

## ***Interactive comment on “Documentary data and the study of the past droughts: an overview of the state of the art worldwide” by Rudolf Brázdil et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #3**

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The paper "Documentary data and the study of the past droughts: an overview of the state of the art worldwide" by R. Brazdil et al. aims at presenting the state of the art for spatial-temporal analyses of droughts derived from documentary evidence. It gives an excellent overview of the topic discussing types of documentary sources, methods for reconstructing droughts from them, long-term drought series and related forcings and impacts and in my opinion it will give a valuable contribution to the special issue in which it is going to be published. The overall quality of the paper is excellent: even though it is very long it does not contain unnecessary information as the length of the paper reflects the huge amount of work the authors performed to review the state of the art of past drought analyses worldwide. This huge amount of work is also clear from the long and complete list of references that is provided in the paper. This paper will

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really be a milestone for anyone interested in past drought reconstruction. The paper is also well-organized which makes it easy to read in spite of the very large amount of information that is provided. I therefore think that the paper can be published in its present form and the only minor suggestion I give to the authors is to consider whether it is really necessary separating section 4.2 from section 4.1. The differences between the events discussed in these two sections are in fact not completely clear and the events discussed in sections 4.2 could also be moved to section 4.1.

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