



Information on severe storms in newspapers from the 19th century

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To better understand the climatology of severe storms in Romania and to reduce the current threat associated with these events, we need to develop long-term databases. Beyond the instrumental period, valuable information can be retrieved from man-made archives including manuscripts, books, diaries, newspapers, navigation logs, clerical documents, pictures/drawings or inscriptions. The use of newspaper and magazine articles as a proxy for historic climate reconstruction have been also successfully employed in climate reconstructions in different parts of the world. This study exploits the results of a comprehensive screening of meteorological events including heavy rains, extreme temperatures, snow, storms, hail, thunder, lightning, floods, droughts reported in the newspapers of the late two decades of the 19th century, aiming to enrich the availability of meteorological data Romania. The findings have been assembled in a data base including about 2,500 entries. It is geospatial and temporal information about the meteorological phenomena and their consequences, and the focus on severe stormrs is presented here. The events were compared with instrumental data from the closest weather stations and other sources to cross-validate their accuracy and credibility. The results show that newspapers are a valuable source of historical meteorological information related to severe phenomena that can refine and reconstruct the late 19th century climate.