



Documentary data in the study of past climate (Brückner-Preisträger 2018)

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Starting from the definition of historical climatology, the paper shows basic documentary data sources (individual and institutional) and methods of climate reconstruction. Temperature and precipitation reconstructions based on series of temperature/precipitation indices or series of phenological data (winter wheat and grape harvest dates) from AD 1501 are presented on the example of the Czech Lands. Use of documentary data in the analysis of floods, droughts and windstorms is further shown. Finally, the importance of documentary evidence in the study of past climate and hydrometeorological extremes is stressed.