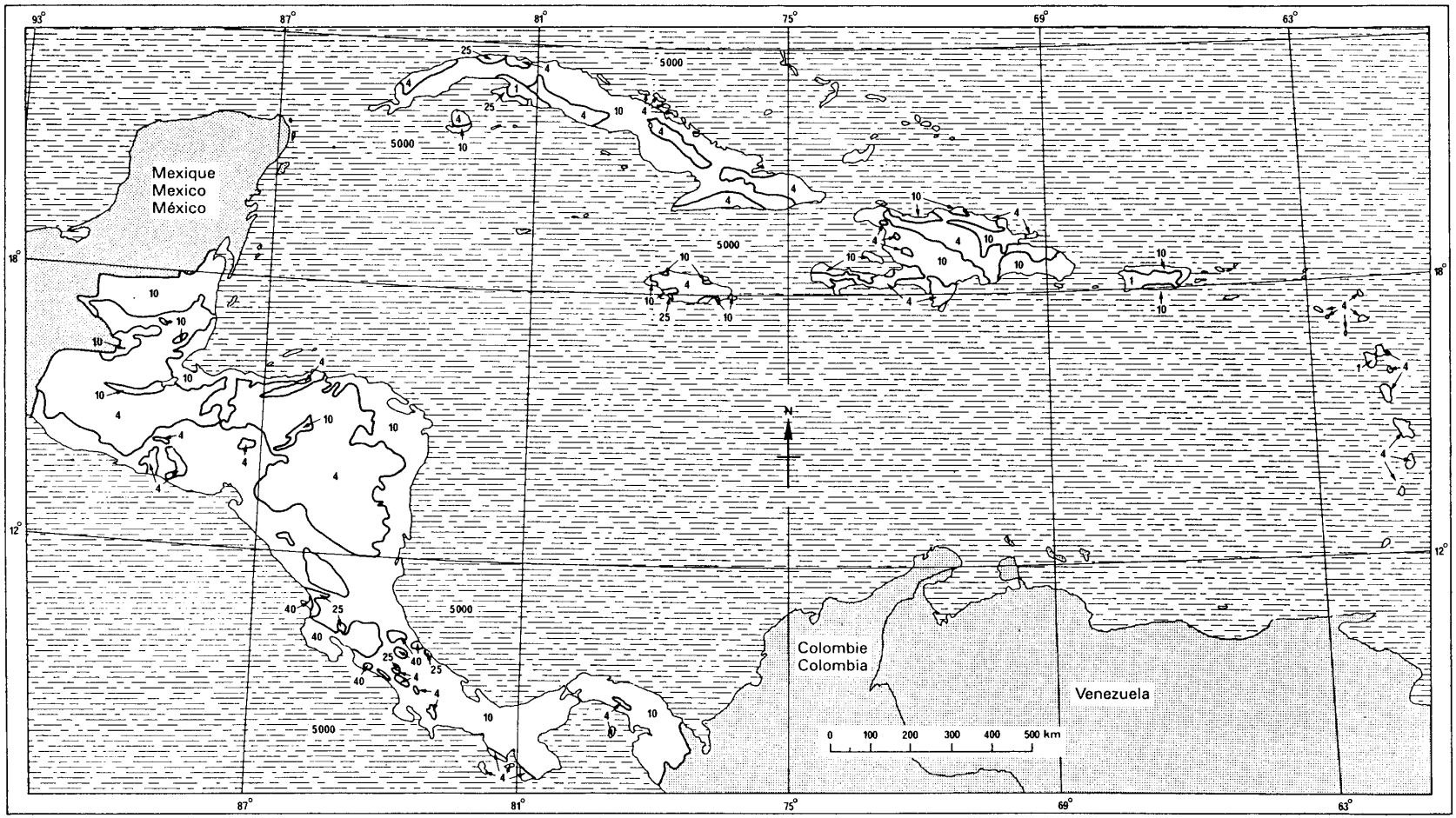

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FIGURE 37

Canada

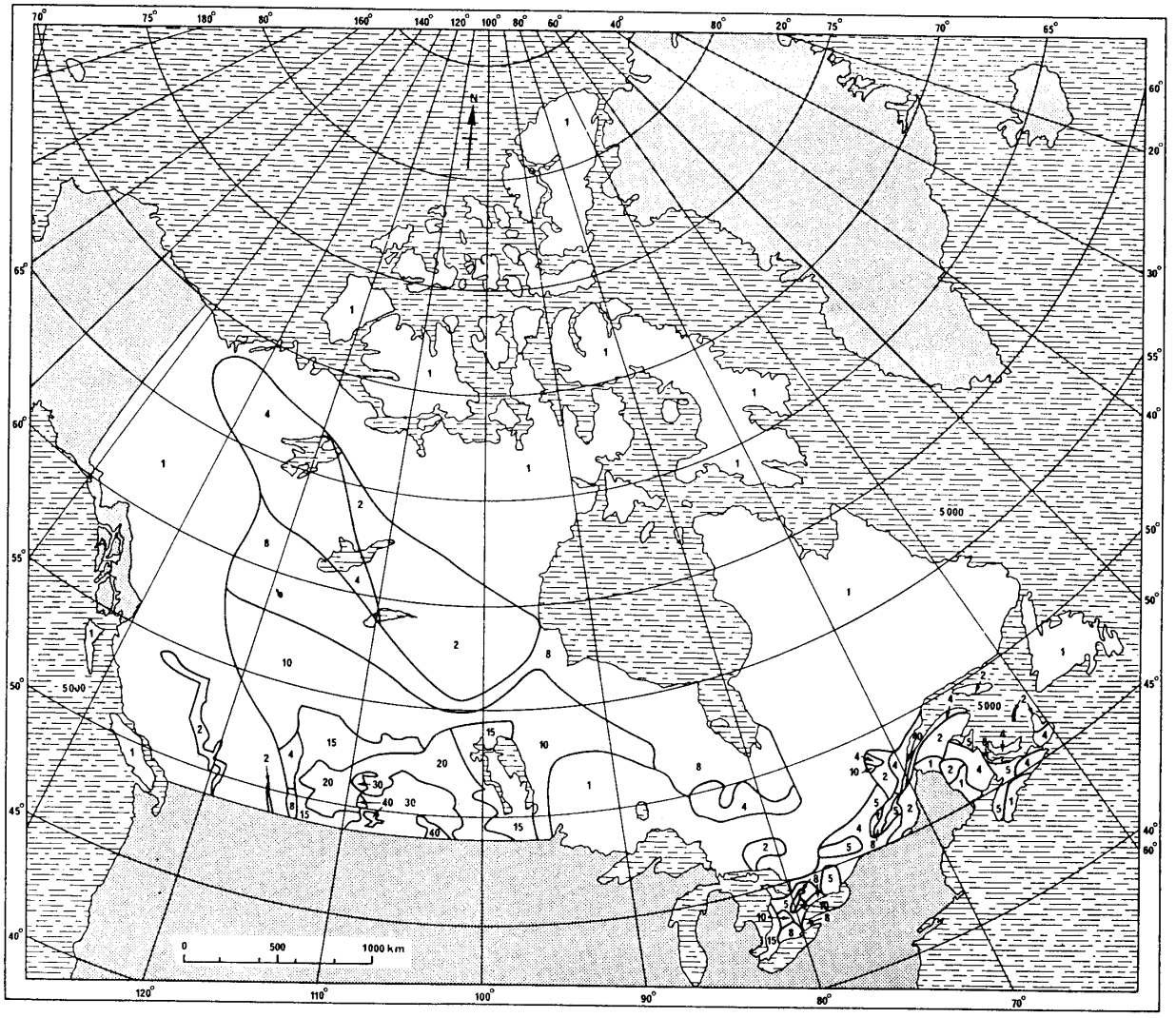

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FIGURE 38

South America

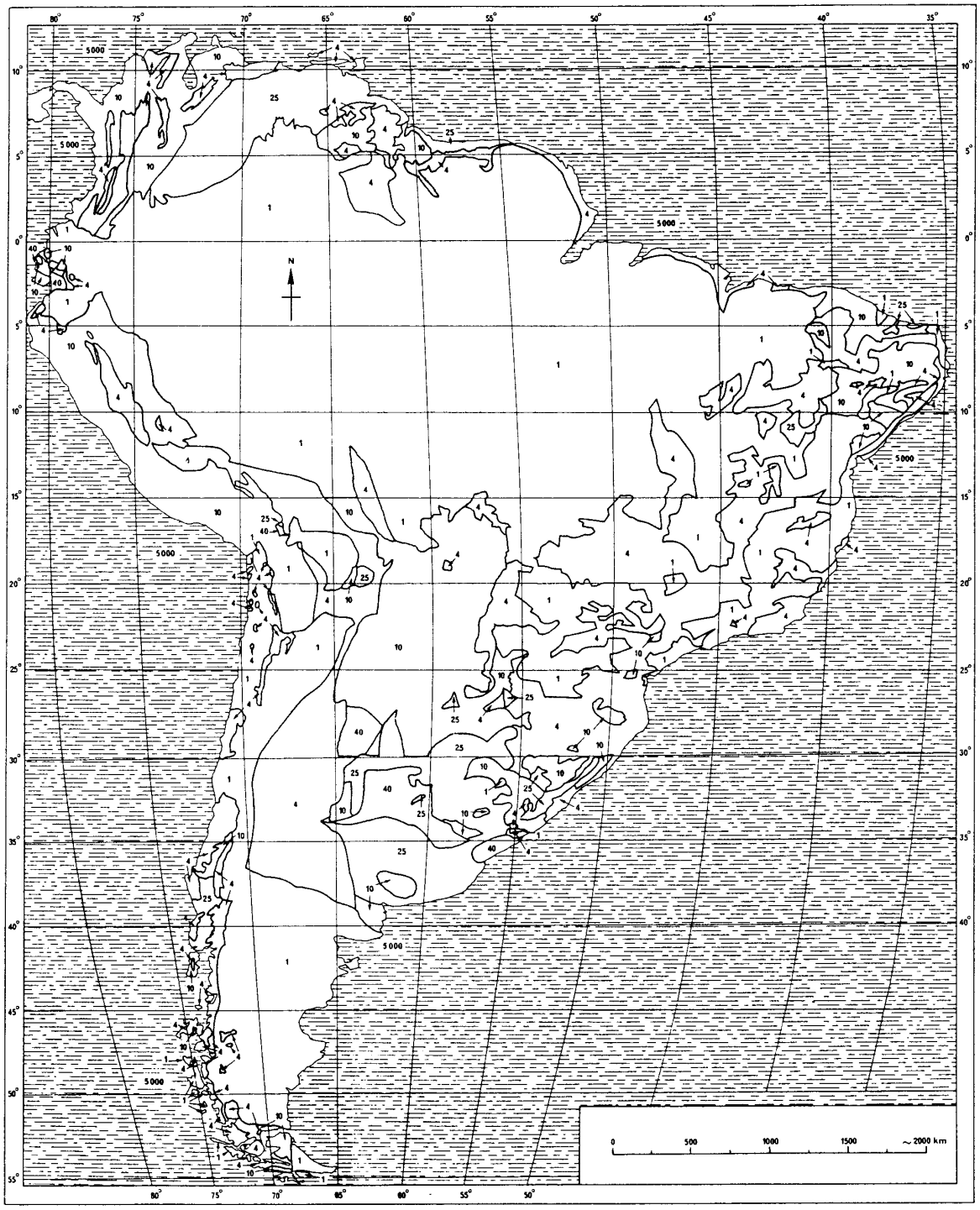

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FIGURE 39

Australia

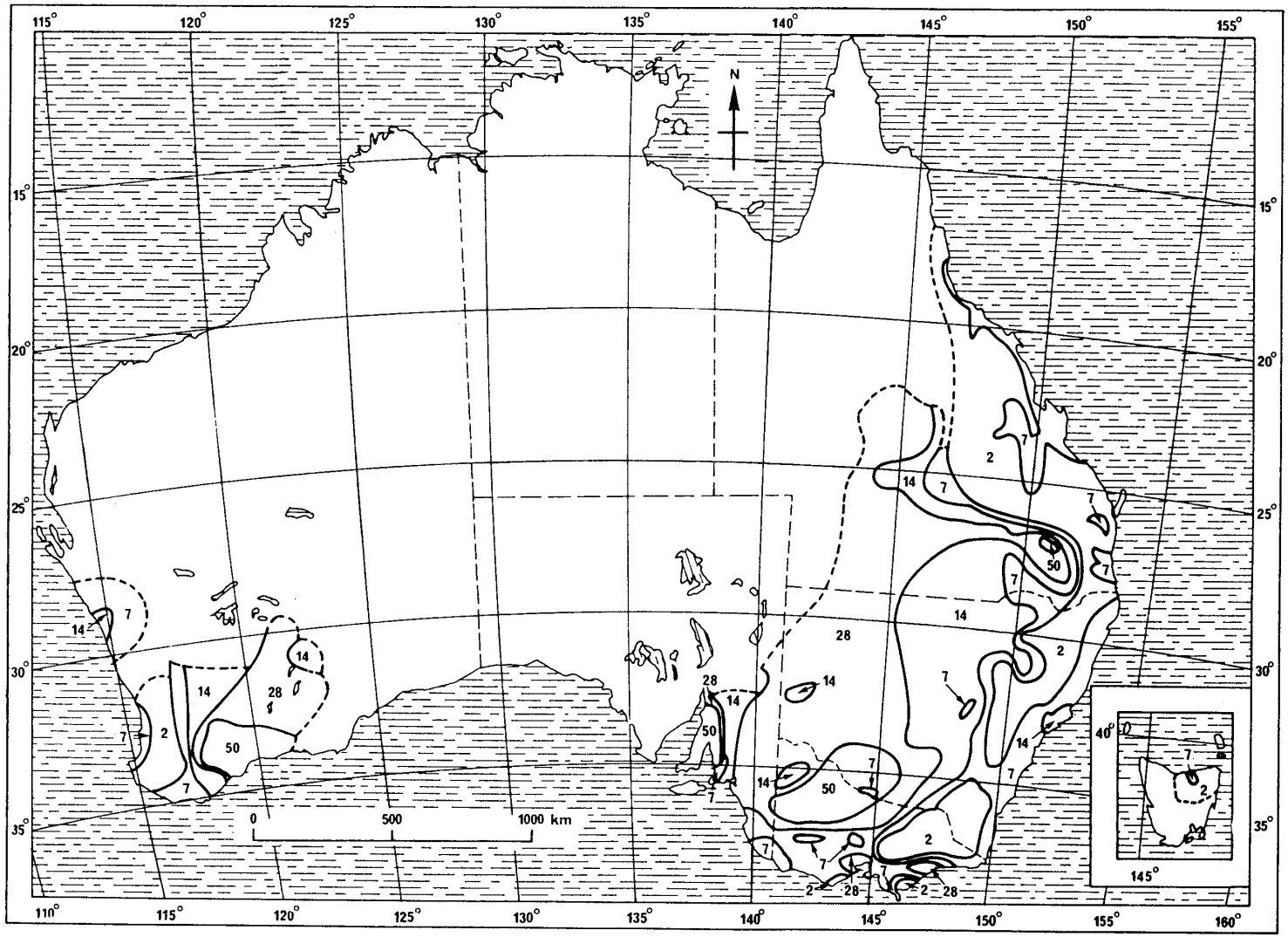

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FIGURE 40

New Zealand

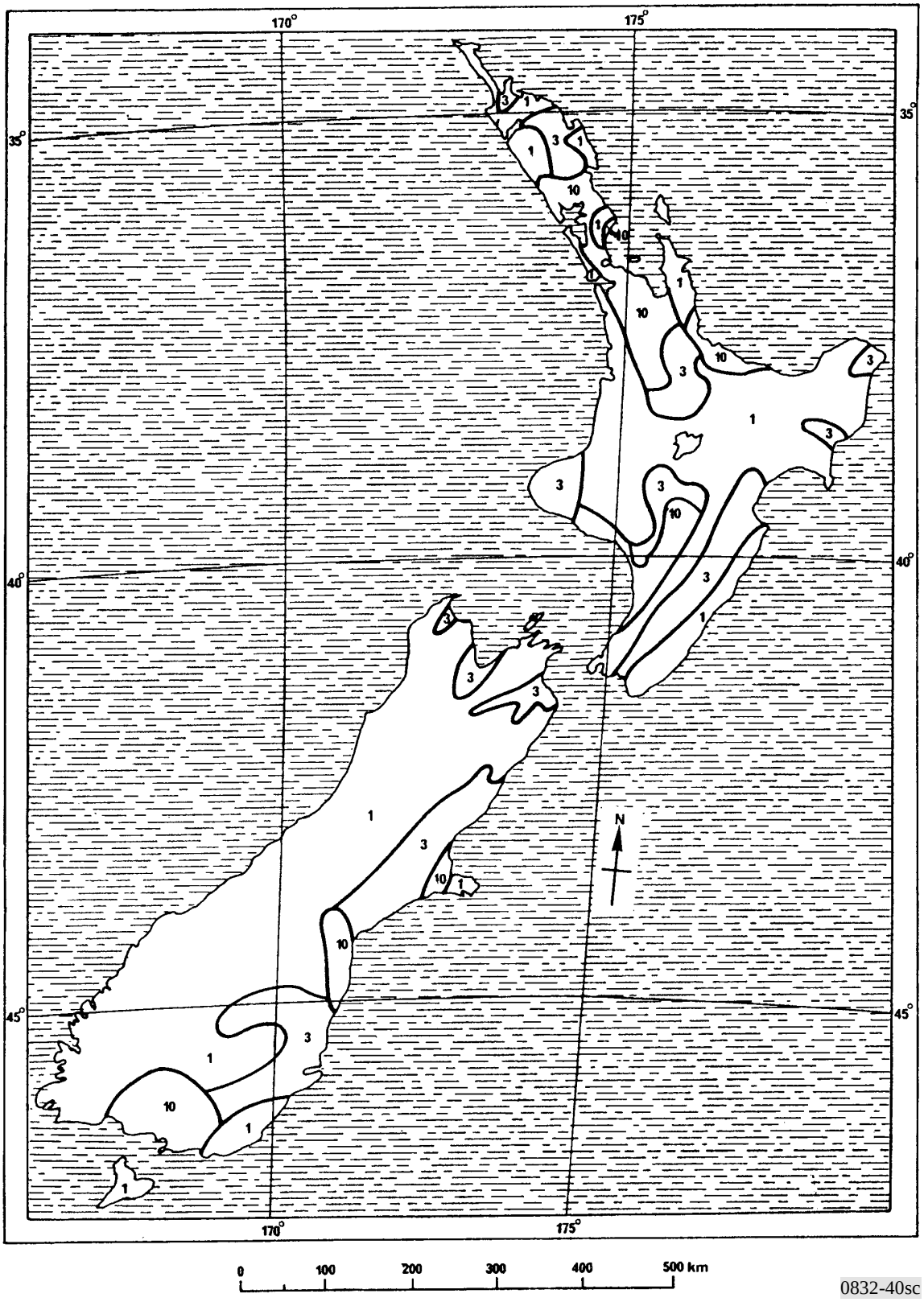
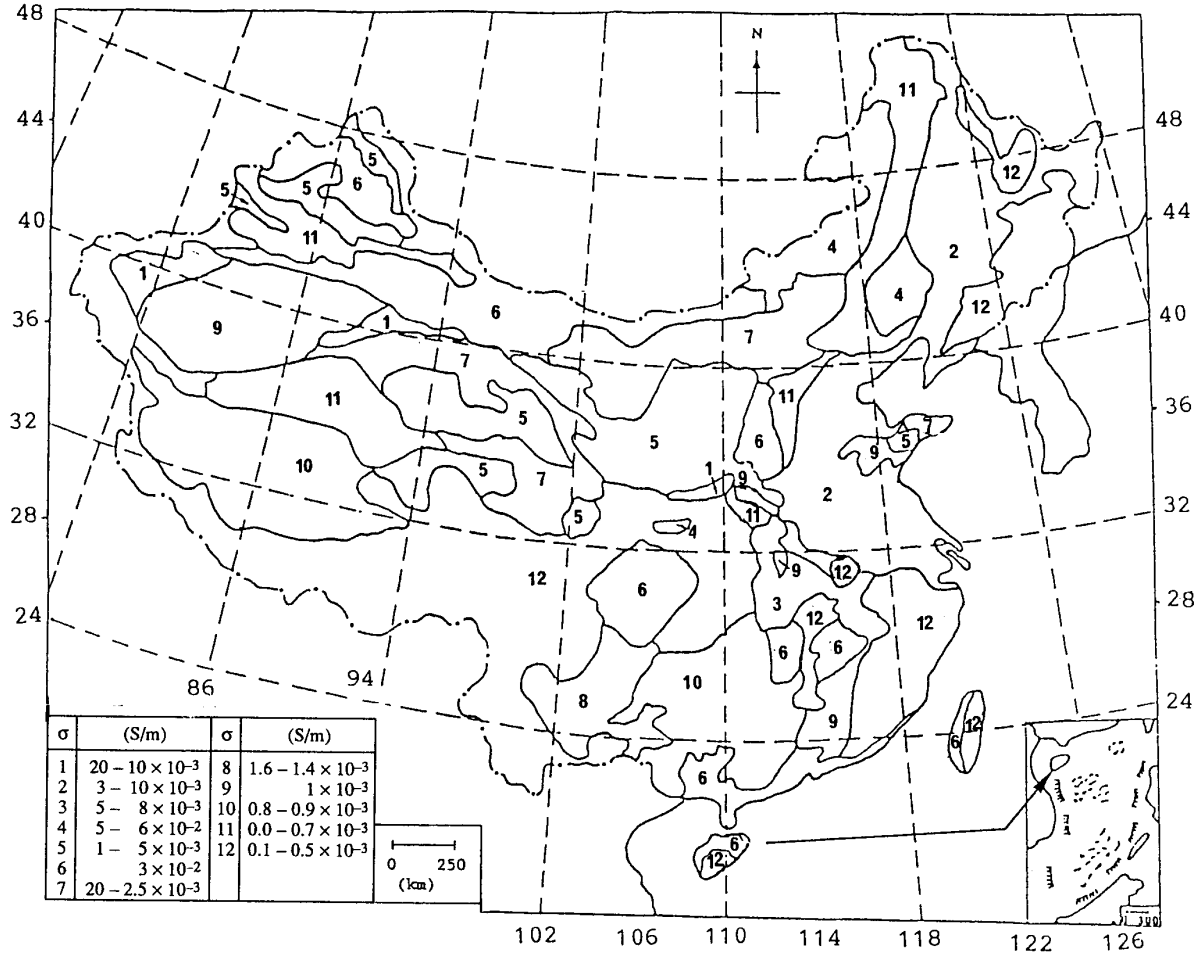


FIGURE 41

China* (People's Republic of)



* *Note 1* – The conductivity map of China is based on measurements of 100 kHz signals and checked by LORAN-C signals. The values are also applicable to the MF band.

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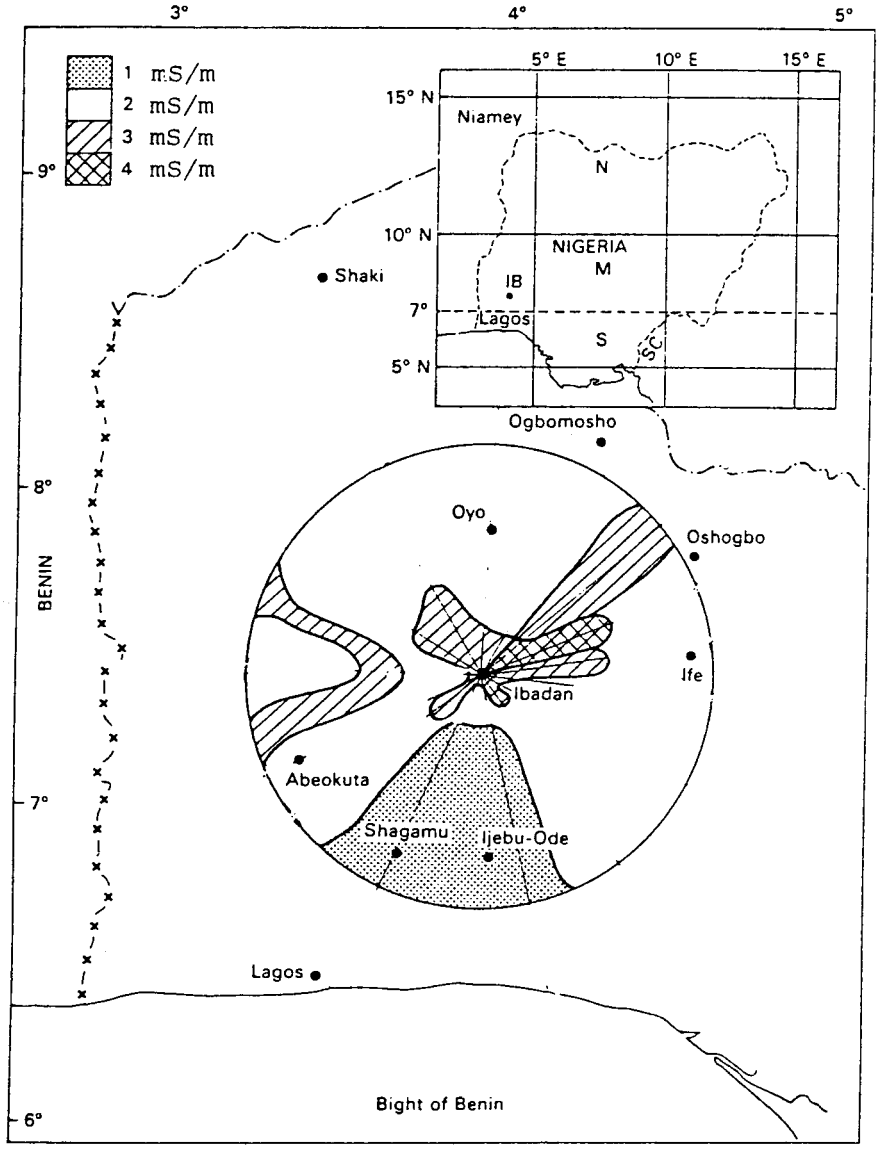
FIGURE 42

Nigeria (Federal Republic of)*



* *Note 1* – The partial conductivity map of Nigeria is taken from an article in the *ITU Telecommunication Journal*, Vol. 55-II/1988.

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TABLE 2

Measurement results for Afghanistan

Place of measurement	Longitude	Latitude	Frequency (kHz)	Ground conductivity (mS/m)
Kabul	69° 11′	34° 31′	660 1 280	7.5 9.0
Jalalabad	70° 27′	34° 26′	660 1 280	3.0
Gardez	69° 13′	33° 35′	660 1 280	2.0
Ghazni	68° 25′	33° 33′	660 1 280	2.5
Kandahar	65° 43′	31° 37′	840	1.0
Herat	62° 12′	34° 21′	630	1.0

FIGURE 43

Provisional MF conductivity map for land areas