

Interactive comment on “Human response to severe drought in Early Modern Catalonia. The case of Barcelona, Western Mediterranean (1620–1650)” by Santiago Gorostiza et al.

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Scientific significance:

The authors used a new interesting source, but is not clear its contribution to organize new data about climate of the past. Most part of data were already worked by previous studies. The novelty begins on line 413, always using the connections with the Llibre de les Fonts but without a truly contribution for the reconstruction of the climate in the past. It seems that this article could be more appropriate for a journal like “Ecology and Society” or Water History, about the long-term evolution of urban waters in an environmental perspective.

C1

Scientific quality

The methodology is appropriated when the authors used pre instrumental sources (such rogations) submitted to a well-known process of index construction (climatic context) The part 3 (3. Struggling for water supply in Barcelona) was much more descriptive, deserving a new methodology in order to organize the human response. Which response were given from different social classes, authorities, which impacts were felt in short and long-term?

Presentation quality The article must insert a plant of the town, the urban structure, the visualization of the space and the main points of water supply. Bibliography about the demographic evolution (showing the decline of the city - a 17th century) in order to prove how the Llibre de les Fonts was a preventive measure. The second part needs an organization of information in figures in order to assemble the evidences. The writing English much be organized because there are repetitions of ideas.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<https://www.clim-past-discuss.net/cp-2020-33/cp-2020-33-RC1-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/cp-2020-33>, 2020.

C2