Research Question: When do seeds break dormancy through the winter? Does the timing of breaking dormancy depend on (a) species cold stratification requirements, (b) local winter climate, and (c) snow conditions?

Hypotheses: The number of germinants and the rate of germination will increase through time into spring. Species with lower cold stratification requirements will break dormancy sooner, colder winter climates will take longer to break dormancy and snow reduction will reduce germination due to cold damage to seeds.