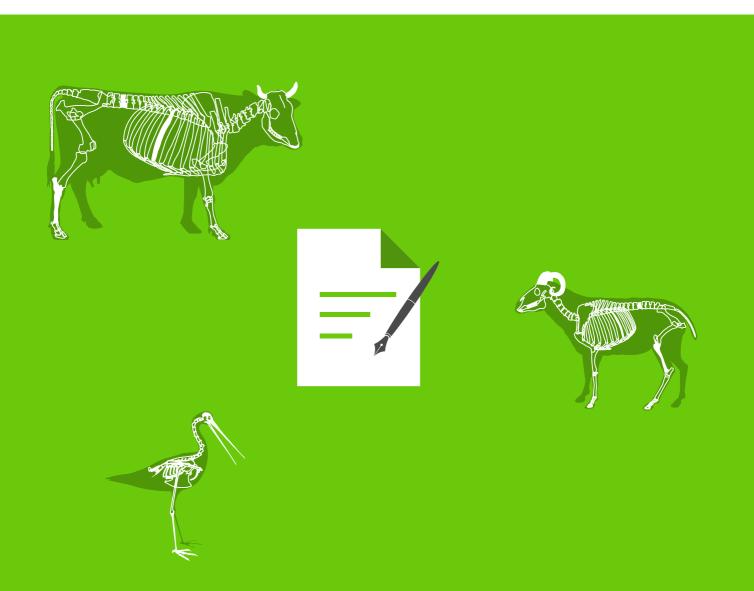




7th PZAF / PALERMO

27th - 29th June 2018 Palazzo Ajutamicristo

CONFERENCE NOTEBOOK

















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27th June SESSION 3 / Roman period

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A Roman tannery? The case-study from *Viminacium*, Serbia

Leather was a widely employed material in the Roman world, mainly for the production of clothes, footwear, shields, armour covers and so on. Production was usually set in large urban centres, that is, at the edges of those settlements, due to the unpleasant smell produced by the process. One of those large urban centres was certainly *Viminacium* – the capital of the province of Upper Moesia. However, unlike in later periods, there are only a few leather workshops potentially identified for the Roman period. Apart from the direct evidence of *in situ* structures, the presence of leather workshops can be hypothesized based on significant amounts of by-products, such as horn cores, metapodials and phalanges of certain animals (*Bos taurus*, *Capra hircus* and others) found in the same context. North-east of the *Viminacium* legionary camp, a large pit was excavated in 2017, containing mostly cattle horn cores and metapodials. It was suggested to represent the waste pit of a potential leather workshop, considering that other archaeological evidence suggested the presence of a textile colouring workshop (*fullonica*), which is often associated to leather production. The aim of this paper is to investigate, based on the analysed archaeozoological material, the production strategy of this workshop, identifying the species and breeds of the animals used, as well as their age-at-death and sex.

Keywords Serbia, Viminacium, urban centre, Roman period, tannery.

NOTES	