

Kiel Workshop (27th-28th of November 2019)

Millet and What Else? The Wider Context of the Adoption of Millet Cultivation in Europe

The start of millet cultivation in Iberia

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Abstract

During Bronze Age, the importance of millets is low for the Iberian Peninsula when comparing the available find assemblages. In STIKA & HEISS 2013 (both articles in “The Oxford Handbook of the European Bronze Age” and in “Studien zur nordeuropäischen Bronzezeit Bd. 1”) a general overview on crop cultivation in Europe is given. While in other parts of Europe millets, especially broomcorn millet, became an important cereal towards Late Bronze Age, there are only few hints for Iberia. Unfortunately the report on the site of Masada de Ratón (Fraga, Baix Cinca), situated inland in north-eastern Spain (ALONSO I MARTÍNEZ 1999), does not give plant lists of finds separating between Middle and Late Bronze Age. This site yielded the most Bronze Age millet finds of the whole Iberian Peninsula: foxtail millet 485 finds and broomcorn millet 66 finds. In a yet unpublished crop evaluation for Iberia from Chalcolithic, Early -, Middle -, Late - and Final Bronze Age sites, all published as well as unpublished crop data of N. Alonso i Martínez, Guillem Pérez Jordá, H.-P. Stika & A. G. Heiss are used to come to a more regional pattern which gets presented in the Kiel Millet Workshop.

Literature:

ALONSO I MARTÍNEZ N. 1999, De la Llabor a la Farina, Els Processos Arícoles Protohistòrics a la Catalunya Occidental. Monographies d'Archéologie Méditerranéenne. Lattes: CNRS Éditions 1999.

STIKA H-P & A. G. HEISS 2013a, Plant Cultivation in the Bronze Age. Chapter 19 in H. Fokkens & A. Harding (eds.), The Oxford Handbook of the European Bronze Age, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 348-369.

STIKA H-P & A. G. HEISS 2013b, Bronzezeitliche Landwirtschaft in Europa – Der Versuch einer Gesamtdarstellung des Forschungsstandes. In: K.-H. Willroth (ed.), Siedlungen der älteren Bronzezeit – Beiträge zur Siedlungsarchäologie und Paläoökologie des zweiten vorchristlichen Jahrtausends in Südkandinavien, Norddeutschland und den Niederlanden (Studien zur nordeuropäischen Bronzezeit Bd. 1). Wachholtz Verlag, Neumünster, 189-222.