



Meteorology in the Middle Ages, Part II - The Discovery of America and Downslope Windstorms

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Documents written in Iceland and Norway in the Middle Ages contain profound information on meteorology and weather forecasting

At the EGU in 2009, we explained how Egil's saga reveals that scholars in the 13th century were well informed about the dynamics of katabatic flows vs. the land breeze.

Now, we explore the King's Mirror, the sagas of the Greenlanders and Laxdaela saga and show how navigators used their knowledge of airmasses and persistence of weather to navigate across the Atlantic. We furthermore reveal some lack of knowledge in mountain meteorology, but present the probably oldest documentation of a downslope windstorm.