



QUADERNI FRIULANI DI ARCHEOLOGIA



ANNO XXV - N. 1 - DICEMBRE 2015

QUADERNI FRIULANI DI ARCHEOLOGIA

Pubblicazione annuale della Società Friulana di Archeologia - numero XXV - anno 2015
Autorizzazione Tribunale di Udine: Lic. Trib. 30-90 del 09-11-1990

© Società Friulana di Archeologia

Torre di Porta Valtorta - via Micesio 2 - 33100 Udine
tel./fax: 0432/26560 - e-mail: sfaud@archeofriuli.it
www.archeofriuli.it

ISSN 1122-7133

Direttore responsabile: *Maurizio Buora*

Comitato scientifico internazionale: *Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dragan Božič* (Institut za arheologijo ZRC SAZU - Ljubljana, Slovenia); *Dr. Christof Flügel* (Oberkonservator Bayerisches Landesamt für Denkmalpflege, Landesstelle für die nichtstaatlichen Museen in Bayern, Referat Archäologische und naturwissenschaftliche Museen – München, Germania); *Univ. Doz. Mag. Dr. Stefan Groh* (Stellvertretender Direktor - Fachbereichsleiter Zentraleuropäische Archäologie; Österreichisches Archäologisches Institut - Zentrale Wien, Austria)

Segreteria-redazione: *Massimo Lavarone*

Si ringrazia Sandra Ward per la revisione dei testi in lingua inglese.

In copertina: *anello in ambra dalla tomba Ritter IX di Monastero di Aquileia* (da RITTER VON ZÁHONY 1889)

Editing, stampa e distribuzione: Editreg di Fabio Prenc - sede operativa via Giacomo Matteotti 8 - 34138 Trieste
tel./fax ++39/40/362879 – e-mail: editreg@libero.it

Finito di stampare nel mese di giugno 2016
presso presso *Lithostampa srl*
via Colloredo 126 - 33037 Pasian di Prato (UD)

Pubblicazione realizzata con il sostegno di



Tutti i diritti riservati.

È vietata la riproduzione del testo e delle illustrazioni senza il permesso scritto dell'editore.



Museo Archeologico Nazionale di Aquileia

Le riprese e le riproduzioni dei beni di proprietà dello Stato italiano, in consegna al Polo Museale del Friuli Venezia Giulia, sono state realizzate su concessione del Ministero per i Beni e le Attività culturali, tramite l'ufficio periferico.

È vietata l'ulteriore riproduzione e duplicazione con ogni mezzo senza l'autorizzazione dei proprietari dei beni..

INDICE

SCAVARE NEI MUSEI ELEMENTI DI NOVITÀ E QUESTIONI DI METODO
(AQUILEIA, 7 GIUGNO 2013)

Paola VENTURA, Adriana COMAR, Flavio COSSAR†, Stefano SCUZ, <i>Gli archivi del Museo Archeologico Nazionale di Aquileia: da documenti per la conoscenza a patrimonio storico</i>	p. 7
Laura GERRI, Stefano MAGNANI, <i>Gli scavi per la realizzazione delle moderne fognature di Aquileia (1968-1972): ricostruzione del percorso</i>	p. 17
Maurizio BUORA, <i>Nuove osservazioni sulle attività artigianali ad Aquileia, con particolare riferimento alla lavorazione del ferro e del vetro</i>	p. 27
Patrizia DONAT, <i>Terra sigillata gallica in Italia nordorientale. Dalle collezioni museali alle scoperte recenti</i>	p. 39
Annalisa GIOVANNINI, <i>Aquileia. Corredi funerari della collezione Eugen Ritter von Záhony</i>	p. 53
Flaviana ORIOLO, <i>L'apporto delle fonti d'archivio per la ricostruzione di un contesto domestico aquileiese</i>	p. 67
Massimo CAPULLI, Alessandro PELLEGRINI, <i>Una lanterna in bronzo dallo scavo nel "carico" della Iulia Felix</i>	p. 73
Elena PETTENÒ, Roberta PAULETTO, <i>Scavare nei Musei. Appunti, note e osservazioni circa le planimetrie del "Sepolcreto delle Milizie"</i>	p. 79
Silvia CIPRIANO, Giovanna Maria SANDRINI, <i>Fra Altinum e Iulia Concordia: esperienze metodologiche e risultati a confronto dallo scavo nei magazzini e negli archivi</i>	p. 95
Alessandra MENEGAZZI, <i>Scavare nel museo. 'Rinvenimenti' al Museo di Scienze archeologiche e d'Arte in occasione del nuovo allestimento</i>	p. 105
Margherita BOLLA, <i>"Scavi" nei musei Maffeiano e Archeologico di Verona</i>	p. 109
Ana KONESTRA, <i>Ricerche nei musei della Liburnia settentrionale (Quarnero, Croazia): potenzialità, nuove attestazioni e aggiornamenti sulla diffusione di alcune tipologie ceramiche</i>	p. 117
Boštjan LAHARNAR, <i>Il castelliere Gradišče na Čepni (Notranjska, Slovenia sudoccidentale): l'interpretazione dei reperti</i>	p. 123
Goranka LIPOVAC VRKLJAN, Ivana OŽANIĆ ROGULJIĆ, <i>Approach to the study of ceramic material from the workshop of Sextus Metilius Maximus (Crikvenica - Igralište, Croatia)</i>	p. 129

RINVENIMENTI E STUDI TERRITORIALI

Barbara CINAUSERO HOFER, Ermanno DENTESANO, <i>Misincinis: una etimologia da approfondire</i>	p. 137
Giulia BARATTA, <i>L'ira divina su un rilievo di Aquileia</i>	p. 143
Marc MAYER I OLIVÉ, <i>Boletanus CIL V, 8431 y CIL II, 5843 y 5846: ¿una simple coincidencia onomástica?</i>	p. 153
Sever-Petru BOȚAN, Dan APARASCHIVEI, <i>Late Roman Blob-Decorated Glassware from Scythia Minor</i>	p. 159
Florian SCHIMMER, <i>Flussi commerciali in Raetia. Le anfore di Cambodunum (Kempten, Baviera)</i> ..	p. 173
Roberto GUERRA, <i>Attività di esplorazione e ricognizione in Roma antica: gli exploratores e gli speculatores</i>	p. 179
Fabio PRENC, <i>Arrodola Nuova (Comune di Torviscosa). "Nuovi" rinvenimenti di età romana</i>	p. 185
Carla CORTI, <i>Cornici in piombo per specchi: nuovi rinvenimenti dall'Aemilia</i>	p. 189
Donatella SALVI, <i>La tomba 100 di Pill'e Matta e altri militari nella necropoli tardoantica di Quarcucciu (CA)</i>	p. 195
Norme per gli Autori	p. 209
Elenco delle pubblicazioni della Società Friulana di Archeologia	p. 211

LATE ROMAN BLOB-DECORATED GLASSWARE FROM SCYTHIA MINOR *

Sever-Petru *BOȚAN*, Dan *APARASCHIVEI*

I. THE GLASSWARE DECORATED WITH BLOBS: SOME CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING ITS DIFFUSION AND CHRONOLOGY

The glass vessels decorated with blue or green “drops”, known in scientific literature as “Nuppengläser”, are counted among the most representative products of the Late Roman glass industry. The source of inspiration for the decoration with colored glass blobs, applied under heating, must be sought in the desire of the glass-makers to imitate gold and silver dishes with gem-stone inlays¹. A very interesting item, belonging to the Early Roman period, can represent the missing link (Pl. I/1). It is a cobalt blue glass beaker blown in a silver casing, found at Brindisi in Italy, and dated to the 1st century AD². Although no direct connection can be made with later pieces in terms of shape or decorative techniques, this beaker appears to be the first item in which glass was meant to be a substitute of gem stones or semi-precious stones. It is also very interesting to notice that similar patterns of decoration occur also on ceramic *vasa potoria* in use for a long period, from the time of Augustus (Pl. I/2) to the Early Medieval time (Pl. I/3)³.

The blue-blob decoration occurs mainly on three types of glass vessels: 1. hemispherical cups with slightly flattened bottom (Isings, form 96a-AR form 66.2); 2 conical beakers (Isings, form 106b) and 3. lamps with a conical base (Isings, form 106d). This typology is used for most classifications of these vessels, along with the shape and decorative layout⁴. The most common are the hemispherical cups that appear beginning with the second half of the 3rd century AD, being widespread mainly in the western half of the Roman Empire⁵.

The glass vessels with blob decoration are extremely widespread throughout the Roman Empire and even beyond its borders, as a proof that they were produced in many local workshops⁶. In our opinion, one can highlight some broad production areas, taking into account the decorative and typological features of the artifacts. Thus, we can observe a Gallic-Rhine area with various shapes and a decorative pattern made of larger drops (some of them navel-shaped), of elaborate diversely coloured decoration (Pl. I/4)⁷. The adjoining decoration sometimes includes thin polished lines or coloured glass filaments specific to Western workshops⁸. The main centers of production were the North Gallic workshops but also the workshops of Cologne or Trier, where numerous finds of this kind occur⁹.

Furthermore, a workshop was reported in the territory of Aquileia, in Sevegliano¹⁰ and it would therefore be possible that these glasses were manufactured as well in this area¹¹.

Another region, of particular interest for our study, is the Balkan-Pannonian plain. Here the glass vessels decorated with blobs are highly prevalent in funerary

contexts, discoveries of this kind being documented at *Brigetio*, Sopron, Regöly, Dunaújváros, Tápe-Malajdok, Budapest¹² and Ságvár¹³.

László Barkóczi identifies three distinct groups of vitric material in the Pannonian necropolises, differentiated by the shape of the lip (cut straight, slightly flared) and by the decorative variations¹⁴. The best analogies for the pieces presented in this study can be found in Group II, dating from the end of the 4th century to the first two decades of the 5th century AD¹⁵.

We pinpoint the presence of these vessels in Serbia – at Sremska Mitrovica, Banostar, Batina, Tekija, Belgrad, Cezava, Gračanica, Karatas¹⁶, Kostolac¹⁷, Rtkovo-Glamjia¹⁸ or the Iron Gates region¹⁹, in Croatia – at Ludbreg, Popov Dol, Sisak, Virovitica and Zmajevac²⁰, in Slovenia – at *Emona*, Ravno brdo, Ptuj, Martinij Hrib or Hrušica²¹, in Bulgaria – at *Nicopolis ad Istrum*²², *Iatrus-Krivina*²³ and Karausura²⁴ and even in Greece – at Thessaloniki, Thasos²⁵, Duklja-Solinos²⁶, Corinth²⁷ or the Athenian Agora²⁸.

As it can be noticed from the list above, the glass vessels decorated with blobs are a constant presence in most of the late Roman archaeological sites in the Balkans. The predominant type is the hemispherical cup – Isings 96a, made of good quality thin olive-green glass with variable height and diameter. Together with the conical beakers of Isings 106b type, these cups were the main category of drinking vessels in the 4th-5th centuries AD, but it is likely that some of them might have been used as lamps.

The next area of production and dissemination of these vessels is the North Black Sea region, where numerous discoveries of this kind have been made, especially in funerary contexts. By investigating a group of more than 70 items of this type, Nina Sorokina classified the North-Pontic discoveries into three groups (with variations), based on shape and decoration (Pl. II/2). Moreover, the Soviet researcher considered that most of the items were locally produced between the 4th century and the middle of the 5th century AD²⁹.

In the northern Black Sea region, these glass vessels were discovered in *Panticapaeum*³⁰, *Tauric-Chersonessos*³¹, *Tiritake*, *Charax*, *Hermonassa*³², *Tanais*³³, *Pharnagoria*³⁴ and Dyurso-Novorossiisk³⁵, while in the North-Eastern part of the Black Sea (in nowadays Georgia), glassware decorated with blue blobs were found in the Kodori Valley³⁶.

Another manufacturing area of these vessels was Asia Minor. Worth observing are mainly the glass vessels with blobs from the Archaeological Museum of Afyonkarahisar (Turkey). All the seven items (some discovered in Dinar, the former *Celaenae-Apamea* in Phrygia) are jars and flasks with globular body, which usually do not have that type of decoration, a sign that they were locally produced³⁷. We can also mention other discoveries from Sirkeci³⁸, *Iasos* (Caria)³⁹,



Pl. I. Different types of pottery, metalwork and glassware with blobbed decoration: 1. Glass cup with silver encasement from Brindisi (1st century AD), after *HARDEN et alii* 1987; 2. Ceramic cup with glass intaglios from Pompeii, after MAZZUCATO 1968; 3. Early Medieval lead-glazed tableware ("Forum Ware") from Ostia, after MARTIN 2005; 4. Late Roman goblet decorated with coloured roundels of glass from Breny in Northern France. Source: <http://users.stlcc.edu/mfuller/parisromanGlass.html>; 5. Conical lamp from Karanis in Egypt. Source: <http://lw.lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/fwk/glass.html>.

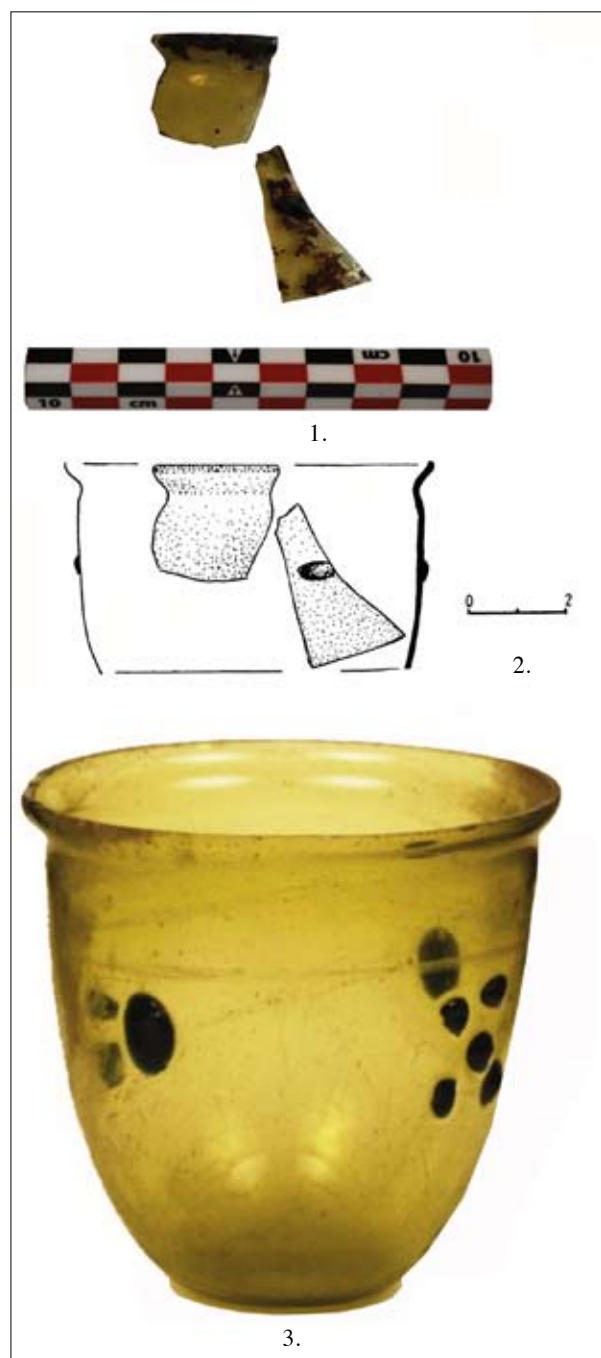
CRITERES de distinction		Variantes		
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

1.

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G
		VARIANTE						
TYP	I							
	II							
	III							

2.

Pl. II. Patterns of classification for the blobbed glass vessels discovered in the North-Pontic region: 1. after SAZANOV 1995 and 2. after SOROKINA 1972.



Pl. III. 1-2. Blobbed glass fragment discovered at *Ibida-Slava Rusă* on the SX1 sector; 3. Late Roman cup decorated with blue blobs, similar to the item found at *Ibida-Slava Rusă*. Source: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/114630752988988927/>.

Limyra or *Patara* (Lycia)⁴⁰, but certainly the number of discoveries is much higher.

Finally, the last production area is the Syro-Palestinian region and Egypt. A common feature of this large space is the prevalence of conical lamps – Isings 106d type. At *Karanis* in Egypt, Donald Harden claimed that he was even able to identify traces of burned oil inside these vessels, but occasionally they might have

also been used for other purposes (Pl. I/5)⁴¹. About 100 pieces were discovered at *Jalame* in Palestine, inside a glass workshop, a fact that confirms the hypothesis of local production centers. Made from high quality glass, with a neat decoration, they represented significant items for export, being encountered from the Black Sea basin to the eastern coast of Africa⁴².

As we can deduce from this brief regional mapping of finds, the cups, beakers and lamps decorated with blobs of various shapes and colors were a constant presence in the common glass tableware of Late Antiquity.

II. THE GLASS DECORATED WITH BLOBS IN *SCYTHIA MINOR*

As expected, the glassware decorated with blobs is also present in the Late Roman settlements of *Scythia Minor* (Pl. VIII). Besides the unpublished item from *Ibida-Slava Rusă*, we have information about two more items in the necropolis of *Beroe*, two from *Histria*, two from *Telița*, eight from *Topraichioi* and one item each at *Tropaeum Traiani* and *Tomis*. We will try to discuss all these discoveries, where ever possible, in the archaeological context in which they were found, in order to establish a more precise chronology.

The glass fragments found at *Ibida* (Pl. III/1-2) come from the Curtin X sector. In that south-eastern area we have a fairly well-defined stratigraphic situation for the 4th-6th centuries AD, which is also to be found in other points of the archaeological excavation. According to archaeological data, the main fortification at *Ibida* was erected at the beginning of the 4th century AD, probably during the reign of Constantine the Great. The Curtin X sector was opened in 2007 in order to identify the chronological link between the main city and the secondary hill fortification which oversees the entire hinterland. Basically, at *Ibida* we have a fortification system that most likely developed in stages, following a single initial project that began in the early decades of the 4th century AD⁴³.

Following several archaeological campaigns in the above mentioned sector, we managed to uncover some stone-walled constructions as well as an interesting deposit of storage vessels (*dolia*). In 2013, in the second section - marked SX1, below the 6th century levels which include also the E2 and E3 buildings along with other constructions of that area, a limestone pavement and a hinged gate system were identified, which obviously belonged to an imposing structure⁴⁴. Unfortunately, in the current stage of research we do not have many clues about its chronology and function.

In 2015, in the section under discussion, at a blocking point of the access path S2 (likely dating from the late 4th or the beginning of the 5th century AD), two pieces of a beaker of a “Nuppengläser” type with specific blue dotted decoration (Pl. IV) were discovered, along other common glass fragments, in a burn-layer corresponding to the next level above the pavement in the Square 1 of the section. All these fragments, dated to the end of the 4th or the beginning of the 5th century AD are chronologically linked with other archaeological finds from this sector, coming either from specific archaeological contexts or from a rubbish pit excavated a few years ago. Among these finds the amphorae are extremely well represented, even if they fall within a broader chronological frame. Thus we encounter here table amphorae (with over 20 fragments), LRA 2 (over



Pl. IV. Plan of the SX1 excavation with the spot where the glass beaker was found (Scale 1:25).

20 fragments), LRA 3 (only 3 fragments), LRA 4 (4 fragments) and Kuzmanov type 15 (9 fragments). To these we can add tableware which occurs in the area with rare finds, such as Hayes 70 and 71 types and also many coins which are now in various stages of identification and publication⁴⁵.

The *Ibida* beaker decorated with blue blobs comes to support the dating of the burn-layer overlapping the early 5th century AD pavement. Thus it confirms our previous observations regarding the chronology of the E2 and E3 structures and also the various stages of usage of the S2 street and its subsequent blockage. Moreover, the habitation level at the end of the 4th century and the beginning of the 5th is well represented in all the archaeological sectors at *Ibida*. In the light of the archaeological finds this reality is best highlighted on the necropolis area where the discovery of numerous Late-Roman *fibulae* with onion-shaped ends, buckles as well as other materials, enables us to consider this period as the most flourishing and prosperous age of the city⁴⁶.

As mentioned above, two blue-blobbed vessels come from the *Beroe* cemetery. The hemispherical cup of the Isings 96a type (Pl. V/1) was discovered in the tomb of an adult (A433), about 20 centimeters from the skull, without any other type of inventory⁴⁷. The item is made of clear pale-greenish glass, which makes it rarer than the olive-green colored items. After the shape and the decoration layout we can assign it to Type I, variant 5/1 - after A. Sazanov⁴⁸, Type I, variant D - after N. Sorokina⁴⁹ and Type II - after L. Barkóczy⁵⁰. At *Beroe*, the item can be dated roughly to the 4th century AD, but we could restrain this dating between the last quarter of the 4th century and the first decades of the next one.

The second item (Pl. V/2) was discovered in a double-burial grave (CS2-53) together with six pearls and a pitcher⁵¹. In this case it is a conical beaker, classified as Type II, variant 1/1 - after A. Sazanov⁵² and Type II

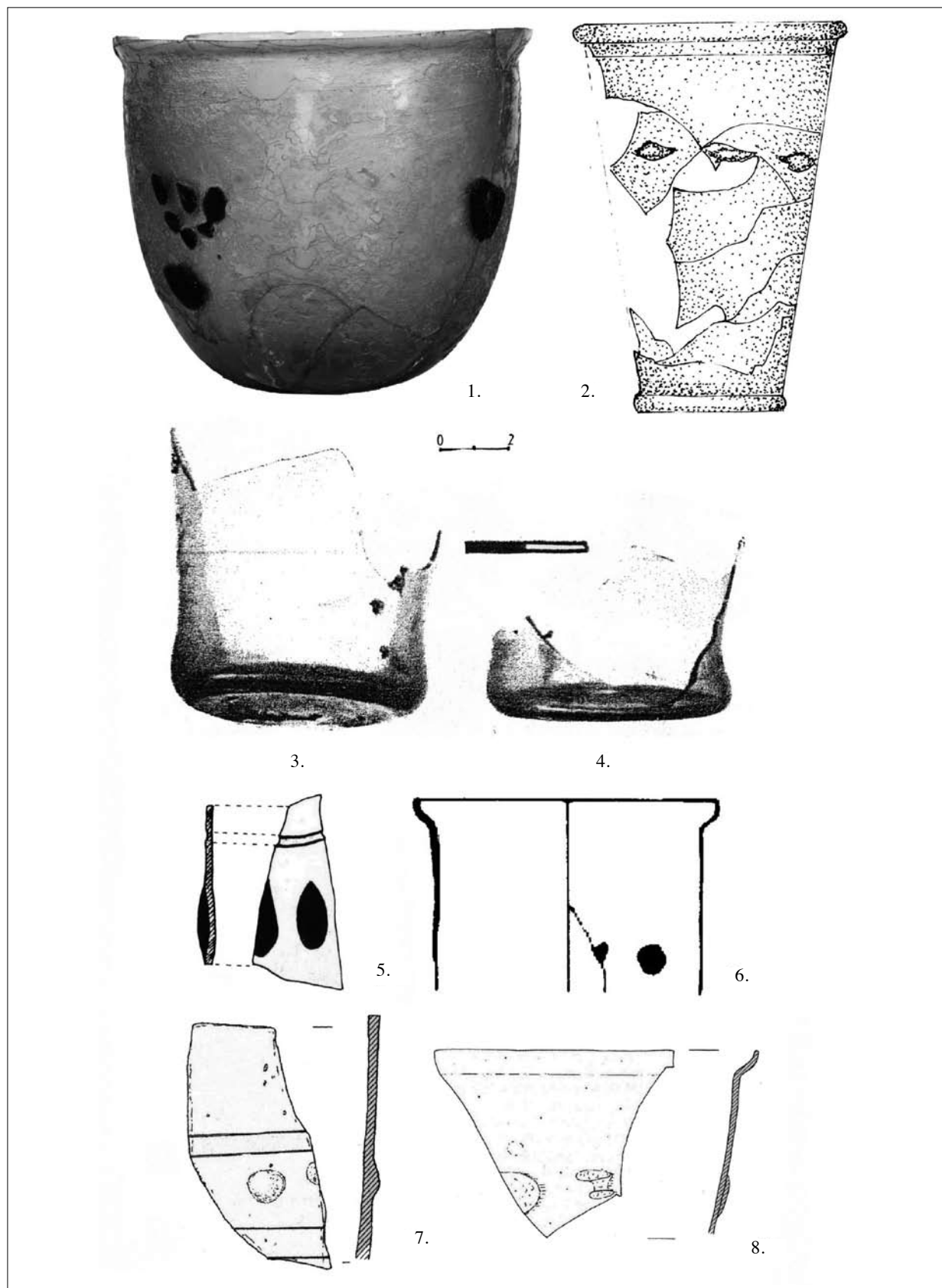
- after N. Sorokina⁵³. Together with the hemispherical cup, this beaker can be also dated to the late 4th century and the early 5th century AD.

From the late Roman farm at Telița there come two fragments decorated with blue blobs (inv.nos. 26614 and 26615)⁵⁴. Both of them are identified by the author as hemispherical bowls from Rhenish workshops⁵⁵, but, in considering the shape and the decorative pattern of the illustrated fragment (Pl. V/5), we believe that they belong to conical beakers - Sazanov type II, variant 1/1⁵⁶. Even if the complex is dated, according to the monetary finds, approximately to the period between 335 and 378 AD⁵⁷, the glass fragments certainly belong to the last decades of the 4th century AD, having been used in the final stages of habitation.

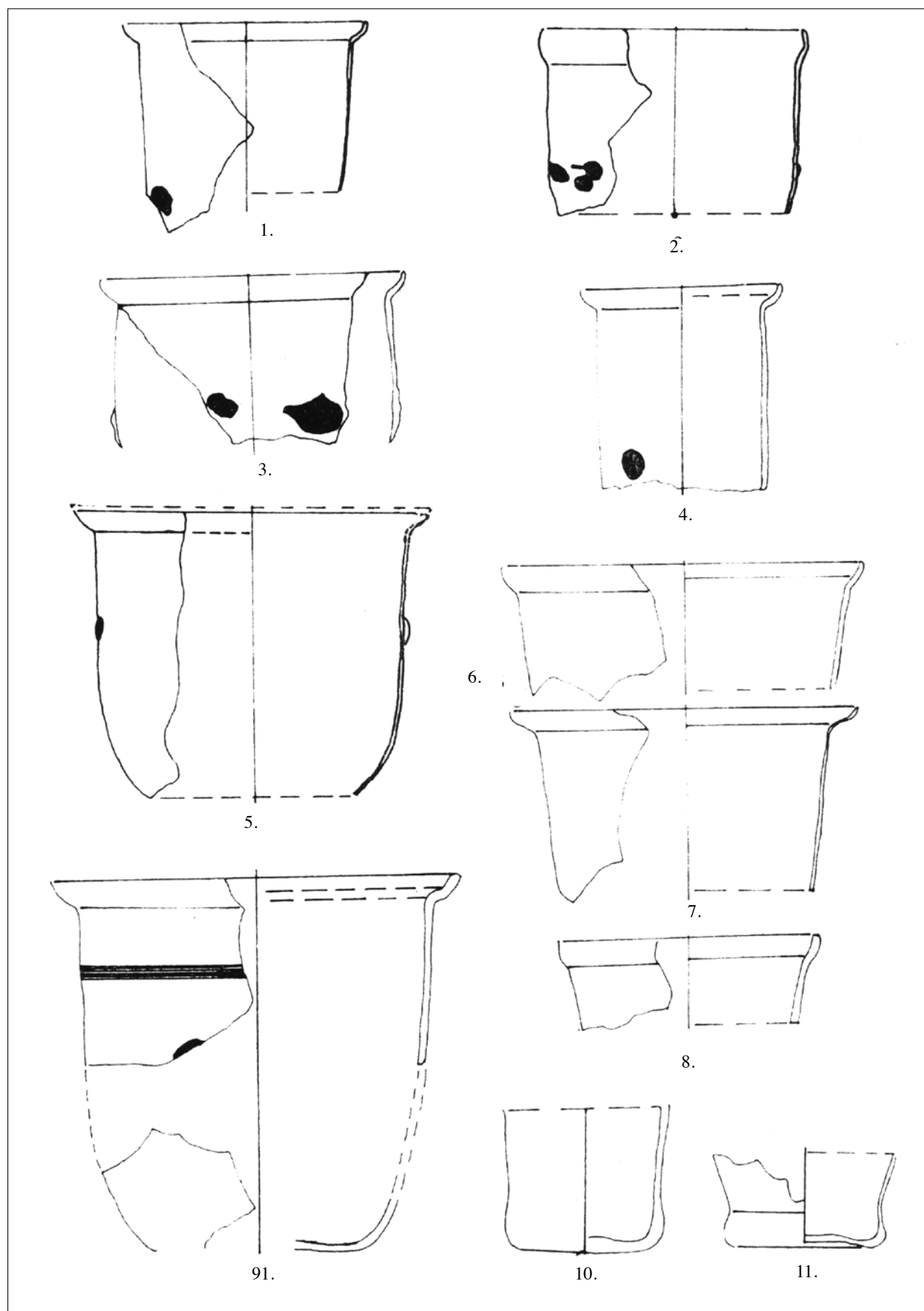
At *Topraichioi*, in the late Roman settlement, eight fragments decorated with blue blobs (Pl. VI/1-5,9) were discovered; they represent the highest percentage among the glass types discovered there (63.7%)⁵⁸. The batch is composed of both hemispherical cups and conical beakers of different size and decoration (Fig. 3/1 - Sazanov Type II, variant 1/1; Fig. 3/2 - Sazanov Type II, variant 2/1; Fig. 3/3 - Sazanov Type I, variant 8/1; Fig. 3/5 - Sazanov Type I, variant 1/3; Fig 3/9 - Sazanov type I, variant 1/1)⁵⁹.

By looking at the chart that depicts the ratio between the glass finds and the stratigraphic layers of their discovery one can notice that the items under discussion were present in all six layers, but they were most commonly encountered in layers IV and V, dated approximately to 422 to 447 AD⁶⁰. Taking into account that the blue-blobbed vessels occurred in all those layers, we get a time interval between about 370 and 450 AD, with a greater frequency of finds from the first half of the 5th century AD.

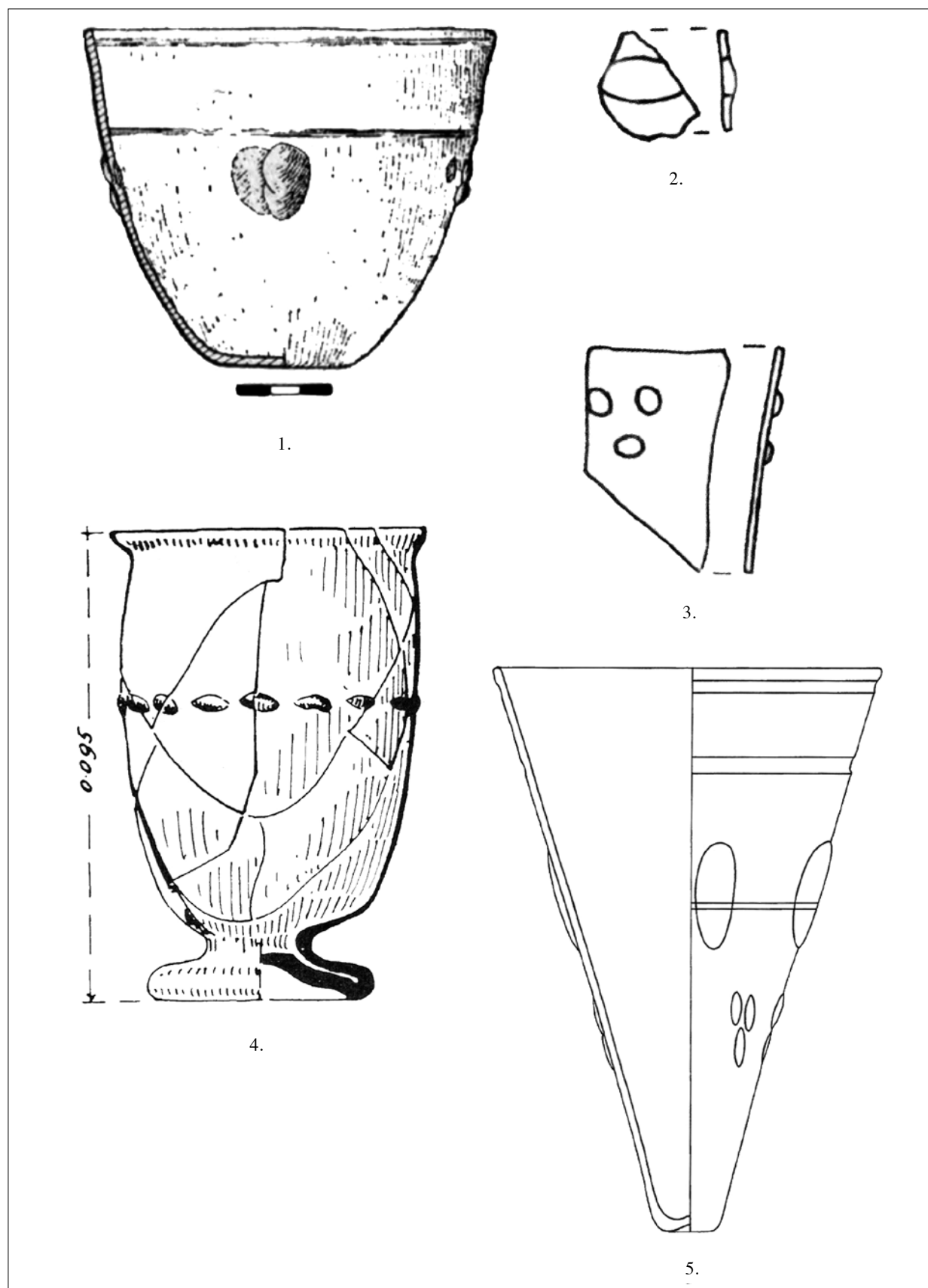
The closeness between *Topraichioi* and *Ibida*, together with the fact that the former could have provided for the latter, suggests a common origin for those



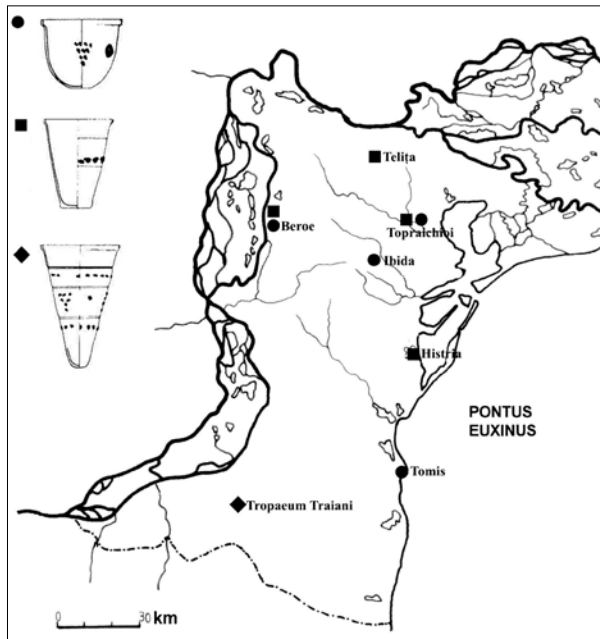
Pl. V. Blobbed glass vessels from *Scythia Minor*, discovered at: 1-2. *Beroe* (Tulcea county), drawing after PETRE 1987; 3-4. *Histria*–Roman baths (Constanța county), after SUCEVEANU 1982; 5. *Telița*–Late Roman farm (Tulcea county), after BAUMANN 1984; 6. *Histria*–Episcopal Basilica (Constanța county), after BĂJENARU, BĂLTĂC 2006; 7. *Tropaeum Traiani* (Constanța county), after STAWIARSKA 2014; 8. Constanța, after STAWIARSKA 2014.



Pl. VI. Blobbed glass vessels from *Scythia Minor*, discovered at: 1-11. *Topraichioi* (Tulcea county), after Opař et alii 1991.



Pl. VII. Blobbed glass vessels discovered outside Dobroudja, from: 1. The Sântana necropolis at Mogoșani (Dâmbovița county); 2-3. The Sântana necropolis at Budești, near Chișinău (Republic of Moldova), after VORNIC 2006; 4. Sucidava-Celei (Olt county), after TUDOR 1966; 5. The Sântana necropolis at Bârlad-Valea Seacă (Vaslui county), after GOMOLKA-FUCHS 1999.



Pl. VIII. The spreading of Late Roman blob-decorated vessels in Scythia Minor.

vessels. Due to their large spreading it is quite difficult to establish the exact areas of manufacture, but we can assume a local or regional provenance.

Another find that is worth mentioning comes from *Tropaeum Traiani*; it is a fragment from a lamp with a pointed bottom (Pl. V/7), similar to oriental products⁶¹ Teresa Stawiarska, which conducted a chemical analysis of the fragment, rightly emphasized the similarities of composition, in terms of the vitreous paste, between the item from *Tropaeum Traiani* and items discovered in the Sântana de Mureș - Černjachov area. The same author stated that the former object was manufactured in a local workshop, under oriental influences⁶².

Three similar beakers were discovered over the years at *Histria*. The first two items (of which unfortunately only the bottoms were preserved – Pl. V/3-4.) were found in the area of the Roman baths and were ascribed to the II B chronological phase, corresponding to the first three quarters of the 4th century AD⁶³. The third item (Pl. V/6) emerged along with numerous other fragmentary vessels in the Episcopal Basilica - layer IV A, dated to the first half of the 4th century AD; the last find is considered to be either a late survival of the type or, more likely, a fragment deriving from earlier layers⁶⁴.

Finally, Teresa Stawiarska mentions the discovery of one vessel decorated with blue blobs at *Tomis* (Pl. V/8)⁶⁵. We disagree with its alleged typological similarity to the conical beaker discovered in the Histrian basilica (see above). Its shape and considerable size make us assume that it was a hemispherical cup similar to the first find from *Beroe*. The Polish researcher states that there are numerous similarities between the Histrian item and similar finds in the North Pontic area, ascribed to local workshops of the Cimmerian Bosphorus or of Chersonessos, although a local manufacture (probably Tomitan workshops) may also be considered⁶⁶.

Outside *Scythia Minor* worth mentioning is the discovery of a stemmed-beaker with a girdle of blue blobs in the Late Roman fortification at *Șucidava-Celei* (Pl. VII/4). The beaker is dated to the 4th century AD and it considered an import-item either from the Aegean or from the North-Pontic area⁶⁷.

At the end of this brief survey we should take into consideration that the glass vessels with blue blobs are also present in the funerary inventory of the Sântana de Mureș - Černjachov Culture, as imported objects of prestige.

A well preserved hemispherical cup of Sorokina Type I, variant A⁶⁸ was discovered in the Sântana Culture necropolis at Mogoșani (Dâmbovița County). The cup (Pl. VII/1) was found in an inhumation tomb (Tomb 70) together with an extremely rich and diverse inventory that comprised ceramic vessels (pots, bowls, plates), fibulae, various beads and a belt buckle⁶⁹. The necropolis was in use until the end of the 4th century AD, so the glass cup can be easily ascribed to that period.

Two other fragments (Pl. VII/2-3) come from the Sântana necropolis at Budești, near Chișinău, the capital of the Republic of Moldova⁷⁰. Both of them unfortunately are too small to be identified (although fragment no. 2 recalls the beaker from *Telița* in regard to the shape of the blobs)⁷¹ and they are approximately dated, by parity of reasoning, to the last third of the 4th century AD⁷².

Another conical lamp decorated with incised lines and blue dots (Pl. VII/5) comes from the Sântana inhumation necropolis at Bârlad-Valea Seacă (Vaslui county), dated to the last decades of the 4th century AD⁷³. The lamp seems to be of oriental manufacture similar to the above-mentioned example from *Tropaeum Traiani*⁷⁴ and might have either been produced in *Scythia Minor* or must be considered a North-Pontic import.

After the brief survey of the above-mentioned 17 finds of *Scythia Minor*, we can highlight some issues regarding their typology, chronology, distribution and provenance.

Taking into account the distribution of these vessels in *Scythia Minor* we can observe that most of the finds (13 items) come from northern Dobrogea, being discovered in the *Beroe – Ithida – Topraichioi area*. Apart from the hemispherical cup from *Beroe* made of clear, colourless glass, all the other finds have similar features pointing to a possible common origin. In the current state of research we cannot be sure whether the items were imported or locally produced due to the fact that in Late Antiquity the glass manufacturing industry spreads throughout the Roman Empire. The most credible hypothesis, advanced by Teresa Stawiarska after analyzing glass samples, is the one of a North Pontic origin, such products being frequently found in the region⁷⁵. On the other hand, the conical lamp from *Tropaeum Traiani* and the item discovered in the Sântana necropolis at Bârlad-Valea Seacă could have an Oriental or Egyptian origin. It is a well-known fact that after the transfer of the capital from Rome to Constantinople the commercial routes shifted eastwards, to the Black Sea and the Lower Danube⁷⁶. Thus we cannot neglect the fact that at least some of those vessels might have been brought, together with other categories of imports, in order to meet the needs of the military garrisons quartered on the Danube.

Finally, as we mentioned above, we must consider the possibility of local production, in secondary workshops located near the major towns. As the assumption of Tomitan workshops – in use beginning with the second half of the 2nd century AD – has been accepted, on the basis of many archaeological clues⁷⁷, we can also put forth the idea of their existence in central Dobrogea at *Ibida*-Slava Rusă where a small furnace was discovered, together with slag from the processing of glass⁷⁸.

Whether locally produced or imported, the vessels decorated with blue blobs represent one of the defining category of glassware in the Late Antiquity. The accurate analysis and interpretation of such finds and of the archaeological contexts in which they were found can lead to a better understanding of the evolution of the glass industry in a period of profound transformations.

NOTE

* The authors would like to thank to Professor Adrian Poruciu for helping them to improve the English translation and to Dr. Maurizio Buora for the enhancements and suggestions relating of this text.

¹ MORIN JEAN 1913, p. 218; SOROKINA 1972, p. 77.

² HARDEN *et alii* 1987, 156, no. 78.

³ See http://www.geocities.ws/badwila_2/invetriata_1/index.html for a 1st century AD ceramic beaker from Pompeii and MARTIN 2005, pp. 128-130, fig. 14 for a late 8th century AD discovery at Ostia.

⁴ See SOROKINA 1972, with sub-types and variants; SAZANOV 1995 and ZASETSKAJA 2000. The last author analyzes the previous classifications made on the North-Pontic discoveries, failing to agree with the method of Sazanov.

⁵ ISINGS 1957, pp. 113-114, form 96a; CALVI 1968, p. 170; RÜTTI 1991, p. 74, form AR 66.2; MANDRUZZATO, MARCANTE 2005, p. 29.

⁶ These findings are widespread, from Britannia to Korea – *apud*. WEINBERG, STERN 2009, p. 136.

⁷ For products of Western workshops, see MORIN JEAN 1913, pp. 218-225, fig. 298, 300, 303; FREMERSDORF 1962, fig. 9, 13, 15-16, etc.

⁸ JENNINGS 2004-05, p. 102.

⁹ FREMERSDORF 1962; CALVI 1968, p. 170; GOETHERT-POLASCHEK 1977, p. 61, forms 49c and 68, form 52b – some items are discovered in funerary contexts dated to the 4th century AD.

¹⁰ BUORA 1997, especially pp. 25-26.

¹¹ BUORA 1998, p. 168; MANDRUZZATO, MARCANTE 2005, p. 29.

¹² BARKÓCZI, SALAMON 1968, pp. 29-39; BARKÓCZI 1988, pp. 96-97, dated to the second half of the 4th century AD and the beginning of the following one.

¹³ BURGER 1966, p. 140, fig. 107/187. The author considers the vessel from M 187 grave to be a Rhenish product dated to the period between 351-375 AD.

¹⁴ BARKÓCZI 1972, pp. 69-94.

¹⁵ BARKÓCZI 1972, pp. 78-86, with examples.

¹⁶ RUŽIĆ 1994, pp. 45-49, form VII/10b, no. 770-943.

¹⁷ MILOVANOVIĆ 2005, p. 22 – states that the blue-blobbed beakers were made in Cologne's workshops and are the most numerous among the glass finds; see also ŠPEHAR 2012, pp. 40-41, fig. 9D – from Grave 7 with rich inventory, dated to the period between the last third of the 4th and the beginning of the 5th centuries AD.

¹⁸ HAN 1986, p. 92, Group I, fig. 25/1-5 – represent the most frequently encountered type and were probably made in local workshops (in Pannonia or Moesia); they are dated to the second half of the 4th century AD.

¹⁹ RUŽIĆ 1997, pp. 275-276, type 22b and 24a – considered of local production and dated to the period between the middle of the 4th century and the middle of the 5th century AD.

²⁰ LEJAK 2012, p. 130, fig. 9 a-c.

²¹ LAZAR 2003, pp. 121-122, form 3.10.

²² SHEPHERD 1999, p. 372, no. 256-268 – points out that the blue blobs belong to the tradition of oriental workshops. The dating of the finds from *Nicopolis ad Istrum* represents roughly the period of the 4th-5th centuries AD.

²³ GOMOLKA 1979, p. 147, type 3.5.4, no. 56-70 – the majority of the

finds belong to the Isings 96a type and are dated to the 4th century and the beginning of the following one.

²⁴ GOMOLKA-FUCHS 1992, p. 265 – four fragments dated to the period between the end of the 4th century and the 5th century AD.

²⁵ ANTONARAS 2009, p. 123.

²⁶ ANTONARAS 2014, p. 103 – in the vicinity of a 5th century basilica eleven beakers (Isings 106b type) were found, which could also have been used as lamps.

²⁷ DAVIDSON 1952, p. 98, no. 615-616.

²⁸ WEINBERG, STERN 2009, p. 136.

²⁹ SOROKINA 1972, pp. 76-79.

³⁰ SOROKINA 1962, p. 226, fig. 10/4 – extremely numerous, dating to the 4th century AD.

³¹ GOLOFAST 2009, pp. 303-304, fig. 1.2 – hemispherical cups dated to the end of the 4th century and to the 5th century AD; this chronology is in agreement with Andrei Sazanov's observations, which advance a higher datation for these vessels, to the first half of the 5th century AD – see SAZANOV 1995, pp. 332-333 and fig. 1b.

³² SAZANOV 1995, p. 331.

³³ SOROKINA 1965, p. 211, fig. 4, no. 5 – dated to the 4th century AD.

³⁴ DOIGORUKOV 1975, p. 55, fig. 1/3 – hemispherical cup with blue blobs dated roughly in the 4th-5th centuries AD.

³⁵ DMITRIEV 1957, p. 229 – in the necropolis from the Dyurso River were found sixteen tombs which contained among other finds cups of Isings 96a type – fig. 7/34 and beakers of Isings 106b type – fig. 7/36. The archaeological finds can be dated to the first half of the 5th century AD.

³⁶ BAGHATURIA-KNER 2009, p. 356, Group II – sixteen items dated roughly to the first half of the 5th century AD.

³⁷ LIGHTFOOT 1989, pp. 43-45, fig. 5/1-3, nos. 51-57, dated to the 4th century AD.

³⁸ CANAV ÖZGÜMÜŞ 2009, p. 18, fig. 10 – fragments of good quality conical glass lamps, which were locally produced, perhaps in the workshops located near the "Glassmakers' Gate".

³⁹ CONTARDI 2009, p. 126, fig. 14-15 – hemispherical cups with blue blobs, dated to the 4th century AD.

⁴⁰ BAYBO 2009, p. 196, fig. 11, no. 22 – hemispherical cups with blue blobs, dated to the 4th century AD.

⁴¹ HARDEN 1936, p. 155, nos. 440-448, pl. V and XVI. Besides their use as lamps, these vessels could have been used for drinking too. Moreover, Donald Harden mentions an item (no. 460) that was used as a container for bone dice.

⁴² WEINBERG 1988, pp. 87-94 – with some details regarding the manufacturing process, decoration patterns, spreading and usage.

⁴³ APARASCHIVEI 2009, p. 168.

⁴⁴ APARASCHIVEI 2014, pp. 131-132.

⁴⁵ See MOCANU 2014, pp. 283-305.

⁴⁶ The Tudorka tomb – dated to the second half of the 4th century AD, according to the archaeological finds – as well as other tombs with rich inventory confirm this reality. For further reading see APARASCHIVEI *et alii* 2012, pp. 169-182.

⁴⁷ PETRE 1987, 22, pl. 41; for a further analysis, see also BOȚAN *et alii* 2010, pp. 219-220.

⁴⁸ SAZANOV 1995, p. 336, fig. 3 – dated to the North Pontic area in the first half of the 5th century AD.

⁴⁹ SOROKINA 1972, p. 73, fig. 2.

⁵⁰ BARKÓCZI 1972, p. 83, fig. 7/3 – from the Ságvár necropolis, dated to the first two decades of the 5th century AD.

⁵¹ PETRE 1987, pp. 48-49, fig. 127d.

⁵² SAZANOV 1995, p. 337, fig. 4 – dated to the first half of the 5th century AD.

⁵³ SOROKINA 1972, p. 74.

⁵⁴ BAUMANN 1984, p. 468, pl. XI, no. 10.

⁵⁵ BAUMANN 1984, p. 56.

⁵⁶ SAZANOV 1995, p. 337, fig. 4, dated to the period AD 380-400 of the North Pontic area.

⁵⁷ BAUMANN 1984, p. 58.

⁵⁸ OPAIT 1985, p. 249.

⁵⁹ See SAZANOV 1995, pp. 336-337, fig. 3-4 – dated to the 5th century AD of the North Pontic area.

⁶⁰ For the chronology of the *Topraichioi* late Roman settlement, see OPAIT *et alii* 1991, p. 191.

⁶¹ STAWIARSKA 2014, pp. 74-75, fig. 31/76. The fragment was discovered in a 6th-century layer, but like the item from the Histrian basilica, it was ascribed to an earlier period, namely the 4th century AD. We disagree to this datation, taking into account that similar discoveries from the North Pontic area have a slightly higher datation, at the beginning of the 5th century AD – see SAZANOV 1995, p. 338, fig. 5, Type III, variant 2/1 (450-500 AD).

⁶² STAWIARSKA 2014, p. 75.

⁶³ SUCEVEANU 1982, p. 121, no. 17-18, pl. 20/IIB 17-18.

⁶⁴ BĂJENARU, BĂLTĂC 2006, p. 223, no. 17 – dated by the authors to the end of the 4th and the beginning of the 5th century AD.

⁶⁵ STAWIARSKA 2014, p. 71, fig. 29/69.

- ⁶⁶ STAWIARSKA 2014, p. 72.
⁶⁷ TUDOR 1966, p. 39, fig. 10; TOROPU, TĂTULEA 1987, p. 137, fig. 57. The beaker's type is quite unusual for the general typology of vessels decorated with blobs.
⁶⁸ SOROKINA 1972, p. 72.
⁶⁹ DIACONU 1970, p. 30, fig. 5/15.
⁷⁰ VORNIC 2006, p. 216, fig. 128, nos. 3 and 7.
⁷¹ See note 54.
⁷² VORNIC 2006, p. 216.
⁷³ GOMOLKA-FUCHS 1999, p. 135, fig. 5/4.
⁷⁴ See notes 61-62.
⁷⁵ See note 29.
⁷⁶ See Lewit's recently published work (2015); she analyzes the economic and commercial changes in the Danube and Pontic regions in Late Antiquity. On the basis of amphora finds and of mappings of shipwrecks in the Black Sea, we can obtain a panorama of a sustainable economic activity in Asia Minor, the Aegean area, the Syro-Palestinian coast, Cyprus as well as North Africa and the north-western coast of the Black Sea. Many of these imported goods were meant for the use of *limes* soldiers. For a general view on the trade relations between Asia Minor and the West-Pontic coast (as deduced from discoveries of lead seals), see CHIRIAC, MUNTEANU 2014.
⁷⁷ See CHIRIAC, BOȚAN 2013, pp. 304-306.
⁷⁸ IACOB *et alii* 2004, 313 – the furnace was located in the G curtain area, intramuros; it was dated to the 4th century AD.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ABBREVIATIONS

KSIA – *Kratkie soobshcheniya Instituta arkheologii*. Akademiya Nauk SSSR, Moscow.
 Bulletin AIESEE – *Bulletin de l'Association internationale d'études du Sud-Est européen*, Bucarest.
 MIA – *Materialy I issledovaniya po arkheologii SSSR*, Akademiya Nauk SSSR, Moscow.
 CCA – *Cronica cercetărilor arheologice*, București.
 SAA – *Studia antiqua et archaeologica*, Iași.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- ANTONARAS A. 2009 – *Romaïke kai palaiochristianike yalurgia: Ios. ai. p. Ch. - 6os. ai. m. Ch. Aggeia apo te Thessalonike kai ten perioche tes*, Athena.
 ANTONARAS A. 2014 – *The Glass Finds from a Provincial Early Christian Balkan Basilica. The Solinos Basilica in Chalkidiki, Greece*, *Nova antička Duklja V*, pp. 97-110.
 APARASCHIVEI D. 2009 – *Cercetările arheologice de la (L?)Ibida (Slava Rusă, jud. Tulcea), sector X (Campania 2008) (I)*, "ArhMold", 32, pp. 167-182.
 APARASCHIVEI *et alii* 2012 – APARASCHIVEI D., IACOB M., SOFICARU A., PARASCHIV D., *Aspects of everyday life in Scythia Minor reflected in some funerary discoveries from Ibida (Slava Rusă, Tulcea County)*, in *Homines, Funera, Astra, Proceedings of the International Symposium on Funerary Anthropology, 5-8 June 2011, Alba Iulia*, R. KOGĂLNICEANU, R.-G. CURCĂ, M. GLIGOR and S. STRATTON (eds.), BAR International Series, 2410, Oxford, pp. 169-182.
 APARASCHIVEI D. 2014 – *Raport arheologic, Sector X, Ibida, Slava Rusă (jud. Tulcea)*, "CCA-Campania 2013", pp. 131-132.
 BAGHATURIA-KNER E. 2009 – *Late Antique/Early Byzantine Glass Vessels from the Cemeteries of Kodori and Machara Valleys*, in *LAFLI* 2009, pp. 355-368.
 BARKÓCZI L. 1972 – *Spätromische Glasbecher mit Aufgelegten Nuppen aus Pannonien*, "FolArch", 23, pp. 69-94.
 BARKÓCZI L., SALAMON A. 1968 – *IV. század végi és V. század eleji üvegleletek Magyarországról*, "Archétes", 95, pp. 29-39.
 BAUMANN V.H. 1984 – *Raport asupra cercetărilor arheologice efectuate în ferma romană de la Telița, punctul La Pod (jud. Tulcea) în anul 1980*, "Peuce", 9, pp. 51-65 and pp. 457-472.
 BAYBO S. 2009 – *Late Antique/Early Byzantine Glass Vessels from Trench Q18 at Limyra: Excavation Seasons 2007-2009*, in *LAFLI* 2009, pp. 189-198.
 BĂENARU C., BĂLTĂC A. 2006 – *Histria-Bazilica episcopală. Catalogul descoperirilor de sticlă (1984-2000)*, "Pontica", 39, pp. 219-247.
 BOȚAN S. P. *et alii* 2010 – BOȚAN S. P., PARASCHIV D., NUȚU G., *Vase de sticlă romane și romano-bizantine descoperite în nordul Dobrogei*, "ArhMold", 33, pp. 217-242.
 BUORA M. 1997 – *Una produzione artigianale di un vetro a Sevegliano (Agro di Aquileia, Italia settentrionale) nel IV sec. d.C.*, "Journal of Glass Studies", 39, pp. 23-31.
 BUORA M. 1998 – *La circolazione vetraria nell'Italia nordorientale nel periodo tardoantico e la produzione di un maestro vetraio a Sevegliano*, in *Il vetro dall'antichità all'età contemporanea. Aspetti tecnologici, funzionali e commerciali*, Atti delle 2e Giornate Nazionali di Studio, AIHV-Comitato Nazionale Italiano (Milano, 14-15 dicembre 1996), Milano, pp. 165-172.
 BURGER A.Sz. 1966 – *The Late Roman Cemetery at Ságvár*, "ActaArchHung", 18, pp. 99-234.
 CALVI C. 1968 – *I vetri romani del Museo di Aquileia*, Aquileia.
 CANAV ÖZGÜMÜŞ Ü. 2009 – *Late Antique/Early Byzantine Glass from the Marmaray Rescue Excavation at Sirkeci*, in *LAFLI* 2009, pp. 17-24.
 CHIRIAC C., BOȚAN S.P. 2013 – *Sticlăria elenistică și romană din Pontul Euxin. Între producție și import*, in *Poleis din Pont și Propontida în epocile elenistică și romană*, F. PANAIT-BÎRZESCU *et alii* (eds.), București, pp. 278-318.
 CHIRIAC C., MUNTEANU L. 2014 – *Trade Connections between Asia Minor and the Western Pontic Area in the 4th Century CE. Some Sphragistic Considerations*, in *Interconnectivity in the Mediterranean and Pontic World during the Hellenistic and Roman Periods*, V. COJOCARU *et alii* (eds.), Cluj-Napoca, pp. 229-330.
 CONTARDI S. 2009 – *Late Antique Glass from Iasos (Caria)*, in *LAFLI* 2009, pp. 123-132.
 DAVIDSON G. R. 1952 – *Corinth XII. The Minor Objects*, Princeton.
 DIACONU G. 1970 – *Mogoșani. Necropola din secolul IV e.n.*, Târgoviște.
 DMITRIEV A. V. 1957 – *Pogrebenija vsadnikov i boevych konej v mogil'nike epochi pereselenija narodov na r. Djurso bliz Novorossijska*, "SA", 4, pp. 212-229.

- DOLGORUKOV V. S. 1975 – *Issledovanija beregovoj časti Fanagorii v 1971-1972 gg.*, “KSIA”, 143, pp. 54-59.
- FREMERSDORF F. 1962 – *Die Römischen Gläser mit Aufgelegten Nuppen*, Köln.
- GOETHERT-POLASCHEK K. 1977 – *Katalog der römischen Gläser des Rheinischen Landesmuseums Trier*, Mainz.
- GOLOFAST L. 2009 – *Early Byzantine Glass from the Tauric Chersonesos (Crimea)*, in LAFLI 2009, pp. 301-335.
- GOMOLKA G. 1979 – *Die spätantiken und frühmittelalterlichen Gläser aus Iatrus*, in *Iatrus-Krivina. Spätantike Befestigung und frühmittelalterliche Siedlung an der unteren Donau. I. Ergebnisse der Ausgrabungen 1966-1973*, Berlin, pp. 145-166.
- GOMOLKA-FUCHS G. 1992 – *Die römisch-byzantinischen Glasfunde aus Karausura in Bulgarien*, “ZfA”, 26, pp. 261-268.
- GOMOLKA-FUCHS G. 1999 – *Gläser der Sîntana de Mureș-Černjachov-Kultur aus Rumänien und der Republik Moldavien*, in *Die Sîntana de Mureș-Černjachov-Kultur*, Akten des internationalen Kolloquiums (Caputh vom 20. Bis 24. Oktober 1995), G. GOMOLKA-FUCHS (ed.), Bonn, pp. 129-142.
- HAN V. 1986 – *Objects en verre. Rtkovo-Glamija I*, in *Cahiers de Portes de Fer 3*, V. KONDIĆ (ed.), Beograd, pp. 92-93.
- HARDEN D. B. 1936 – *Roman Glass from Karanis found by the University of Michigan Archaeological Expedition in Egypt 1924-29*, Ann Arbor.
- HARDEN D. B. et alii 1987 – HARDEN D.B., WHITEHOUSE D., PAINTER K. S., HELLENKEMPER H., *Glass of the Caesars*, Milano.
- JACOB M. et alii 2004 – *Slava-Rusă, com. Slava Cercheză, jud. Tulcea [Ibida]*, “CCA-Campania 2003”, pp. 312-314.
- ISINGS C. 1957 – *Roman Glass from Dated Finds*, Groningen-Djakarta.
- JENNINGS S. 2004-05 – *Vessel glass from Beirut: Bey 006, 007 and 045*, Beirut.
- LAFLI E. 2009 (ed.) – *Late Antique/Early Byzantine Glass in the Eastern Mediterranean*, Izmir, Colloquia anatolica et aegaea, Acta Congressus Communis Omnium Smyrnae II.
- LAZAR I. 2003 – *The Roman Glass from Slovenia*, Ljubljana.
- LEJAK M. 2012 – *Typology of the Roman glass vessels from the Croatian part of the province Pannonia*, “Haemus”, 1, pp. 121-133.
- LEWIT T. 2015 – *The Second Sea: exchange between the Mediterranean and the Black Sea in late antiquity*, “European Journal of Post-Classical Archaeologies”, 5, pp. 149-174.
- LIGHTFOOT C. S. 1989 – *A Catalogue of Glass Vessels in Afyon Museum*, BAR International Series, 530, Oxford.
- MANDRUZZATO L., MARCANTE A. 2005 – *Vetri antichi del Museo Archeologico nazionale di Aquileia. Il vasellame da mensa, Corpus delle collezioni del vetro in Friuli Venezia Giulia*, 2, Trieste.
- MARTIN A. 2005 – *Pottery at Ostia (4th to 8th centuries). The evidence from the AAR-DAI Excavations*, “ActaRCRF”, 39, pp. 127-132.
- MAZZUCATO O. 1968 – *La raccolta di ceramiche del Museo di Roma*, Roma.
- MILOVANOVIC B. 2005 – *Slučajni nalazi staklenih posuda iz Viminacijuma i okoline*, “Glasnik”, 21, pp. 293-317.
- MOCANU M. 2014 – *Considerations on tableware pottery of L(ibida) III. X research area*, “SAA”, 20, pp. 283-305.
- MORIN JEAN J. A. J. 1913 – *La verrerie en Gaule sous l'empire romain: essai de morphologie et de chronologie*, Paris.
- OPAȚ A. et alii 1991 – OPAȚ A., ZAHARIADE M., POENARU-BORDEA G., OPAȚ C., *Fortificația și așezarea romană târzie de la Babadag-Topraichioi*, “Peuce”, 10, pp. 183-354.
- OPAȚ C. 1985 – *Unele considerații privind vasele de sticlă din burgul roman târziu de la Topraichioi*, “Peuce”, 18, pp. 249-257.
- PETRE A. 1987 – *La romanité en Scythie Mineure (II-VII siècles de n.è.). Recherches archéologiques*, “Bulletin AIESEE”, 17-18, pp. 5-171.
- RÜTTI B. 1991 – *Die römischen Gläser aus Augst und Kaiseraugst* (vol. 1-2), Augst.
- RUŽIĆ M. A. 1994 – *Rimsko Staklo u Srbiji*, Beograd.
- RUŽIĆ M. A. 1997 – *Hronologija i poreklo rimskih staklenih posuda sa đerdapskog limesa*, in *Arheologija istočne Srbije. Naučni skup, Beograd-Donji Milnanovac, decembar 1995. godine*, M. LAZIĆ (ed.), Beograd, pp. 265-276.
- SAZANOV A. 1995 – *Verres à décor de pastilles bleues provenant des fouilles de la Mer Noire. Typologie et chronologie*, in *Le verre de l'Antiquité tardive et du Haut Moyen Âge. Typologie – chronologie – diffusion*, D. FOY (ed.), Guiry-en-Vexin, pp. 331-341.
- SHEPHERD J. D. 1999 – *The Glass*, in *Nicopolis ad Istrum: A Roman to Early Byzantine City*, A. G. POULTER (ed.), Leicester, pp. 299-385.
- SOROKINA N. P. 1962 – *Steklo iz raskopok Pantikapeia*, “MIA”, 103, pp. 210-236.
- SOROKINA N. P. 1965 – *Stekliannie sosudy iz Tanaisa*, “MIA”, 127, pp. 202-248.
- SOROKINA N. P. 1972 – *Die Nuppengläser von der Nordküste des Schwarzen Meers*, “AnnAIHV”, 5, pp. 71-79.
- STAWIARSKA T. 2014 – *Roman and Early Byzantine Glass from Romania and Northern Bulgaria. Archaeological and Technological Study*, Warsaw.
- SUCEVEANU A. 1982 – *Histria VI. Les thermes romaines*, București.
- ŠPEHAR P. 2012 – *The Danubian Limes between Lederata and Aquae during the Migration Period*, in *The Pontic-Danubian Realm in the Period of the Great Migrations*, V. IVANIŠEVIĆ and M. KAZANSKI (eds.), Paris - Beograd, pp. 35-56.
- TOROPU O., TĂȚULEA C. 1987 – *Sucidava. Celei*, București.
- TUDOR D. 1966 – *Sucidava*, București.
- VORNIC V. 2006 – *The Sântana de Mureș-Černjachov-type Settlement and Necropolis from Budești, Chișinău*.
- WEINBERG G. D. 1988 – *Excavations at Jalame. Site of a Glass Factory in Late Roman Palestine*, Missouri.
- WEINBERG G. D., STERN E. M. 2009 – *Vessel Glass*, The Athenian Agora 34, Princeton.
- ZASETSKAJA I. P. 2000 – *O dvuh klassifikatsijah stekljann'ih sosudov s dekorom iz napajann'ih kapel' i nitej sinego stekla, Inzhievoltzhskii arheologičeskii vestnik 3*, Volgograd.

Summary

The glass vessels decorated with blue drops represent one of the most characteristic types of late Roman glassware. Spread throughout the Roman empire and produced locally or regionally, they were discovered in large numbers both in the Scythia province (where the Roman military presence was significant) and in Barbaricum, where they can be found frequently in Santana de Mures-Cerneahov cemeteries. In the present study the authors aim to focus, discuss and analyze all these discoveries made on Roman territory.

Key words: Scythia province; Late-Roman glassware; vessels with blobs; Roman imports.

Riassunto: Bicchieri in vetro con decorazione a gocce della Scizia minore

I bicchieri decorati a gocce blu rappresentano uno dei più caratteristici tipi di vasi vitrei dell'epoca tardo romana. Sparsi in tutto l'Impero Romano queste produzioni locali o regionali sono state scoperte in gran numero sia nella provincia *Scythia* (dove la presenza romana fu significativa), sia nel *Barbaricum*, dove le ritroviamo spesso nelle necropoli di tipo Sântana de Mureş - Cerneahov. Il presente studio si propone di focalizzare, discutere ed analizzare tutte queste scoperte rinvenute sul territorio romeno.

Parole chiave: provincia Scizia; vetri tardo-romani; vetri con bolli colorati; oggetti romani di importazione.

Dan Aparaschivei _ Institutul de Arheologie - Str. Codrescu nr. 6, Pavilion H - IASI (Romania)
danaparaschivei76@yahoo.com

Sever-Petru Boţan _ Institutul de Arheologie - Str. Codrescu nr. 6, Pavilion H - IASI (Romania)
sever_botan@yahoo.com