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Fabrics of Punic Amphorae from the 'Circulo del Estrecho (CdE)'

Introductory Note

Punic amphorae of the type Ramon 11.2.1.3. have been observed at Velia. This type is normally attributed to the so-called area of the "Estrecho de Gibraltar". Under this terminus a wider geographical region has been subsumed that extends from the Andalusian coast to the region of Cadiz on the Iberian Peninsula, but also includes the coast of Morocco and the island of Ibiza.¹ Ramon tried to distinguish at least six different productions.²

In the material at our disposal, these supposed production sites could not be identified but some of the samples from Velia can be attributed to the wider area in discussion for morphological reasons. They also show rather peculiar fabrics, so that it seems justified that they are classified as "amphorae of the 'Circulo del Estrecho (CdE)'".

CdE-A-1 The fabric is characterized by a brown porous matrix, densely tempered by various quartz particles and a discrete presence of carbonate.

CdE-A-2 The matrix of fabric Pun-A-2 is brown as well and rather porous. The distribution of temper is very irregular and the particles vary from rather large to small. The main components are quartz, carbonate and, to a minor degree, red and dark grey particles.

References

- Docter R.F. 1997a. „Archaische Amphoren aus Karthago und Toscanos. Fundspektrum und Formentwicklung. Ein Beitrag zur phönizischen Wirtschaftsgeschichte“. Ph.D. diss., Amsterdam University.
- Ramón Torres J. 1995. "Las ánforas fenicio-púnicas del Mediterráneo central y occidental". Barcelona: Universitat de Barcelona.

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¹ See Docter 1997a, 118–23 with bibliography.

² Ramon 1995, 256–58.