

Rapport fra svensk-norsk redningsøvelse i Jordbrugrotta, Plurdalen, Mo i Rana 2

Swedish-Norwegian rescue exercise in Jordbrugrotta, Plurdalen, July 29, 2004.

In August 2002 Swedish and Norwegian cavers held a joint rescue exercise in Korallgrottan (NGB no. 40).

The purpose of the present exercise:

1. To increase the acquaintance among cavers and police from the Swedish and Norwegian side.
2. To confirm that joint Swedish-Norwegian cave rescue operations are feasible.
3. To establish an adequately working communication system above earth.
4. To try out the use of a dog to search for a missing person in a horizontal cave.

Additionally, 4 persons from the Norwegian Cave Rescue Service Response Team were to be cleared for in-and outlifting on a Sea King rescue helicopter.

Case: An injured person below the large potholes in Jordbrugrotta. Also, a missing person in the upper part of the cave. 40-50 cavers of different experience were involved. The "patient" was brought out at Sprutforsen in slightly less than 5 hours. In a real situation the operation would have been carried out in another way and with the involvement of much fewer cave rescuers.

Communication over and below earth went very well thanks to competent cable layers and to Norsk Radio Relae Liga (NRRL).

The main improvement potential was found in the organization of activities around the exit at Sprutforsen.

The dog, an English springer spaniel, immediately found the right entry and also the missing person after 60-70 meters. The assistance from a dog is mainly of value in long horizontal labyrinth systems, such as Okshola and Østdøren (a Tjorve entrance). The upper parts of Jordbrugrotta were tough for the dog.