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## 7. Roman Amphorae from the Basilika and the Prytaneion

### 7.1 Introduction

In this short paper, I describe the stamped amphorae of the Roman period<sup>1</sup>. In addition to the Greek Hellenistic stamped amphorae, only five Roman fragments were retained from the excavation. They belong to three Italian types. Similar ones – without stamps – have been found in other parts of Ephesus. I have also included in the catalogue one stamped amphora of early Roman imperial date from the region of Ephesus.

### 7.2 The Amphorae

The Agora F 65/66 type (**AR 1**) jar has the imprint of a gem with the profile of a youth head. The fragment comes from a type of one-handled jar that was first isolated in the fill of Cistern N19:1 (ROBINSONS group F) in the Athenian Agora<sup>2</sup>. This type is the earliest form of a series which was produced from the middle of the first century BC to the fourth century AD. The two-handled version<sup>3</sup> was in production from the fourth until the sixth century AD. These vessels rarely have stamps; however, there is another stamp on a jar of this type found in excavation in the Tetragonos Agora in Ephesus<sup>4</sup>. The Agora F 65/66 vessels have micaceous fabric. Some of them, including AR 1, were probably made near Ephesus. The one-handled vessels are supposed to have been produced in number of workshops in the coastal areas of Asia Minor.

Two of the Italian wine amphorae belong to the Lamboglia 2 and one to the Dressel 6A types. The Lamboglia 2 amphorae have LICIN (**AR 2**) and DAM (**AR 3**) stamps. The rim of the Dressel 6A amphora has a S.L.E.[P] (**AR 4**) stamp. Both types of amphora contained Adriatic wine. The Lamboglia 2 amphorae were produced from the end of the second century BC to the last third of the first century BC when they were replaced by the Dressel 6A type. A Lamboglia 2 amphora with LICIN stamp was also found in excavations among the objects of the Tetragonos Agora<sup>5</sup>. The stamps are not the same. The LICIN stamp is known from Italy and France, Vieille-Toulouse<sup>6</sup>. The DAM stamp is known from Athens<sup>7</sup>, Magdalensberg<sup>8</sup> and perhaps Pompeii<sup>9</sup>. The Lamboglia 2 amphorae were thought to have contained olive oil. However, *tituli picti* and the examination of amphorae from shipwrecks proved that they contained wine<sup>10</sup>.

Some of the formal characteristics of the Dressel 6A amphorae are similar to those of the Lamboglia 2 amphorae. The fragments are hard to distinguish because even their fabrics are similar. The workshops must have been often the same. The S.L.E.[P] stamp (AR 4) is known from Italy (Aquileia, Padova, Calvatone) and

<sup>1</sup> I would like to thank Veronika MITSOPOULOS-LEON for the invitation to work on this material and Claudia LANG-AUINGER for the excavation data, and Clementina PANELLA for comments on the stamps (AR 4 and AR 5) and providing me with unpublished parallels. Special thanks to my brother Gábor BEZECZKY who translated my manuscript and Ágnes VÁRI who made my drawings for press. I would like to thank Mark LAWALL for correcting the English text.

<sup>2</sup> ROBINSON 1959, 17, pl. 41; RILEY 1979, 183–186; LEMAITRE 1997, 311–319; LANG 1955, 277–278.

<sup>3</sup> ROBINSON 1959, M373; RILEY 1979, 229; PANELLA 1973, 460–462; FULFORD – PEACOCK 1984, 12; PEACOCK – WILLIAMS 1986, 188; LUND 1993, 125.

<sup>4</sup> A handle fragment among the Agora pieces (Ki 00/076 – 1347), stamp: ελ(...).

<sup>5</sup> BEZECZKY 2001, no. 5, T 2,3.

<sup>6</sup> CIL XII 5683.162 Vieille-Toulouse = CALLENDER 1965, 867c, but there is no information as to the position of the stamp on the vessel.

<sup>7</sup> JÖHRENS 1999, 262, no. 889.

<sup>8</sup> EGGER 1963, 93, no. 4, Abb. 50; BEZECZKY 1998, 228.

<sup>9</sup> CIL X. 8049.14 = CALLENDER 1965, no. 511 (AM).

<sup>10</sup> TCHERNIA 1986, 131–132; FORMENTI – HESNARD – TCHERNIA 1978, 95–100.

Carthage<sup>11</sup>. The stratified contexts and the painted consular inscriptions indicate that Dressel 6A amphorae were produced from the 30s BC until the 40s AD in the western Mediterranean<sup>12</sup>. Two amphorae<sup>13</sup> from Magdalensberg can be dated to AD 38 on the basis of the painted inscription, while another consular inscription<sup>14</sup> suggests a date of AD 36. It would appear that Dressel 6A amphorae were not manufactured after the 40s of the first century AD. This is also confirmed by other archaeological information<sup>15</sup>. The standard contents of the Dressel 6A amphorae are often debated. These amphorae contained wine (*mulsum*)<sup>16</sup>. An exceptional inscription in Salzburg refers to fish sauce<sup>17</sup>. Most Dressel 6A amphorae must have contained wine since the inner surface of many pieces is coated with resin, which is a distinctive feature of the wine amphorae.

A Dressel 2/4 amphora (**AR 5**) was found in the area of Basilika Stoa between the water supply and the Stylobate. This is a very small fragment with only a part of the stamp. The stamp has two lines: LIVI.CAVS... / SV., '[M.] Livi Caus[tri] / Su[r](us)'. The name on the stamp, Marcus Livius Caustrius, may belong to a well-known gens in the Naples bay area<sup>18</sup> (Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Sorrento). On the handle there is another stamp which has the name of a slave: Sur(us). On other stamps of Marcus Livius Caustrius the name of another slave occurs: Amp(hio). The amphora stamps of M.LIVI.CAVSTR also occur at Pompeii, Ostia, Carthage, Vindonissa, Masada (Israel), and Mathura (Uttar Pradesh, India)<sup>19</sup>.

There is an interesting relationship between the Marcus Livius Caustrius amphora fragment and another Dressel 2/4 amphora fragment which was also found near the Staatsmarkt<sup>20</sup>. This has the LICCA stamp, with the double C in ligature. These stamps are known in a number of places, but they co-occur together only on the 'Gran Ribout D' shipwreck<sup>21</sup> along the French coast. The different types of amphora and the Arretine ware date the wreck to the last decade of the first century BC<sup>22</sup>.

There is only one Lamboglia 2 handle fragment with Latin stamp (**AR 6**) among the amphorae of the Prytaneion. The CADMVS (A–D in ligature) stamp is known from Magdalensberg and Italy<sup>23</sup>. The amphorae with the DAM and CADMVS stamps belong to the late period of the of the Lamboglia 2 type. This explains their presence at Magdalensberg. The CADMVS stamp in Ephesus is the same as the one at Magdalensberg. The fragment is so small that there is no other way of comparison.

These amphorae contained wine, with the possible exception of the Agora F65/66 type, the content of which is not known. The Italian amphorae in the Basilika Stoa represent types that are fairly frequently found at Ephesus. There are more Lamboglia 2 amphorae in the Tetragonos Agora than other types from the western Mediterranean. Dressel 6A and Dressel 2/4 amphorae are also present in Ephesus, both in the Hanghaus 2 and in the Tetragonos Agora, but never in great numbers<sup>24</sup>.

A number of Italian and Punic wine and olive oil amphorae reached Ephesus from the end of the second century BC. The variety of products and imported amphora types grew considerable during the Augustan period. For example, in addition to wine and oil, fish sauce came from Spain and northern Africa and, fruit arrived from southern Italy. However, the proportion of the imported foodstuffs, estimated on the basis of the western amphorae compared with the total assemblage, may not have been more than 10 to 20 percent. Most of the amphorae came from the neighbourhood regions and from the western coast of Asia Minor, and very few came from mainland Greece, Crete, Egypt and Cyprus.

<sup>11</sup> CIL VIII, 22637.59 = CALLENDER 1965, No. 1632

<sup>12</sup> CARRE 1985, 214–217; TCHERNIA 1986, 130–133.

<sup>13</sup> PICCOTTINI 1997, 204–205, fig. 96.

<sup>14</sup> CIL XV 4582; CARRE 1985, 213.

<sup>15</sup> BEZECZKY 1994, 32–34. 123–124, in Pannonia this type occurs only in those sites of the Amber route that had earlier belonged to Noricum. There are no similar vessels in the eastern part of the province which became part of the Empire under Claudius.

<sup>16</sup> CIL XV 4653. 4666. 4582. 4583. 4852; ZEVI 1966, 217–218; ZEVI 1967, 30–31; CARRE 1985, 223–224.

<sup>17</sup> HEGGER 1974, 132–135, Abb. 1.

<sup>18</sup> HESNARD u. a 1988, 50. 51–53.

<sup>19</sup> PANELLA – FANO 1977, 157, fig. 15; TCHERNIA – ZEVI 1972, 40, note 3, fig. 3; DELATTRE 1894, 113–114, no. 32; ETTLINGER 1959–1960, fig. 11; BLANC–BIJON u. a. 1998, nos. 801–805.

<sup>20</sup> MERIÇ, Schachtbrunnen, 89, T 44 and 98. I am grateful to R. MERIÇ that I could study the amphora.

<sup>21</sup> HESNARD et al. 1988, 49–67; PARKER 1992, 477–478.

<sup>22</sup> HESNARD et al. 1988, 76. 145; PARKER 1992, 477.

<sup>23</sup> EGGER 1969, 365, no. 4, Abb. 49; BEZECZKY 1998, 228; CIL IX, 6080.7a–b Civitella Casanova.

<sup>24</sup> BEZECZKY 2001, 11, nos. 7–9.

## 7.3 Catalogue

- AR 1 Agora F65/66** (Taf. 13 und 64)  
 InvNr. 7137, Ki 25/1968  
 FO: Basilika, S 4/68  
 Erh.: Handle frg.  
 Stempel: figural, head in a profile  
 Farbe: red (10YR 5/6), hard, fine micaceous fabric, small white inclusions  
 Maße: H = 2.7 cm, HSt = 3.4 x 1.7 cm
- AR 2 Lamboglia 2** (Taf. 13 und 64)  
 Ki 62/1964  
 FO: Basilika  
 Erh.: Rim neck, handle frg.  
 Stempel: LICIN  
 Farbe: pink (5YR 7/4–7.5YR 7/4); surface: very pale brown (10YR7/3)  
 Maße: HDm = 18.1 cm, RSt = 2.7 cm, Hh = 3.4 cm, H = 14.5 cm
- AR 3 Lamboglia 2** (Taf. 13 und 64)  
 InvNr. 7115, Ki 94/1968  
 FO: Basilika, S 8/68, –1.7 m  
 Erh.: Rim neck, handle frg.  
 Stempel: DAM, A–M ligature  
 Farbe: pink (7.5YR 7/4–8/4)  
 Maße: HDm = 13.8 cm, RSt = 2.6 cm, Hh = 5.2 cm, H = 14.5 cm
- AR 4 Dressel 6A** (Taf. 13 und 64)  
 Ki 50/1964  
 FO: Basilika, B 2 N-Teil 33.55 m  
 Erh.: Rim, neck frg.  
 Stempel: S.L.E.[F]  
 Farbe: very pale brown (10YR 8/4)  
 Maße: HDm = 20 cm, RSt = 2.6 cm, Hh = 4.6 cm, H = 8.4 cm
- AR 5 Dressel 2/4** (Taf. 13 und 64)  
 InvNr. 1029  
 FO: Basilika  
 Erh.: Handle frg.  
 Stempel: ...LIVI.CAVS... / SV., '[M.] Livi Caus[tri] / Su[r](us)'  
 Ton: 'black sand' fabric<sup>25</sup>, with visible black and green volcanic grains; the surface is of rough, soft fabric  
 Farbe: red (10R 5/6); surface: pinkish white–pinkish gray (7.5YR 8/2–7/2)  
 Maße: H = 5.1 cm, HSt = 5.1 x 2.6 cm
- AR 6 Lamboglia 2** (Taf. 13 und 64)  
 Ki 6i/1969  
 FO: Prytaneion, S 26/69  
 Erh.: Handle frg.  
 Stempel: CADMVS (A–D in ligature)  
 Farbe: red (10R 5/8)  
 Maße: H = 4.2 cm

<sup>25</sup> PEACOCK – WILLIAMS 1986, the Campanian 'black sand' fabric described under Class 3.