

Interactive comment on “Winter temperatures in the second half of the XVI century in the central area of the Iberian Peninsula” by T. Bullón

T. Bullón

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I want to thank the reviewer for his/her general opinion about the manuscript, and for the suggested corrections that helped to improve the first version.

I agree with the statement of the reviewer regarding the documentary richness of the Spanish archives. After searching and consulting documents in many of them, I think there is evidence that many more undiscovered documentary sources exist that could be valid resources for use in reconstructing climate histories, but finding them will require much exploratory work. Furthermore, temperature data is much more difficult to obtain. In general, the documents that were used in the study revealed that, in the late 16th century, temperature comparisons are not readily found, and pluviometric events were given priority over thermal ones. If this priority remained pertinent in later centuries, then it is possible that the reason why temperature was used less than

precipitation as a factor in historic climate reconstructions for Spain could be attributed more to a scarcity of data than to a lesser relevance of temperature in defining climate evolution.

Although documentary review is slow and complex, development in research on historical climate reconstructions in Spain could be accelerated if, in addition to promoting specialized studies, greater communication could be achieved among disciplines with similar objectives regarding the historical evolution of the natural world and its resources. The interconnection between climate conditions that contributed to the development of the Little Ice Age and the historical evolution of the periglacial and glacial dynamics in Spain could provide very interesting results for climatology and geomorphology, and also for the analysis of the human consequences resulting from climate changes. In fact, the close relationship between these factors is evidenced in numerous research studies on the History of Spain in the 16th and 17th centuries.

The observations of the reviewer on the data interpretation of wine production are extremely interesting to me, as is the suggested bibliography, and I greatly appreciate them. Although the study did not initially contemplate comparing data on wine production and winter temperatures, indeed a clear relationship was found. My interpretation of this finding is that the cold winter was so intense during the years studied, that the vineyards were unable to develop normally during the following growing period. More substantiated conclusions cannot be offered at this time, however, because the series is not complete and little is known about what the summer precipitation and temperature conditions were like.

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