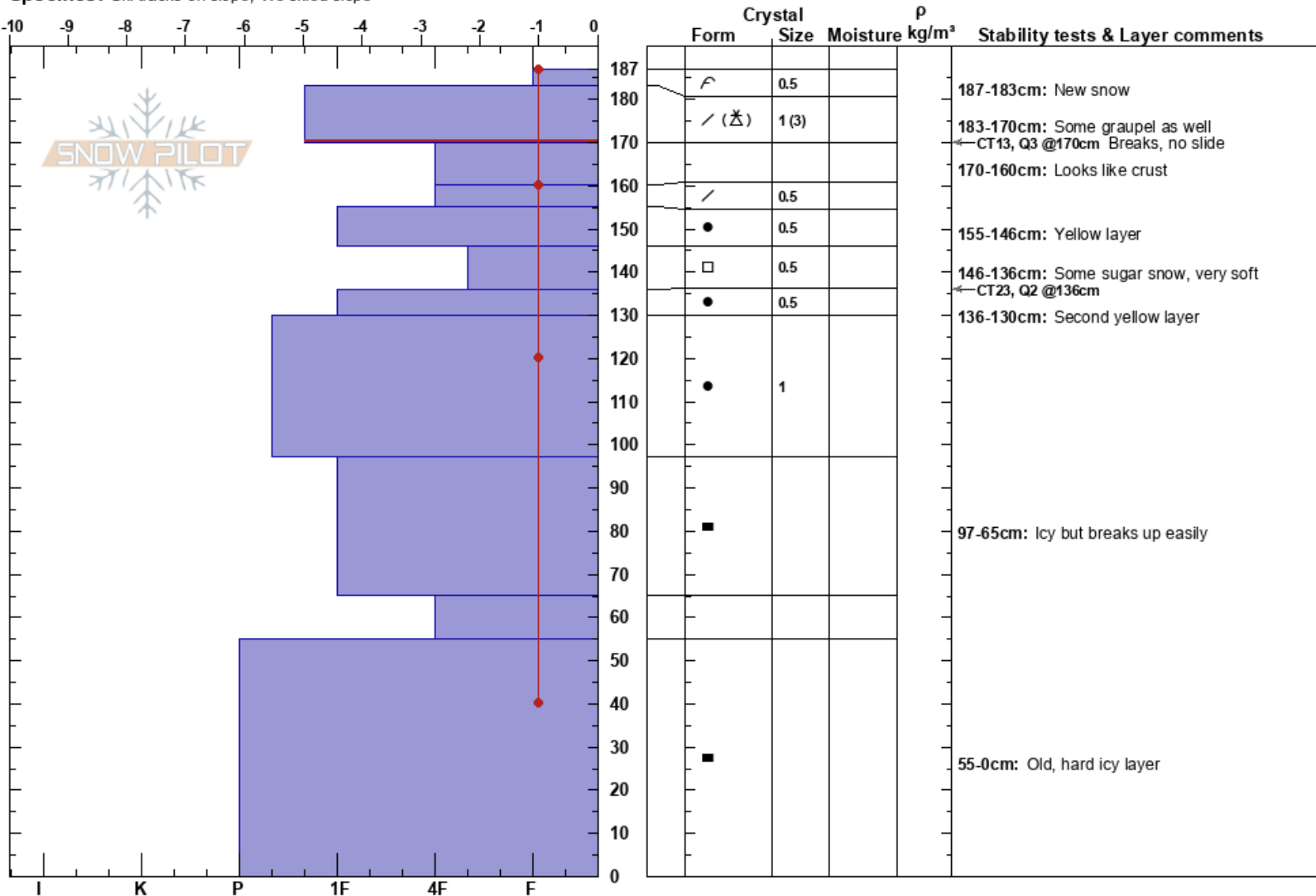


Bezbug Snowpit
 Pirin
 Bulgaria
 Elevation: 2338 m
 Aspect: N
 Specifics: Ski tracks on slope; We skied slope

Kalin Markov
 11/03/2023 - 16:05
 Co-ord: 41.72761N, 23.52226E
 Slope Angle: 31°
 Wind Loading: yes

Stability: Fair
 Air Temperature: -1°C
 Sky Cover: OVC
 Precipitation: S-1
 Wind: W Moderate

HS: 187
 Layer Notes:
 187-183cm: New snow
 183-170cm: Some graupel as well
 183-170cm: Problematic layer
 170-160cm: Looks like crust
 155-146cm: Yellow layer
 [More Layer Comments below]



Notes: Stability seems pretty good, but problematic layers present in the snow at around 170cm and 136cm (where the CT reacts), where there are sharp transitions in the hardness of the layers and also some graupel and sugary snow present.

Wind keeps changing its direction, but mainly from the west, varying from southwest to northwest and varying in strength. At times there is no wind at all, at other times strong gusts arrive which cause wind loading. Evidence of prior wind loading on the ridge towards Bezbug peak, due to southern winds creating cornices in the typical location at the start of the steep northern slope.

Wind generally dying down slowly, on and off snow of varying intensity and fog in the heavier snowbands.

Stability seems good considering what is present in the snow, and no avalanches from the last storm cycle are observed at this location or the next day (12.03) in the Todorka Peak region (photo from 3rd party does show a small slide on the southeast face of Vihren from 12.03, may be from the more direct sunlight there).

The snow column below the last breakoff point of the CT at 136cm is well bounded and can be taken out as a whole column without breaking apart.

There seems to be no or very little temperature gradient in the snow.

What is worrying are the layers which contain graupel and sugary snow, as well as the entire combination of those layers with crusts and huge differences in hardness between adjacent layers.

A large amount of heavy, wet or windloaded snow (or both) and an increase in temperatures, both of which could happen in the next week, could cause a rapid increase in danger and increase the likelihood for larger slides to occur.. Additional Layer Comments: 136-146cm: Some sugar snow, very soft; 130-136cm: Second yellow layer; 65-97cm: Icy but breaks up easily; 0-55cm: Old, hard icy layer;