

Interactive comment on “Documentary-derived chronologies of rainfall variability in Antigua, Lesser Antilles, 1770–1890” by A. J. Berland et al.

H. Diaz (Referee)

henry.f.diaz@noaa.gov

Received and published: 8 April 2013

The authors have done a thorough job of extracting climate information [specifically rainfall] from a multitude of documentary sources. They have also done a good job of establishing a consistent and credible scale to convert the written [qualitative] material into a semi-quantitative index. I commend the authors for their excellent work.

The only other comment I would offer is that it is sometimes difficult to associate specific periods or years of wet/dry conditions to large scales modes of climatic variability such as ENSO or NAO. For example, one particular period—1769–1771 is highlighted as having been a rather low rainfall period, but their connection to ENSO is for the most part inconsistent.

C363

I am attaching two documents—a published article in J. of Climate and its supplementary material for the authors' benefit.

I note that the supplementary material was supposed to be downloadable from the journal, but they failed to include in the html, so the only place to access this original material is from the NCDC/Paleo site in Boulder, CO.

The reason I attached the material is to show that no El Niño event during 1769–1771 was detected in the Peruvian archive source used to reconstruct an El Niño chronology.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.clim-past-discuss.net/9/C363/2013/cpd-9-C363-2013-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., 9, 1535, 2013.