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# THE ROMAN IMPERIAL HOARD OF SESTERTII FOUND IN DOBRUJA PASSIM, ANTE 2016

**Abstract:** A hoard of Roman imperial bronze coins ending with Commodus issues was discovered in Dobruja (southeastern region of Romania) sometime before 2016. All the coins are sestertii, starting with those of Trajan (2), continuing with Hadrian (17), Antoninus Pius (17), Faustina I the Elder (5), Marcus Aurelius (9, of which one as Caesar), Faustina II the Younger (9, of which one coin issued under Antoninus Pius), Lucilla (3), Commodus (7) and Crispina (1). The latest coin was minted in AD 192. The coins are heavily worn out, with the inscriptions just partially visible and a lighter weight. To the conclusion, the time of hiding should be sometime after AD 192, possible end of the 2nd century AD, within the environment made up by a failing attempt of an Scythians' invasion. The literary sources document their intention to start up an offensive movement in this area. The failure of this initiative seems to have failed due to the weather conditions, heavy rainfalls and thunders, that killed three of their chieftains. The possibility of Scythian invasion ceased the trade connections between the populations of nowadays territory of Romanian Moldova and those leaving within the Roman province of Dacia. This tensioned situation is supported by the horizon of hoards from Moldova and Wallachia, in which the latest coins were issued between AD 193 and AD 196.

**Keywords:** *sestertii, monetary circulation, bronze, Antonine dynasty, Dobruja.*

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**I**n the present research, we are describing a Roman sestertii hoard, which was found in Dobruja before the year 2016, as a result of a series of illegal metal detection activities and poaching, carried out either in southern Dobruja or in the area of Jurilovca. The hoard was recovered from Germany, following an extensive operation undertaken by the Romanian Police, in collaboration with the German authorities. For this reason and due to the fact that the finding place of the hoard is quite uncertain, we decided to name the hoard Dobruja passim. The deposit

consists of 70 Roman bronze coins, Roman imperial issues, struck from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, that are extremely worn and that exhibit obvious degradation signs.

## CATALOGUE

### Traian (98-117)

1. Sestertius ↓ 23.46 g; 31.3 × 32 mm; legend almost erased.

Av. [IMP CAES NERVAE TR]AIANO AVG G[ER DAC P M TR P COS V P P]. Buŝt, laureate, to right, with drapery on the left shoulder.

Rv. [S. P. Q. R. OPTIMO PRINCIPI]. In exergue, [S C]. The emperor, standing to the left, holding a thunderbolt in his right hand and his left hand on a spear; it is crowned with a crown of a winged Victory on the right (holding a branch in the left hand).

BMC III, 825, pl. 30, 4, Roma, years 104-111 AD; RIC II, 549, Roma, years 103-111 AD.

2. Sestertius ↖ 23.58 g; 32.8 × 33.7 mm; legend almost erased.

Av. [IMP CAES NER TR]AIANO OPTIMO AVG G[ER DAC P M TR P COS VI P P]. Buŝt laureate, draped, to right.

Rv. Fortuna ?

BMC III, 1026 (?), Roma, years 115-116 AD; RIC II, 652 (?), Roma, years 114-117 AD.

### Hadrian (117-138)

3. Sestertius ↓ 23.66 g; 32.5 × 33.5 mm; very used.

Av. [IMP CAESAR TRAI]AN HADRIA – NVS AV[G P M TR P COS III]. Buŝt laureate, draped, to right.

Rv. [PIETAS – AVGVSTI]. In the field, [S – C]. Pietas, veiled, standing to the right, holding in a left, incense box, from which he throws in front with his left hand, above a burning altar.

BMC III, 1199, pl. 79, 1, Roma, years 119-120 or 121 AD; RIC II, 587b, Roma, years 119-121 AD.

4. Sestertius ↓ 23.41 g; 32.3 × 33.9 mm; very used.

Av. [IMP CAESAR] TRAIAN – [HADRIANVS AVG]. Buŝt laureate, draped and cuirassed, to right.

Rv. [P M TR – P – COS III]. In the field, S – C. Spes standing in front, to the left, holding a flower in right hand and raises skirt with left hand.

BMC III, 1256, pl. 80, 5 rv., Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 612b, Roma, years 121-122 AD.

5. Sestertius ↓ 25.21 g; 31.7 × 33.7 mm; very used.

Av. IMP CAESAR TRAIAN – H[ADRIANVS AVG]. Buŝt laureate, draped and cuirassed, to right.

Rv. [P M TR P] – COS III [PP]. In the field, [VI]RT – AVG / S – C. Virtus, helmeted, standing to left with the right foot raised on a helmet, holding in right hand parazonium and with left hand resting on a spear.

BMC III, 1263, pl. 80, 4 var., Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 614c, Roma, years 121-122 AD.

6. Sestertius ↓ 22.61 g; 31.1 × 32.1 mm; very used.

Av. [HADRIANVS – AVGVSTVS]. Buŝt, laureate, to right, with drapery on the left shoulder.

Rv. [COS – III]. In exergue, [S C]. Rome, helmeted, seated on an armor to the left, holding in right hand a winged Victory (standing to the right, who wants to crown her) and in left hand a cornucopia, on a shield.

BMC III, 1298, pl. 81, 7 var., Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 636, Roma, years 125-128 AD.

7. Sestertius ↘ 23.39 g; 31.7 mm; very used.

Av. HADRIANVS – [AVGVSTVS]. Buŝt, laureate, to right, with drapery on the left shoulder.

Rv. [COS III]. In the field, [S] – C. Aequitas (?) standing to the left, holding a balance in right hand and a vertical rod on his left arm.

BMC III, 1305-1306, pl. 81, 8, Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 637, Roma, years 125-128 AD.

8. Sestertius ↙ 24.43 g; 30.1 × 31.1 mm; with portions affected by green oxide.

Av. [HADRIA]NVS – [AVG COS III P P]. Laureate head to the right.

Rv. [AEQUITAS AVG]. In the field, S – C. Aequitas standing in front, to the left, holding a balance in right hand and a scepter in left hand.

BMC III, 1482, pl. 87, 2; Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 743, Roma, years 134-138 AD.

9. Sestertius ↙ 23.47 g; 28.8 × 30.6 mm; very used.

Av. [HADRIA]NVS – AVG CO[S III P P]. Laureate head to the right. Pearl circle.

Rv. [FIDES PVBLICA]. In the field, S – C. Fides standing in front, with his head to the right, holding in left hand a basket of fruit and in right hand, wheat ears.

BMC III, 1504, pl. 87, 8; Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 758, Roma, years 134-138 AD.

10. Sestertius ↘ 25.37 g; 30.8 × 31.9 mm; very used.

Av. [HADRIANVS – AVG COS III P P]. Laureate head to the right.

Rv. [FORTVNA – AVG ] (?). In the field, S – C. Fortune standing to the left, holding his right hand on a rudder on the globe and in left hand a cornucopia.

BMC III, 1507, pl. 87, 9 rv.; Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 759, Roma, years 134-138 AD.

11. Sestertius ↓ 27.50 g; 29.6 × 30.8 mm; very used.

Av. [HADRIANVS] – AVG COS III P P. Laureate head to the right. Pearl circle.

Rv. [MONETA AVG] ? In the field, S – C. Moneta standing to the left, holding in the right hand a balance and on the left arm a cornucopia.

BMC III, 1526, pl. 88, 6; Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 767, Roma, years 134-138 AD.

12. Sestertius ↓ 25.48 g; 31 mm; with portions affected by green oxide.

Av. HADRIANVS – AVG COS III P P. Bust, laureate, to right, with drapery on the left shoulder.

Rv. In the field, S – C. Diana standing in front, to the left, holding an arrow in right hand and in left hand a bow, upright on ground.

BMC III, 1546, pl. 89, 4; Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 777, Roma, years 134-138 AD.

13. Sestertius ↓ 22.80 g; 28.7 × 30.6 mm; very used.

Av. HADRIANVS – AVG COS [III P P]. Bust, laureate, to right, with drapery on the left shoulder.

Rv. In the field, S – C. Diana standing in front, to the left, holding an arrow in right hand and in left hand a bow, upright on ground.

BMC III, 1546, pl. 89, 4; Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 777, Roma, years 134-138 AD.

14. Sestertius ↓ 21.78 g; 28.4 × 30.6 mm; very used.

Av. [HA]DRIANVS – [AVG COS III P P]. Laureate head to the right (?).

Rv. In the field, S – C. Diana standing in front, to the left, holding an arrow in right hand and in left hand a bow, upright on ground.

BMC III, 1545, pl. 89, 4; Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 777, Roma, years 134-138 AD.

15. Sestertius ↓ 25.61 g; 28.9 × 30.3 mm; erased.

Av. HADRIANVS – [AVG COS III P P]. Laureate head to the right.

Rv. In the field, S – C. Nemesis, winged, advancing to the right, holding his dress with right hand and a branch downward in left hand.

BMC III, 1549, pl. 89, 1; Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 779, Roma, years 134-138 AD.

16. Sestertius ↓ 25.24 g; 30.3 mm; very used, with spots of green oxide.

Av. HADRIANVS – AVG [COS] III [P P]. Laureate head to the right.

Rv. [SALVS – AVG]. In the field, S – C. Salus, standing to the right, extending the right hand to a snake which he feeds from a patera on his left hand; the snake coiled around an altar.

BMC III, 1555, Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 785, Roma, years 134-138 AD.

17. Sestertius ↙ 25.39 g; 30.7 × 32.3 mm.

Av. [HADR]IANVS – [AVG COS III P P]. Laureate head to the right.

Rv. SAL[VS – AVG]. In the field, S – C. Salus, standing to the left, holding in his right hand a patera from which he feeds a snake that curls around a burning altar and with left hand on a scepter.

BMC III, 1558, Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 786, Roma, years 134-138 AD.

18. Sestertius ↓ 24.52 g; 31.8 mm.

Av. [HAD]RIANV[S] – AVG COS III [P P]. Bust, draped, to left.

Rv. [HISPANIA], sus. In exergue, S C. Hispania (?) reclining to the left, holding a branch in extended right hand and resting his left elbow on a rock.

BMC III, 1747, pl. 95, 1 rv., Roma, years 119-138 AD; RIC II, 851, Roma, years 134-138 AD.

19. Sestertius ↓ 23.25 g; 32.1 × 33.5 mm.

Av. [HADRIA]NVS – [AVGVSTVS P P]. Laureate bust, to the right.

Rv. [COS – III]. In exergue, [FO]RT R[ED]. In the field, [S – C]. Fortune seated on the throne to the left, holding right hand on a rudder on the globe and the cornucopia on left arm.

RIC II, 969, Roma, years 134-138 AD.

#### Antoninus Pius (138-161)

20. Sestertius ↑ 28.15 g; 30.8 × 31.9 mm; erased.

Av. [AN]TONINVS AVG PIVS – [P P TR P COS III]. Laureate head to the right.

Rv. [MONE] – TA A[VG]. In the field, S – C. Moneta standing in front, to the left, holding in the right hand a balance and on the left arm a cornucopia.

BMC IV, 1254, pl. 29, 3 rv., Roma, years 140-143 (and 144 ?) AD; RIC III, 610, Roma, years 140-144 AD.

21. Sestertius ↖ 22.24 g; 29.8 mm; erased.

Av. [ANTO]NINVS AVG – PIVS [P P TR P COS III]. Laureate head to the right.

Rv. [MONE – TA AVG]. In the field, S – C. Moneta standing in front, to the left, holding in the right hand a balance and on the left arm a cornucopia.

BMC IV, 1256 av., pl. 29, 3 rv., Roma, years 140-143 (and 144 ?) AD; RIC III, 610, Roma, years 140-144 AD.

22. Sestertius ↘ 24.26 g; 32.6 × 33.6 mm; erased.

Av. [ANTONINVS A]VG PI – VS P P TR P [COS III]. Laureate head to the right.

Rv. [ROMVLO AVGVSTO]. In the field, [S] – C. Romulus, in military uniform, advancing to the right, holding in right hand a spear and a trophy on his left shoulder and hand.

BMC IV, 1286, pl. 30, 4 rv., Roma, years 140-143 (and 144 ?) AD; RIC III, 624, Roma, years 140-144 AD.

23. Sestertius ↑ 21.59 g; 30 mm; very used.

Av. [ANTONINVS AVG PI] – VS P P TR P [COS III]. Laureate head to the right.

Rv. [ROMVLO AVGVSTO]. In the field, [S – C]. Romulus (?), in military uniform, advancing to the right, holding in right hand a spear and a trophy on his left shoulder and hand.

BMC IV, 1286, pl. 30, 4 rv., Roma, years 140-143 (and 144 ?) AD; RIC III, 624, Roma, years 140-144 AD.

24. Sestertius ↑ 23.52 g; 31.2 mm; erased.  
Av. ANTONINVS AVG PI – VS P P TR  
[P COS] III. Laureate head to the right.  
Rv: In the field, [S] – C. Spes advancing to the left,  
holding a flower in the right hand and raises his skirt  
with his left hand.  
BMC IV, 1289, pl. 30, 7 rv., Roma, years 140-143 (and  
144 ?) AD; RIC III, 626, Roma, years 140-144 AD.

25. Sestertius ↑ 21.58 g; 30.2 × 32.2 mm; used, with  
spots of oxide.  
Av. ANTONINVS AVG PI – VS P P [TR P COS III].  
Laureate head to the right.  
Rv. [SALVS PV]BLI[CA]. In exergue, [SC]. Salus  
seated on a throne with a backrest to the left, feeds, from  
a patera from right hand, a snake that rises above an altar  
and holding his left arm resting on the back of the throne.  
BMC IV, 1310, pl. 30, 12 rv., Roma, years 140-143 (and  
144 ?) AD; RIC III, 638, Roma, years 140-144 AD.

26. Sestertius ↓ 25.33 g; 29.8 × 31.2 mm; erased.  
Av. [ANTONINVS] AVG – PIVS PP TR P. Laureate  
head to the right.  
Rv. [COS IIII]. In exergue, [SC]. Securitas seated on a  
throne to the left, holding in his right hand an traverse  
scepter and propping his head on left hand.  
BMC IV, 1664, pl. 40, 8 rv., Roma, years 145-161 AD;  
RIC III, 764, Roma, years 145-161 AD.

27. Sestertius ↓ 24.07 g; 28.5 × 32.6 mm; erased.  
Av. [ANTONINVS] AVG PI – VS P[P TR P COS IIII].  
Laureate head to the right.  
Rv. [FELICIT – AS AVG]. In the field, S – C. Felicitas,  
standing in front, to the left, holding in extended  
right hand a capricorn and left hand on a long, winged  
caduceus.  
BMC IV, 1677, pl. 40, 13 rv., Roma, years 145-161 AD;  
RIC III, 770, Roma, years 145-161 AD.

28. Sestertius ↑ 21.53 g; 30.2 mm; erased.  
Av. [ANTONIN]VS AVG PI – VS PP [TR P COS IIII].  
Laureate head to the right.  
Rv. [FELICIT – AS AVG]. In the field, S – C. Felicitas,  
standing in front, to the left, holding in extended  
right hand a capricorn and left hand on a long, winged  
caduceus.  
BMC IV, 1677, pl. 40, 13 rv., Roma, years 145-161 AD;  
RIC III, 770, Roma, years 145-161 AD.

29. Sestertius ↖ 23 g; 30.7 × 31.2 mm; very used.  
Av. ANTONINVS AVG PI – VS P P TR P [COS  
IIII]. Laureate head to the right. Pearl circle.  
Rv: In the field, S – C. Mars advancing to the right,  
holding in the right hand a traverse spear and a trophy in  
his left hand and shoulder.  
BMC IV, 1705, pl. 41, 5 rv., Roma, years 145-161 AD;  
RIC III, 778, Roma, years 145-161 AD.

30. Sestertius ↖ 25.83 g; 29 mm; very used.  
Av. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P [TR P COS  
IIII]. Laureate head to the right. Pearl circle.  
Rv: In the field, [S] – C. Mars advancing to the right,  
holding in the right hand a traverse spear and a trophy in  
his left hand and shoulder.  
BMC IV, 1706, pl. 41, 5 rv., Roma, years 145-161 AD;  
RIC III, 778, Roma, years 145-161 AD.

31. Sestertius ↖ 22.70 g; 30.7 mm; erased.  
Av. [ANTONINVS] AVG – PIVS P P  
TR P XI. Laureate head to the right.  
Rv: [ANNO] – NA [AVG]. In the field, S – [C]. In  
exergue, [COS IIII]. Annona seated in front, to the  
left, holding two wheat ears in right hand spread over  
a modius with wheat ears and poppies (in left field) and  
holding left hand on an anchor lying on the ground.  
BMC IV, 1807, pl. 44, 2; Roma, years 147-148 AD; RIC  
III, 840, Roma, years 147-148 AD.

32. Sestertius ↓ 21.91 g; 28.4 × 29.8 mm; erased.  
Av. [ANTO]NINVS AVG – PIVS [PP IMP II]. Laureate  
head to the right.  
Rv. TR POT XIII COS IIII. In the field, [S] – C. Annona  
standing in front, to the right, with her left foot on a prow  
of a ship, holding in her left hand a modius with wheat  
ears on her knees and right hand resting on a rudder on  
the globe.  
RIC III, 868, Roma, years 150-151 AD

33. Sestertius ↓ 21.50 g; 29.8 × 31.3 mm; erased.  
Av. [IMP CAES T] AEL HADR ANTONINVS [S AVG  
PIVS P P]. Laureate head to the right.  
Rv. [TR POT XIII COS IIII]. In exergue, [M]ON  
AV[G]. In the field, S – C. Moneta standing to the left,  
holding in the right hand a balance and on the left arm,  
cornucopia.  
BMC IV, 1867A, pl. 45, 13; Roma, years 150-151 AD;  
RIC III, 872, Roma, years 150-151 AD.

34. Sestertius ↙ 20.96 g; 31.4 mm; erased.  
Av. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS PP TR P XVI. Laureate  
head to the right.  
Rv. INDVLGENT – I – A AVG COS IIII. In exergue,  
SC. Indulgentia seated on a throne to the left, extending  
his right hand in front and holding a transverse scepter  
on his left arm.  
BMC IV, 1920, pl. 46, 18 rv.; Roma, years 152-153 AD;  
RIC III, 904, Roma, years 152-153 AD.

35. Sestertius ↑ 25.07 g; 28.7 × 30.3 mm; erased.  
Av. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P[P TRP XVII].  
Laureate head to the right.  
Rv. [LIBE]RTAS – CO[S IIII]. In the field, S – C.  
Libertas standing in front, to the left, holding a pileus  
in his right hand extended and a scepter in his left hand.  
BMC IV, 1947, pl. 47, 8; Roma, years 153-154 AD; RIC  
III, 917, Roma, years 153-154 AD.

36. Sestertius ↓ 22.69 g; 30 × 31.9 mm; erased.  
Av. ANTONINVS AVG – PIV[S P P IMP II]. Laureate head to the right.  
Rv. [TR POT XX COS III]. In exergue, [S C]. Securitas seated to the left on chair with two cornucopiae crossed as arms, holding in the right hand a transverse scepter and with left hand resting on arm of chair.  
BMC IV, 2016 (Justitia), pl. 48, 13; Roma, years 156-157 AD; RIC III, 967, Roma, years 156-157 AD.

#### **Faustina Maior (138-141 AD)**

37. Sestertius ↑ 20.49 g; 30.09 × 31.38 mm.  
Av. [DIVA FA]V – STIN[A]. Laureate bust to the right.  
Rv. AETE[R – NITAS]. In exergue, SC. Aeternitas seated on a throne to the left, holding in his right hand a phoenix on a globe and transverse scepter on left arm.  
BMC IV, 1484, pl. 35, 10 var.; Roma, after the year 141 AD; RIC III, 1103A, Roma, after the year 141 AD.

38. Sestertius ↑ 23.19 g; 30.89 × 32.37 mm.  
Av. DIVA – FAV[STINA]. Bust veiled, draped to the right. Traces of pearl circle.  
Rv. [AETER – NITAS]. In exergue, [SC]. Aeternitas seated on a throne to the left, holding in his right hand a phoenix on a globe and transverse scepter on left arm.  
BMC IV, 1487, pl. 35, 10; Roma, after the year 141 AD; RIC III, 1103A, Roma, after the year 141 AD.

39. Sestertius ↑ 21.47 g; 29.9 × 31.34 mm; very used.  
Av. DIVA FAV – STINA. Laureate bust to the right.  
Rv. [AETER – NI]T[AS]. In the field, S – C. Aeternitas, standing to the left, holding a globe in right hand, and with his left hand raises the veil over head.  
BMC IV, 1497, pl. 35, 14; Roma, after the year 141 AD; RIC III, 1106, Roma, after the year 141 AD.

40. Sestertius ↖ 23 g; 30.75 × 31.59 mm; cracked flan, very erased.  
Av. DIVA – FAVS[TINA]. Bust, draped to right.  
Rv. [AVGV – ST]A. In the field, S – C. Ceres, standing to the left, holding in right hand a bunch of wheat ears and a torch on left arm.  
BMC IV, 1513, pl. 36, 4rv.; Roma, after the year 141 AD; RIC III, 1118, Roma, after the year 141 AD.

41. Sestertius ↘ 23.41 g; 30.51 × 32.76 mm.  
Av. DIVA – FAVSTINA. Bust draped, to right.  
Rv. [C]E[RE]S. In the field, S – C. Ceres, standing to the left, holding in right hand a bunch of wheat ears and a torch on left arm.  
BMC IV, 1527, pl. 36, 14 rv.; Roma, after the year 141 AD; RIC III, 1128, Roma, after the year 141 AD.

#### **Marcus Aurelius Caesar (139-161)**

42. Sestertius ↑ 19.79 g; 31.57 × 32.78 mm.  
Obv: [AVRELIVS] CAE – SAR AVG PII F COS II.  
Head, bare, to right.  
Rev: In the field, S – C. Minerva advancing to the right,

holding a shield in left hand and prepares to throw a spear with right hand. In the left field, behind her, a tree.  
BMC IV, 1776, pl. 43, 6; Roma, years 145-160 AD; RIC III, 1244 (Antoninus Pius), Roma, year 145 AD.

#### **Marcus Aurelius (161-180)**

43. Sestertius ↖ 25.06 g; 30.5 × 31.2 mm.  
Av. [M AVREL ANTONI]NVS AVG – AR[MENIACVS P M]. Laureate head to right.  
Rv. [TR P XVIII] – IMP I[I COS III]. In the field, [S – C]. Mars standing to the right, holding a spear in right hand and left hand resting on a shield.  
BMC IV, 1089; Roma, December 163 – December 164 AD; RIC III, 861, Roma, December 163 – December 164 AD.

44. Sestertius ↑ 21.44 g; 28.7 × 31.1 mm.  
Av. [M A]NTONINVS – AV[G TR P XXIII]. Laureate head to right.  
Rv. [S]ALV[TI AVG COS III]. In the field, S – C. Salus standing in front, to the left, holding a patera in right hand from which he feeds a snake, which curls around an altar, and holding a scepter on left arm.  
BMC IV, 1351, pl. 80, 9 rv.; Roma, December 168 – December 169 AD; RIC III, 964, Roma, December 168 – December 169 AD.

45. Sestertius ↓ 21.50 g; 28.6 × 29.9 mm.  
Av. [M ANT]ONINVS – AV[G TR P XXV]. Laureate head to right.  
Rv. [IMP VI COS III]. In the field, [S]– C. Victoria, winged to the right, holding a shield that she resting on a trunk; on the shield, the inscription VIC / GER is deleted.  
BMC IV, 1388, pl. 82, 2; Roma, December 170 – December 171 AD; RIC III, 1001, Roma, December 170 – December 171 AD.

46. Sestertius ↙ 20.50 g; 31.1 mm.  
Av. M AN[TONINVS] – A[VG TR P XX]VI [•]. Laureate head to right.  
Rv. IM[P VI – COS I]II. In the field,, S – C. Rome, helmeted, seated on an armor to the left, holding in right hand a Victory and left arm resting on a scepter, having at his feet, in the right field, a shield. Pearl circle.  
BMC IV, 1416, pl. 82, 7; Roma, December 171 – December 172 AD; RIC III, 1033, Roma, December 171 – December 172 AD.

47. Sestertius ↙ 25.61 g; 29 × 30.4 mm.  
Av. [M] ANTONINVS – AV[G TR P XXVI]. Laureate head to right.  
Rv. [I]MP VI – COS [III]. In the field,, S – C. Roma, helmeted, seated on armor to the left, holding a transverse spear in right hand and rests his left arm on a shield, with another shield behind him.  
BMC IV, 1420, Roma, December 171 – December 172 AD; RIC III, 1037, Roma, December 171 – December 172 AD.

48. Sestertius ↑ 26.38 g; 30.7 mm; erased.  
Av. [M AV]REL ANTON[INVS AVG TR P XXXII].  
Laureate head to right.  
Rv. [FELICITAS] AVG IMP VIII C[OS III P P]. In the field,, S – C. Felicitas, standing to the left, holding a caduceus in right hand and a scepter on his left arm.  
BMC IV, 1676, pl. 89, 2; Roma, December 177 – December 178 AD; RIC III, 1277, Roma, December 177 – December 178 AD.

49. Sestertius ↓ 24.64 g; 27.1 × 28.7 mm; very used.  
Av. [M AVREL AN]TONIN – VS [AVG TR P XXXII].  
Laureate head to right.  
Rv. [FELICITAS AVG IMP VIII COS III P P]. In the field,, [S – C]. Felicitas (?), standing to the left, holding a caduceus in right hand and a scepter on his left arm.  
BMC IV, 1676, pl. 89, 2; Roma, December 177 – December 178 AD; RIC III, 1277, Roma, December 177 – December 178 AD.

50. Sestertius ⚡ 18.66 g; 27.7 × 28.8 mm; erased.  
Av. [M AVREL] ANT[ONINVS AVG TR P XXXII ].  
Laureate head to right.  
Rv. FELICITAS [AVG IMP VIII COS III P P]. In the field, S – C. Felicitas, standing to the left, holding a caduceus in right hand and a scepter on his left arm.  
BMC IV, 1676, pl. 89, 2; Roma, December 177 – December 178 AD; RIC III, 1277, Roma, December 177 – December 178 AD.

#### **Faustina Minor (161-176)**

51. Sestertius ↑ 25.16 g; 30.8 × 31.5 mm.  
Av. FAVSTINA AVG – PII AVG FIL. Bust draped to the right.  
Rv. In the field, S – C. Diana standing front, to the left, holding an arrow in right hand and her left hand resting on a bow, set on ground. The attributes are not visible due to the deterioration of the coin.  
BMC IV, 2180, pl. 53, 2 rv.; Roma, undated; RIC III, 1383 (Antoninus Pius), Roma, year 161 AD

52. Sestertius ↑ 23.36 g; 30.2 × 32.1 mm.  
Av. [FA]VSTINA – AVGV[STA]. Bust draped to the right.  
Rv. [DIANA] – LV[CIF]. În câmp, [S – C]. Diana Lucifera, standing to the left, is holding a lighted torch with both hands.  
BMC IV, 897, pl. 73, 6 var.; Roma, years 161-176 AD; RIC III, 1628 (Marcus Aurelius), Roma.

53. Sestertius ↓ 21.68 g; 27.8 × 30.4 mm; legend erased.  
Av. FAVSTINA – AVGVSTA. Bust draped to the right.  
Rv. [FECVN] – D[I]TAS. In the field, S – C. Fecunditas standing to the right, holding a scepter in right hand and a child on the left hand.  
BMC IV, 906, Roma, years 161-176 AD; RIC III, 1638 (Marcus Aurelius), Roma.

54. Sestertius ↘ 20.63 g; 28.6 × 30.5 mm; very oxidized,

with spots of green oxide.  
Av. [FAVSTIN]A – A[VGUSTA]. Bust draped to the right.  
Rv. [FECVN] – D[ITAS]. In the field, [S] – C. Fecunditas standing to the right, holding a scepter in right hand and a child on the left hand.  
BMC IV, 906, Roma, years 161-176 AD; RIC III, 1638 (Marcus Aurelius), Roma.

55. Sestertius ⚡ 23.27 g; 29.98 × 32.35 mm; flan erased, cracked.  
Av. FAVSTINA – AVGVSTA. Bust draped to the right.  
Rv. [HIL]A – R[ITAS]. In the field, S – C. Hilaritas, standing to the left, holding in the right hand a branch and on the left arm a cornucopia.  
BMC IV, 912, pl. 73, 7 rv., Roma, years 161-176 AD; RIC III, 1642 (Marcus Aurelius), Roma.

56. Sestertius ↓ 27.85 g; 27.7 × 30.1 mm.  
Av. FAVSTINA – AV[GVSTA]. Bust draped to the right.  
Rv. I – V – NO. In the field, S – C. Juno, standing front to the left, holding a patera in right hand and a scepter in left hand. In the left field, a peacock barely visible, looking at the goddess.  
BMC IV, 917, pl. 73, 8 rv., Roma, years 161-176 AD; RIC III, 1645 (Marcus Aurelius), Roma.

57. Sestertius ↑ 21.52 g; 29.10 × 30 mm.  
Av. FAVSTINA – AVGVSTA. Bust draped to the right.  
Rv. [IVNONI – REGI]N[AE]. In the field, S – C. Juno, standing to the left, holding a patera in right hand and a scepter in left hand. At the feet of the goddess, in the left field, a peacock to the left, with the head turned to the right.  
BMC IV, 919, pl. 73, 4 rv., Roma, years 161-176 AD; RIC III, 1651 (Marcus Aurelius), Roma.

58. Sestertius ⚡ 24.40 g; 31.80 mm.  
Av. [F]AVSTINA – AVGV[STA]. Bust draped to the right.  
Rv. LAET[II – TIA]. In the field, S – C. Laetitia standing to the left, holding in right hand a wreath and a scepter in left hand.  
BMC IV, 924, pl. 73, 9 rv., Roma, years 161-176 AD; RIC III, 1654 (Marcus Aurelius), Roma.

59. Sestertius ↓ 25.32 g; 28.7 × 29.5 mm; very used.  
Av. FAVSTINA – AVGVSTA. Bust draped to the right.  
Rv. MATRI – MAGNAE. In exergue, [S C]. Cybele seated on a throne to the right, holding in left hand a drum and right arm resting on his back; at the feet of the goddess, on both sides of the throne, one lion; the one on the right being barely visible.  
BMC IV, 932, pl. 73, 11 rv., Roma, years 161-176 AD; RIC III, 1663 (Marcus Aurelius),

#### **Lucilla (161-169)**

60. Sestertius ↘ 21.90 g; 27 × 29.7 mm; erased legend.

Av. LVC[ILLA] – AVGVST[A]. Bust draped to the right.  
Rv. [FECVNDITAS]. In exergue, [S – C]. Fecunditas seated on a throne to the right, feeding a child he holding in his arms; in front and behind the throne, a girl and a boy looking at the goddess.  
BMC IV, 1197-1198, pl. 77, 10 rv., Roma, years 161-169 AD; RIC III, 1736 (Marcus Aurelius), Roma.

61. Sestertius ↓ 24.68 g; 29.4 × 30.7 mm; erased legend.  
Av. [LVC]ILLA – [AVGVSTA]. Bust draped to the right.  
Rv. [PIETAS]. In the field, S – C. Pietas, standing the front to the left, holding in right hand a patera above an lighted altar and a perfume box on the left arm.  
BMC IV, 1209, pl. 77, 11 rv., Roma, years 161-169 AD; RIC III, 1755 (Marcus Aurelius), Roma.

62. Sestertius ↓ 21,94 g; 30 × 31,9 mm. HC 69.  
Av. LVCILLAE AVG – ANTONINI AVG F. Bust draped to the right.  
Rv. PIETAS. In the field, S – C. Pietas, standing front to the left, extending right hand above an altar and holding a perfume box on the left arm.  
BMC IV, 1161, pl. 76, 9 rv., Roma, years 161-169 AD; RIC III, 1756 (Marcus Aurelius), Roma.

#### Commodus (180-192)

63. Sestertius ↓ 25.47 g; 26.6 × 30 mm; very used.  
Av. [M CO]MMO[DVS] ANT – [ONINVS AVG PIVS]. Laureate head to right.  
Rev: [TR P VIII IMP VI COS III P P]. In the field, [S] - C. Fides standing to the right, he holding in right hand a bunch of wheat ears and in left hand raised a plate of fruit. The image is very erased.  
BMC IV, 536, pl. 105, 6 rv.; Roma, December 183 – December 184 AD; RIC III, 413, Roma, 183 – 184 AD.

64. Sestertius ↘ 22.18 g; 28 × 28.8 mm; very used.  
Av. [M COMMODVS ANT – P FELIX AVG BRIT]. Laureate head to right.  
Rv. [HILARITAS AVG P M TR P XII] IMP [VIII COS V P P]. In the field, S – C. Hilaritas standing front, to the left, holding in the right hand an olive branch and a long palm branch on the left arm.  
BMC IV, 593, Roma, December 186 – December 187 AD; RIC III, 498, Roma, 186 – 187 AD.

65. Sestertius ↓ 19.56 g; 30 mm; erased.  
Av. M COMMODVS ANT – P FEL[IX AVG BRIT]. Laureate head to right.  
Rv. HILARITAS AVG P M TR P XII IMP VIII COS V P P. In the field, S – C. Hilaritas standing front, to the left, holding in the right hand an olive branch and a long palm branch on the left arm.  
BMC IV, 593, Roma, December 186 – December 187 AD; RIC III, 498, Roma, 186 – 187 AD.

66. Sestertius ↖ 18.77 g; 27.5 × 28.5 mm; very used.  
Av. [M COMM]ODVS AN[T P FELIX AVG BRIT].

Laureate head to right.  
Rv. [VIRTVTI AVG PM TRP XII IMP VIII COS V PP]. In the field, S – C. Virtus helmeted standing to the left, holding in the right hand a small Victory (standing to the right, with a crown in the right hand) and in the left hand a spear and a shield.  
BMC IV, 604, Roma, December 186 – December 187 AD; RIC III, 505, Roma, 186 – 187 AD.

67. Sestertius ↓ 24.63 g; 27.7 mm; erased.  
Av. [M COMMOD] ANT P FE – LIX AVG BRIT [PP]. Laureate head to right. Pearl circle.  
Rv. [SECVRIT ORB PM TRP XIII IMP VIII COS V]. In the field, S – C. In exergue, DES VI. Securitas seated on throne to the left, holding a globe in right hand and with left arm resting on arm of throne.  
BMC IV, 640, pl. 108, 11; Roma, 189 AD later; RIC III, 545, Roma, 189 AD.

68. Sestertius ↓ 18.04 g; 27.5 × 28.3 mm; very used.  
Av. [M COMMODVS] ANT – P FEL[IX AVG BRIT]. Laureate head to right.  
Rv. [PIETATI • SENATVS]. In exergue, [COS V P P]. In the field, [S] – C. Commodus, standing to the right, holding a volume (roll) and clasping the hand of Genius Senatus, who is to left, with a scepter on the left arm.  
BMC IV, 607, pl. 107, 7; Roma, 186 – 189 AD; RIC III, 549, Roma, 186 – 189 AD.

69. Sestertius ↘ 24.12 g; 28.45 × 30.4 mm; erased.  
Av. [L] AEL AVR[EL COMM AVG P FEL]. Laureate head to right.  
Rv. [P M TR P XVII • IMP VIII COS VII P P]. In the field, S – C. A star (?) in the left field. Victory advancing to the left, he raises a wreath in his right hand and holding a branch in his left hand.  
BMC IV, 703, pl. 110, 10 rv. different; Roma, 192 AD; RIC III, 612, Roma, 192 AD.

#### Crispina (180-182)

70. Sestertius ↓ 22.31 g; 27.27 × 29.56 mm.  
Av. CRISPIN[A] – AVGV[STA]. Bust draped to the right.  
Rv. [LAETITIA]. In the field, S – C. Laetitia standing front, looking to the left, holding in right hand a wreath and left hand resting on a rudder on the globe.  
BMC IV, 417, pl. 102, 5 rv., Roma, years 180-183 AD; RIC III, 669, Roma.

As it can be seen in the catalogue, the earliest coins are two pieces issued by the Roman emperor Trajan, accounting for 2.8% of the total issues of the deposit; they date from the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, arriving in this area after the Dacian wars waged in the south of Dobruja. The coins are

extremely worn-out, being in the same time affected by oxides. They are followed by 17 sestertii from Hadrian, meaning 24.2% of the total, which are grouped as follows: one Pietas-type coin dating from 119-121 AD, two coins struck during the following year, another two coins from 125-128 AD, all of them being supplemented by a significant group of 12 coins issued between the years 124-138 AD.

From Antoninus Pius were identified 17 pieces with his effigy, that can be grouped as follows: six sestertii from the years 140-144 AD, followed by five issues from 145-161 AD, the rest of them dissipating between the years 147-157 AD. During the time of the first Antonin, we can trace another five sestertii from Faustina Maior type Diva, that can be dated after the year 141 AD, a coin from Marcus Aurelius as Caesar, as well as a piece struck in the name of Faustina Minor in 161 AD, thus increasing the number of pieces to 24 coins and their share at 34.2%.

From the reign of Marcus Aurelius there were identified eight coins, which are relatively evenly arranged, with the exception of the last three issues that can be grouped between the years 177-178 AD. They are supplemented by eight sestertii from Faustina Minor (161-176) and three coins from Lucilla (161-169), increasing the percentage value of the coins from the reign of the philosopher-emperor at 27.1 %, under the value of the ones dating from the time of Antoninus Pius.

The following seven coins can be traced during the reign of Commodus and can be classified as follows: one issue from 183-184 AD, followed by three coins struck between 186-187 AD, another two pieces dating from the following two years, so that the hoard ends with a coin attributed to a series from 192 AD. There is also another coin from Crispina (180-182 AD), therefore the percentage of the Commodus coins can rise at 11.4%.

If we look closely at the coins, we can be seen the fact that they have an increased state of wear. Often, the obverse legends bearing the title of the emperor are partially visible. On the reverse, the iconographic representations

were hardly identified, sometimes being barely visible, even unintelligible, as in the case of a coin from Trajan, which we assigned, reservedly, to the Fortuna goddess (no. 2). Also, the reverse legends are only fragmentary preserved, being visible only some letters. Some of the pieces have fissures, cracks on the edge and especially on the flan, as it can be seen in the case of some coins from Hadrian (nos. 5-6), Antoninus Pius (nos. 20, 23) or of Marcus Aurelius (nos. 42, 46). To these features it can also be added the fact that the weight of the coins is slightly lower than the average of the contemporary Imperial Roman coins having the same nominal or even of the same issue.

All these features indicate that the accentuated wear is due to the circulation of the coins on the local market long before they were hidden. Significant is also that the last coin of the deposit was assigned with difficulty to a series of the year 192 AD, due to its poor conservation state. Therefore, in the dating process of the hiding moment of the hoard it must be taken into account also this fact, which suggests the possibility that the coins might have circulated much longer than the date indicated by the latest coin of the hoard.

In an attempt to locate our deposit, we searched several analogies in the specialized literature, more precisely among the bronze coins hoards from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, found in Dobruja. Quite interesting is the fact that similar hoards are quite few and most of them are still unpublished, waiting for a careful research and publication. Also, based on the monetary findings, we tried to highlight the characteristics of the cash flow during the interval between the reigns of Trajan and Commodus, concerning the following period as well, up until Severus Alexander.

At the level of the recent data presented in the specialized literature, it is noted the presence of the imperial bronzes' deposits in Dobruja starting with Trajan, immediately after the conclusion of the Dacian wars. They are a continuous presence, having specific structures, more or less similar for the reign

of each emperor.

The first deposit of Roman bronzes dating from the reign of Trajan was found in Constanța in the 1960s, with the occasion of the foundation excavation of a block on Ferdinand Boulevard. It contains only three coins: one sestertius from Domitian and two dupondii from Nerva and Trajan, the last piece being struck between the years 104-111 AD<sup>1</sup>. Next to the Constanța hoard, it can be added the deposit from Măcin, Tulcea County, 1934, composed of 14 denarius *subaerati* from Trajan<sup>2</sup>. Although the coins were recovered from a hoard of about 300 silver coins, its structure is extremely suggestive, some of the pieces being struck during the Dacian wars, while most of them can be dated during the immediately following period, so the deposit ends with issues from the years 114-117 AD<sup>3</sup>.

An analysis of the monetary deposits from the time of Trajan does not seem to bring anything relevant, because they have different structures, being directly influenced by the way of discovering, by their degree of recovery, as well as by the monetary reform from 107 AD. On the other hand, if we analyze the structure of the imperial roman deposits before Trajan, it is observed that most of them have Roman Republican denarii in significant percentages, varying between 20-80%<sup>4</sup>. The

<sup>1</sup> OCHEȘEANU, DICU 1981-1982, p. 443, no. III, 1-3 (Paul I. Dicu collection); RTMD, p. 174, no. 31. Constanța - Tomis (XVIII).

<sup>2</sup> GATTORNO 1940, p. 232-235; RTMD, p. 267, no. 86 (IV).

<sup>3</sup> The structure is as follows: 1 piece from the years 101-102 AD. (COHEN 242, RIC II 60), 7 pieces from the years 103-111 AD (COHEN 3, RIC II 91 – 3 pieces; COHEN 87, RIC II 122 – 1 piece; COHEN 70, RIC II 123 – 1 piece; COHEN 80, RIC II 130 – 1 piece; COHEN 426, RIC II 193 – 1 piece), 1 piece from the years 103-104 AD (COHEN 403, RIC II 151), 2 pieces from the years 112-114 AD (COHEN 558, RIC II 292 – 1 piece.; COHEN 577, RIC II 294 – 1 piece), 3 pieces from the years 114-117 AD (COHEN 152, RIC II 320 – 1 piece; COHEN 270, RIC II 337 – 1 piece; COHEN 272, RIC II 353 – 1 piece).

<sup>4</sup> The proportion of the republican denarii from the deposit from Viile, Constanța County, 1976, is over 80 % (RTMD, p. 381-383, no. 173), as well as in the one from Rachelu, Tulcea County, 1993 (RTMD, p. 317-319, no. 126); a significant share of 66% is noted at

only exception is an incomplete hoard found in Agighiol, Tulcea County – Vallis Domitiana, 1967, with the last piece from Domitian. Just a lot of eight denarii was donated to the Tulcea Museum<sup>5</sup>. As a structure, it is much more alike to the later deposits from Mangalia, Constanța County, 2005<sup>6</sup> (ended at Hadrian) or Medgidia, Constanța County, 1978<sup>7</sup> (ended at Antoninus Pius). As a result, it can be admitted that it is only a fragment of a hoard that was hidden earliest during Trajan's time. It is not random the fact that, starting with Trajan, the Roman republican denarii no longer appear in the hoards. This situation was also noted in the hoarded cash from the province of Dacia and it has been explained through the reform initiated by the emperor in the year 107 AD, in the V consulate. Through this reform was imposed a massive retraction of the older coins from the market, being targeted all the issues struck before Nero's reform, regardless of metal<sup>8</sup>. The reform has been implemented by a decree and its immediate effect was the disappearance of the republican denarii from the monetary deposits from Dobruja, as well as the reduction of their proportion both in the hoards from the province of Dacia<sup>9</sup> and in the ones from the south of the Danube<sup>10</sup>.

Adamclisi, before 1957 (RTMD, p. 127, no. 3), of 54 % at Belica-Turtucaia (Siliștra), 1938 (RTMD, p. 148, no. 15), of 46 % at Casicea, Tulcea County, 1953 (RTMD, p. 159-160, no. 27). Lower percentages of the republican denarii are noted in the case of Tulcea deposit, 1940s (RTMD, p. 364-365, no. 162) of 31 % and Niculițel, Tulcea County, 1937 (RTMD, p. 284-285, nr. 97) of 24 %. The proportions are directly influenced by the recovery degree of the monetary deposit.

<sup>5</sup> OBERLANDER-TÂRNOVEANU 1980, p. 502, no. 22; RTMD, p. 134, no. 4. Agighiol.

<sup>6</sup> PETAC *et alii* 2008, p. 39-47.

<sup>7</sup> VERTAN 1978, p. 227-234.

<sup>8</sup> PETAC 2010, p. 21-22.

<sup>9</sup> The hoard from Medveș, Fărău commune, Alba county, concluded at Trajan, with a issue from 113 AD, contains only four denarii for legions from Marcus Antoninus, meaning 2.83% of its total coins.

<sup>10</sup> They will not disappear from the structure of the deposits, but their number is extremely reduced. South of the Danube, the hoards from Siliștra-Durostorum, 1978, Goleș (Siliștra), 1964 and Grunțearovo (Siliștra), 1912, that end at Marcus Aurelius, contain legionary denarii, having a share between 3.12% and even 20%.

It is certain the fact that for the period of Trajan, both hoards, the one of bronze coins from Constanța, 1960s, and the one of denarii *subaerati* from Măcin, Tulcea County, 1934, end with issues struck either in 104-111 AD, or later between the years 114-117 AD. These points indicate their late arriving in Dobruja, certainly after the finish of the Dacian-Roman wars. This is not fortuitous, but on the contrary, it is related to the reconstruction activities dedicated to the strengthening of the Danube line frontier. Trajan took extensive measures to strengthen the Danubian limes by constructing new Roman forts and by establishing new troops in the area<sup>11</sup>. After the end of the Dacian wars, *Legio V Macedonica* came in Dacia and starting with 107 AD settled in Troesmis (Iglița, Tulcea County). Also, after participating in the conflict with the Dacian king, but before 114 AD, the *Legio XI Claudia* is sent to Durostorum (Silistra), which becomes its headquarters for at least three hundred years<sup>12</sup>. The emperor initiated the strengthening of the limes since the time of the Dacian wars, by restoring fortresses like Carsium (Hârșova, Constanța County), by bringing numerous auxiliary units, by developing the system of roads from the inside of the province and by designating a new stations, in Barboși for example, of the Danube military fleet, *Classis Flavia Moesiaca*. It is important to mention that this military fleet was constituted during the reign of Vespasian and initially had its headquarters at Noviodunum. Several units of the army were active in this area, some of them being quartered in the western Pontic Greek cities. All these initiatives brought a significant cash inflow in the Province of Moesia Inferior, fact that was illustrated by the isolated findings, as well as by the important amount of the Trajan's coins which are perpetuated in the hoards ended in the following period of time.

As regarding the causes of the Trajan

An earlier deposit, ended at Hadrian, from Jitnița (Dobrici), 1916, contains a denarius from Marcus Aurelius, according to IRRCHBulg, p. 54, no. 83.

<sup>11</sup> ISTROM 2010, p. 303.

<sup>12</sup> DID II, p. 120-122.

deposits hidings, for the one from Constanța, the reasons are still unclear, the amount of three bronze coins being too small and suggesting that the batch might have been lost by the owner. But the Măcin deposit, with its last coin dating from 114-117 AD, seems to be hidden rather, at the beginning of Hadrian's reign. Although it is quite isolated on the Danube line, in the north of Dobruja, its concealment can be linked to certain rebellions of some populations on border. Now, several discoveries with isolated coin from the end of Trajan's reign, were attested in the forts from the Province of Dacia. These findings concluded together with the archaeological data, they allow the positioning of certain events: the discovery in the Vărădia castra (Caraș-Severin County) of a burned coin from Hadrian struck in 117 AD, as well as the obvious traces of the arson of the Tibiscum castra and the Drobeta castra<sup>13</sup>. The Drajna castra was abandoned at the end of Trajan's reign, a fact proven by the series of the coins found here that is interrupted in the years 116-117 AD. All these data create the premises that support the hypothesis of an attack of the Sarmatians in the south-western area of the Province of Dacia, sometime at the beginning of Hadrian's reign. This hypothesis is supported by the four deposits found in Muntenia (Râfov and Cocoșești, Prahova County, the one found in Prahova County in 1933 and Crivățu, Dâmbovița County), that might indicate an attack of the Sarmatian Roxolan tribe, which was discontented by the reduction of the subsidies<sup>14</sup>. On this occasion they attack the forts from Drajna de Sus, Mălăiești, Pietroasa and Târgșor, a fact confirmed by the local monetary findings. In this context, a possible forcing of the Danubian frontier from Măcin is no excluded.

Cash inflows are lower during the Hadrian's reign, when it is attested the finding of bronze coins at Dăeni, Tulcea County<sup>15</sup>. In

<sup>13</sup> PETAC 2010, p. 176-177.

<sup>14</sup> TUDORICĂ 2006, p. 60.

<sup>15</sup> MOISIL 1914, p. 23, no. 29 (the collection of the Archaeology Institute from Bucharest); RTMD, p. 189, no. 36. Dăeni (III).

the 1913 autumn, in a clay pot were discovered 14 Roman coins from Trajan (ten pieces - nine large pieces with the legends COS V, VI, VII and a small one) and Hadrian (four coins - three sestertii and a small bronze with the inscriptions COS II and III), alongside a silver coin from Istros with the monogram A on the reverse. The deposit has a compact structure with the exception of the drachma, which was later added and that was probably seen by the contemporaries of the denarii as a historical piece, an antique, important perhaps due to its age and metal. For this time, a similar old coin was found in a funerary inventory in Tomis<sup>16</sup>.

Regarding the silver coin, only one finding from this time is signaled. It is a funeral deposit from Mangalia (Callatis), Constanța County, 2005, with 15 denarii from Nero and Hadrian<sup>17</sup>. Despite the character of the finding, the amount of money deposited in the tomb seems to come directly from the circulation, reflecting the features of the cash existing on the market at the time. The issues from the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD have a significant proportion (55.33%), but until a new confirmation we can consider it quite relative. Among them four pieces from Vespasian dominate, in contrast with the other four coins issued during the previous period (one each from Nero, Otho, Galba and Vittelius), followed by four coins from Trajan and another three from his successor, with a percentage value of 44.66%. In this specific deposit, it can be noticed the high value of the previous cash in which the issues from Vespasian predominate<sup>18</sup>. This

<sup>16</sup> A drachm from Istros was found in the tomb M2 of the Roman necropolis from the south-western area of Tomis, alongside a provincial bronze coin from Caracalla that was struck here, according to BUCOVALĂ, PAȘCA 1991, p. 235-236; RTMD, p. 178-179, no. 31. Constanța - Tomis (XXVIII). p. 182, no. 31. Constanța - Tomis (LXI), where is mentioned a coin from Istros dated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC.

<sup>17</sup> PETAC *et alii* 2008, p. 39-47; RTMD, p. 263, no. 85 (XXXIX). The last coin dates from the years 134-138 (or 132).

<sup>18</sup> The percentages can be distributed as follows: Nero-Vittelius (26.6 %), Vespasian (26.6 %), Traian (26.6 %) and Hadrian (20.6 %).

situation is still preserved during the time of Antoninus Pius<sup>19</sup>. The denarii of Vespasian start to appear in the hoards in impressive quantities starting with the deposits ended during Titus time, imposing themselves as proportion in the issues from the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD, in deposits like the one found at Adamclisi before 1957<sup>20</sup> and the one from Tulcea, found during 1940s<sup>21</sup>. This can be explained by the fact that the cash infusion with his name took place with the arriving of the auxiliary army units that followed the annexation of Dobruja at the newly founded Province of Moesia, in the year 69 AD. The significant proportion of Vespasian's denarii in the hoards from Dobruja, as well as in the ones from Province of Dacia, is one of the effects of Nero's monetary reform, whose impact on the silver monetary mass is only felt during the time of Vespasian<sup>22</sup>. Also now, it can be noticed the increased contribution of the denarii through the local isolated findings<sup>23</sup>, which was determined by the reorganization measures in the region and by the straightening of the border, both of them coordinated by the first governor of Moesia from the time of Vespasian, Rubrius Gallus, after his predecessor had been killed by the Dacians<sup>24</sup>. The first auxiliary troops are brought to Durostorum (*cohors II Flavia Brittonum*), Carsium (*ala Gallorum Flaviana*), Arrubium (*ala I Vespasiana Dardanorum*), but also to Sacidava or Troesmis. At this time, the organization of the Danube military fleet named *Classis Flavia Moesica* took place<sup>25</sup>.

Another feature of the deposits concluded during the time of Hadrian refers to the high proportion of the Trajan's coins, closely followed by the ones of his successor. This situation is also preserved during the

<sup>19</sup> The coins from Vespasian dominate the issues from the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. In the hoard from Medgidia, Constanța County, 1978, of the 26 pieces dated in the 1<sup>st</sup> century, 15 are denarii from this emperor.

<sup>20</sup> OCHEȘEANU 1988-1989, p. 91-97.

<sup>21</sup> RTMD, p. 364-365, no. 162 (IV).

<sup>22</sup> PETAC 2010, p. 15-16.

<sup>23</sup> VERTAN 2002, p. 50.

<sup>24</sup> ISTROM 2010, p. 300.

<sup>25</sup> DID II, p. 61.

time of Antoninus Pius. Instead, the coins from the period interval of 98-161 AD become even more numerous, with proportions of 60-70%, exceeding those of the 1<sup>st</sup> century.

The reconstruction activity of the Dobruja region continues under Hadrian, who, by his philhellenic attitude encourages the development of the Greek cities, which express their gratitude through a series of imperial dedications<sup>26</sup>. Tomis become again *libera*, calling itself *respublica Tomitanorum*<sup>27</sup>. For Istros, in the great album of Gerusia, dated in this time, it is mentioned the refoundation of the city, alluding to the regaining of some old rights. The commercial relations develop with more and more distant cities, southern coins reaching this area. It is the case of a deposit found in Dobruja passim, before 1954, constituted of 19 didrachmas struck in Caesarea in Cappadocia from Tiberius, Vespasian and Trajan and a piece from Amissos from Hadrian<sup>28</sup>. It is a period of peace, favorable to development and construction. The civil settlements from around the forts develop into real cities; for example, in Durostorum, the settlement around the *Legio XI Claudia*, obtains from Hadrian the *canabae Aeliae* title, which was granted only to the important cities.

How can one explain the hiding of the deposits from Dăeni, Tulcea County, 1913 and Dobruja passim, before 1954, in a period of peace, as is the reign of Hadrian<sup>29</sup>? Whereas the last coins were struck after 132 AD or between the years 134-138 AD, they have no apparent reason<sup>30</sup>. But given the situation from Moldavia, which is the preferred passage area of the barbarian populations coming from the north to the south, we might have some clues. In this region, a horizon of hidden

<sup>26</sup> DID II, p. 134-135; VERTAN 2002, p. 59.

<sup>27</sup> ISTROM 2010, p. 304.

<sup>28</sup> RTMD, p. 390, no. 186 (III). The last issue from Hadrian dates from the years 131-132 AD.

<sup>29</sup> The monetary deposit from Mangalia, 2005, was excluded due to the fact that is a funerary inventory with its last coin from the years 134-138 AD (or 132 AD).

<sup>30</sup> The same situation is noted for Dacia province, according to PETAC 2010, p. 177.

hoards was identified during the Hadrian's reign, but also at the beginning of Antoninus Pius reign, the most representative hoards being the one from Homiceni, Neamț County (II). The answer seems to be in the new attacks or riots of the Getae population from outside the province<sup>31</sup>. The historical sources remind of the „madness of the Getae” and of the wars waged against them by the legates of Antoninus Pius<sup>32</sup>. The period in which these attacks would have taken place, as well as the response of the Roman army was placed between 140-143 AD, being followed by the receiving by Antoninus Pius of the second imperial acclamation. In these circumstances, the deposit from Dăeni, Tulcea County (1913) can be explained, while the hoard with oriental coins of Dobruja passim (before 1954) is only the result of a commercial transaction, therefore it could have been hidden even earlier.

For the period of Antoninus Pius, we have a bronze deposit also found in Dăeni, Tulcea County, around 1910-1911. According to some information preserved from Harilau Metaxa, it is a hoard constituted of Roman imperial coins, from which the National Museum of Antiquities would have bought a lot of 20 pieces<sup>33</sup>. These would be ordered as follows: Trajan (11 pieces), Hadrian (seven pieces, of which one from Sabina), Antoninus Pius (two pieces). At first glance, this structure seems to have been the subject of a selection made at the time of purchase. However, it is confirmed by the structure of a second batch of coins from Noviodunum, which was published with the indication „hoard 1987”<sup>34</sup>. As a result, we collected the coins bearing this

<sup>31</sup> TUDORICĂ 2006, p. 59.

<sup>32</sup> AELIUS ARISTIDES, XXVI, 70; MACREA 1959, p. 54-55.

<sup>33</sup> MITREA 1976, p. 290, no. 78; MITREA 1976-1980, p. 584, no. 171; VERTAN 2002, p. 274, no. 12; RTMD, p. 189, no. 36. Dăeni (II).

<sup>34</sup> POPESCU, IACOB 2016, indicate for the inventory numbers 49950-49965 the note „hoard 1987”, but among them, there are 13 pieces with a unitary structure, the other three being much later issues cannot be linked to this hoard. They probably arrived here as a result of subsequent contamination of the hoard or due to a defective handling of the coins.

indication, which resulted a small deposit consisting of 13 bronze pieces from Claudius I (two asses)<sup>35</sup>, Domitian - Divus Augustus Type (one dupondius)<sup>36</sup>, Trajan (four asses<sup>37</sup> and a sestertius<sup>38</sup>), Hadrian (one dupondius and two asses<sup>39</sup>) and Antoninus Pius (one as and one dupondius<sup>40</sup>), with its last coin dating from the years 157-158 AD. The proportion of the Antoninus Pius issues from the two deposits is significantly lower than those of Trajan and Hadrian, but it is natural in the conditions in which they end during this period.

On the contrary, now the number of denarii hoards doubles as it can be seen in the findings from Medgidia, Constanța County, 1978<sup>41</sup> and Șabla (Dobrici, Bulgaria), years 1980s<sup>42</sup>. As a common factor, in both findings, significant percentages are recorded at Vespasian, Trajan and Hadrian<sup>43</sup>. Their distorted proportion in the case of the Medgidia deposit is given by its partial recuperation, less than a half of the total. The percentage values for Trajan and Hadrian, provided by the Șabla hoard (Dobrici, Bulgaria) are confirmed by the bronze deposits from Dăeni, 1910-1911 and Noviodunum, 1987<sup>44</sup>. Interestingly, in the latest discoveries, the common metal

<sup>35</sup> POPESCU, IACOB 2016, p. 48, no. 79 (ICEMT 49960) și p. 49, no. 86 (ICEMT 49965).

<sup>36</sup> POPESCU, IACOB 2016, p. 53, no. 108 (ICEMT 49951).

<sup>37</sup> POPESCU, IACOB 2016, p. 54, no. 114 (ICEMT 49957); no. 115 (ICEMT 49953), no. 117 (ICEMT 49955), p. 56, no. 131 (ICEMT 49961).

<sup>38</sup> POPESCU, IACOB 2016, p. 55, no. 125 (ICEMT 49950).

<sup>39</sup> POPESCU, IACOB 2016, p. 58, no. 139 (ICEMT 49962) și p. 59, no. 145 (ICEMT 49956) for asses p. 58, no. 141 (ICEMT 49954) for dupondius.

<sup>40</sup> POPESCU, IACOB 2016, p. 61-62, no. 162 (ICEMT 49952) for as p. 63, no. 172 (ICEMT 49959) for dupondius.

<sup>41</sup> VERTAN 1978, p. 227-234; RTMD, p. 270-271, no. 89 (II).

<sup>42</sup> RTMD, p. 357, no. 155 (I).

<sup>43</sup> In the deposit from Șabla (Dobrici, Bulgaria), the denarii from Vespasian reach 12%, the ones from Trajan 44%, while the one from Hadrian 20%.

<sup>44</sup> The proportions vary for Trajan between 38% and 55%, while for Hadrian between 23%-35%, values that are directly influenced by the recovery degree of the deposit.

issues from Vespasian are missing, which could be explained by a predominantly silver cash infusion in his time<sup>45</sup>. By stage, the coins from the years 98 - 161 AD occupy dominant percentages in all deposits concluded with Antoninus Pius (over 60% up to 100%).

In his time, it is carried out a significant reconstruction activity of the roads attested by the military poles (*miliaria*) discovered at Sinoe, Seimeni, Mircea Vodă and Callatis<sup>46</sup>. In the Greek cities are being built new and impressive buildings; at Istros is built an open portico. Tomis acquires a special importance, being named in the inscriptions the metropolis of the Pont. After the actions of the Getae before the year 143 AD, with visible consequences only in Dacia, troubles occur due to the movement of the Carpi or Costoboci tribes in 154-158 AD<sup>47</sup>. Also in the province, we can distinguish the existence of a horizon of coins hoards in the period between 156-157, a situation that finds its correspondent in the discoveries from Pannonia and Noricum. This vast horizon of hoards from the northern area of the Central European and Eastern provinces of the Empire is linked to the pressure and the troubles generated in the barbarian world by the beginning of the migration of the Goths. As well in Dobruja the hoards are hidden due to the disorders caused by the northern populations<sup>48</sup>. In this context, the deposits from Noviodunum, 1987 (with the last issue from 157-158 AD) and the one from Medgidia, Constanța County, 1978, could be placed<sup>49</sup>. For Dăeni, Tulcea County, 1910-1911, although it is not known the date of the last coin, it should not be excluded an early dating, before 143, by virtue of the existence of the previous deposit

<sup>45</sup> The bronze coins from Vespasian lack from the previous deposits, from the time of Trajan and Hadrian. This is one of the effects of the monetary reform initiated by Nero and applied by the emperor to the denarii issues.

<sup>46</sup> EIAVR I, p. 73-74, s.v. Antoninus Pius.

<sup>47</sup> PETAC 2010, p. 177-179.

<sup>48</sup> DID II, p. 141-142; VERTAN 2002, p. 63.

<sup>49</sup> The last coin is largely dated between the years 145-161 AD.

from 1913, which is concluded at the end of Hadrian's reign. Unfortunately, the one from Sabla (Dobrici, Bulgaria) is not extensively published, so it cannot offer any clue.

This situation changes in the next period, in the time of Marcus Aurelius, when the hoards of Roman bronze coins offer a different proportion of the issues of each emperor<sup>50</sup>. In our discussion, a relevant hoard is the one found in Mangalia, in 1994, towards Albești<sup>51</sup>. It consists of 13 Roman bronze coins from the 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, belonging to the emperors Claudius I (with a coin from Agrippina I), Trajan, Hadrian, Antoninus Pius (eight coins)<sup>52</sup>, ending with two pieces from Faustina Minor struck in the time of Marcus Aurelius, from 161-176 AD. The issues consist of sestertii (four pieces), dupondii (two pieces) and asses (seven pieces), coins with poor condition, with obvious worn traces, due to circulation. In the case of the asses, it can be seen the partial erasure of the reverse legends, features that can be found on the coins from our deposit.

Also now, is signaled the deposit from Gârliciu, Constanța County (Cius), 1999, which seems to have been found near the road to Saraiu, after a heavy rain<sup>53</sup>. Of the 20 bronze coins, only eight pieces - sestertii, dupondii and asses were recovered: Antoninus Pius (four pieces) Faustina I (one piece), Faustina II (two pieces), Marcus Aurelius (one piece). In the amounts hoarded during the Marcus Aurelius period, the proportion of the issues from Antoninus Pius increases impressively, reaching the percentage peak (over 60%).

The hoards of imperial denarii grow spectacularly in the time of Marcus Aurelius at six findings, but excepting the deposit

<sup>50</sup> See the table no. 2, with the structure of the bronze coins deposits from Dobruja during the period from Trajan to Commodus.

<sup>51</sup> CHD I, p. 83-89.

<sup>52</sup> The monetary issues from the time of Antoninus Pius are composed of two pieces from this emperor, followed by two pieces from Faustina Major of type Diva, and four pieces from Faustina Minor.

<sup>53</sup> RTMD, p. 208, no. 49. Gârliciu, Constanța County - Cius.

found at Pantelimonul de Sus (the ancient Ulmetum), Constanța County, in the years 2000-2001<sup>54</sup>, they are grouped around Silistra and further south<sup>55</sup>. The impressive proportion of Antoninus Pius coins from the bronzes hoards is no longer found in the denarii deposits, however their presence prevails in front of the other emperors: over 40% at Silistra-Durostorum, 1978 and Goleș (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1912, followed by 27.5% at Gruncearovo (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1912 and 22.8% at Silistra-Durostorum, 1964. The percentage values are completely different in the batch found at Pantelimonul de Sus, 2000-2001<sup>56</sup>. This structure can be explained by the fact that it represents a selected lot, with a rather confused origin. Also, the deposit from Alfatar (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1947, presents a special composition, with 48 denarii from Hadrian, to which were added three coins from Antoninus Pius and a piece from Faustina Minor. The amount recovered from a lost hoard was identified to a jeweler, also clearly being a sorted batch. Other features of the denarii deposits ended at Marcus Aurelius refer to the presence of the denarii issued by Vespasian in significant percentages (between 8.5% and 18.9%), relatively similar proportions with

<sup>54</sup> TALMAȚCHI, LUNGU 2006, p. 389-392, no. 12-43, without bronze coins that would not be part of the hoard; RTMD, p. 304-305, no. 111 (V), where is mentioned that the hoard contains 19 denarii between Vespasian and Marcus Aurelius.

<sup>55</sup> RTMD, p. 334-335, no. 140 (XXIII), Silistra-Durostorum, 1964; RTMD, p. 338, no. 140 (XXIX), Silistra-Durostorum 1978; RTMD, p. 135, no. 7, Alfatar (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1947; RTMD, p. 210-211, no. 54, Goleș (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1964; RTMD, p. 212, no. 57, Gruncearovo (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1912. The last hoard is part of this hoarding horizon with the condition that the last coin, from Crispina, to be an early issue from the time of Marcus Aurelius. Although the percentages by each reign confirm the fact that this hoard is part of the mentioned horizon, unfortunately it was not entirely published, at this moment being available only a summary description of the hoard in IRRCHBulg, p. 53, no. 82, that suggest the dating at Marcus Aurelius.

<sup>56</sup> TALMAȚCHI, LUNGU 2006, p. 389-392, no. 12-43, where we identified only 18 pieces. The batch contains three pieces from Vespasian, four from Trajan, five from Hadrian, four from Antoninus Pius and two from Marcus Aurelius.

the coins from Trajan and Hadrian, taking precedence either one or the other<sup>57</sup>. Also, it can be noticed that the deposits found south of the Danube have a specific note: in their structure the legionary republican denarii from Marcus Aurelius persist, with values between 3.12% and even 20%. They disappear later, only in the deposits concluded at Geta and Caracalla. This feature can be noticed at the deposits from Dacia province too<sup>58</sup>. The way in which a hoard was found and especially recovered, more or less completely, directly influences the percentage values, as is the case of the deposit from Alfatar (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1947, with obviously distorted percentages. By stage, in all the hoards the imperial issues of the years 98-161 are predominantly from 52.54% at Gruncearovo (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1912, up to 76.92% at Mangalia, 1994 and 98.07% at Alfatar (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1947. They are followed by the issues from the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD, which reach percentages that vary between 11% - 37%. The issues from the time of Marcus Aurelius are reduced, but it is naturally given the fact that this is the moment when the hoarding process closes.

In this interval, the actions of the Germanic populations, the Marcomanni and the Quadi, are known. They forced the Danube border in 166 AD, invading all the Danubian provinces<sup>59</sup>. In 167 AD, the free Geto-Dacians from the Northern Carpathians also make raids in the Province of Dacia, while the western Iazig Sarmatians attacked the nearby provinces. In the north of the Black Sea, the Bastarnae tribe resort to pirate actions on the coasts of Asia Minor. Of all these, the Dobrujan area was the most affected by the attack of the Costoboci, which would have passed through Moldavia and then through Dobruja in 170 AD, reaching as far as Macedonia and central

<sup>57</sup> Even more denarii from Trajan are in the deposits from Silistra-Durostorum, 1964 (18.9 %), Silistra-Durostorum 1978 (11.4 %), Goleş (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1964 (12.5 %). More pieces from Hadrian are in the hoards from Pantelimonul de Sus, 2000-2001 (27.7 %) and Gruncearovo (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1912 (17.3 %).

<sup>58</sup> PETAC 2010, p. 31.

<sup>59</sup> DID II, p. 154.

Greece<sup>60</sup>. It is known that the deposits from Pantelimonul de Sus, 2000-2001 (167-168 AD), and Silistra-Durostorum, 1978 (164-168), maybe the ones from Silistra-Durostorum, 1964 (Bulgaria), Mangalia, 1994 and Alfatar (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1947<sup>61</sup>, probably also the one from Gârliciu, Constanţa County, 1999<sup>62</sup>, ended in the time of Marcus Aurelius, were hidden due to the troubles created by the incursions of the Costoboci<sup>63</sup>. However, two other deposits from Goleş (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1964 and Gruncearovo (Silistra, Bulgaria), 1912 close with later issues, from the year 180 AD, when Commodus, after the death of his father, concluded friendship treaties with the barbarians. The new agreements respect the conditions laid down by Marcus Aurelius in the old agreements, according to which the barbarians had to withdraw at 38 stadiums away from Istru river, the safety area being established even at 40 stadiums from the Borders of Dacia for the Buri population. On the other hand, it is possible to allow some of them to settle on the border line, as it happened in the Muntenia's plain, a fact which would have caused the hiding of the late deposits in the south of the Danube<sup>64</sup>. Despite of the treaties concluded, there will still be fights in 184 AD against the free Geto-Dacians or the Sarmatians beyond the borders of Dacia, fights in which Claudius Albinus and Pescennius Niger stood out<sup>65</sup>.

The structure is kept broadly in the time of Commodus too, this fact being revealed by the presented hoard, Dobrogea passim, before 2016, but also by the finding from Comana, Constanţa County, 1990s<sup>66</sup>. Our deposit is representative for this stage, offering honest percentages of the cash of the time. In contrast

<sup>60</sup> DID II, p. 158-159.

<sup>61</sup> Both of them ends with coins from Faustina, the years 161-176 AD.

<sup>62</sup> It is not published in detail; therefore, the date of the last piece is unknown.

<sup>63</sup> CASSIUS DIO, LXXII, 3, 1-3; MACREA 1959, p. 76-77.

<sup>64</sup> TUDORICĂ 2006, p. 64; OPREANU 1998, p. 77.

<sup>65</sup> CASSIUS DIO, LXXII, 8, 1.

<sup>66</sup> RTMD, p. 399-400, Addenda, no. 3. Comana, Constanţa County.

to the previous period, the number of pieces from Trajan is drastically reduced in favor of those from Hadrian.

On the south-western edge of Comana, was found a deposit constituted of 18 Roman bronze coins, which starts with Trajan and ends with Commodus, of which 13 are concentrated only during the period of Antoninus Pius (72.2%). This small hoard seems to have circulated in the same time with our deposit, but for the moment of its concealment we will be able to reach a conclusion only when it will be fully edited. As a general feature it can be seen that: both deposits have a low percentage of coins from Trajan, compared to the previous period and the significant proportions of the coins from Hadrian. The issues from the time of Antoninus Pius retain their remarkable proportion from the previous stage. The coins from Marcus Aurelius, reduced before as number, get a significant share (27.17% in Dobruja passim), followed by the ones from Commodus, present in an appreciable number (11.42%).

Another bronze deposit, which can be placed in this time is the one from Poiana, Constanța County, 2009, which was found in a necropolis, being constituted of 12 Roman coins<sup>67</sup>. The distribution of the pieces of each emperor is not specified. The authors date the hoard in the second half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, but the fact that it was found in a necropolis does not exclude a later concealment.

This is also the case of the funeral inventory found at Neptune-Mangalia North in the 1970s, during the rescue archaeological excavations carried out in the necropolis here. The deposit is constituted of eight bronze coins, which are distributed as follows: four Roman imperial coins from Tiberius, Vespasian and Antoninus Pius (two), followed by three pseudo-autonomous coins of Herakles type, from Callatis, dated in the time of Commodus<sup>68</sup>, as well as a piece from Tomis,

<sup>67</sup> RTMD, p. 401, Addenda, no. 10. Poiana, Constanța County.

<sup>68</sup> GRAMATICU, IONIȚĂ 1998-2003, p. 55, group IV/5 and p. 68-69.

issued by the same emperor<sup>69</sup>. The high weight of the pseudo-autonomous coins argues for a dating of the tomb during the reign of Commodus, probably towards its end.

The funerary findings have a special status and they must be interpreted very carefully. They often contain coins of little value or of an outdated, obsolete value, because they are more symbolic in importance, representing the Charon's obol<sup>70</sup>. Only in the case of the graves with a rich funerary inventory, belonging to persons with a high social status, to prosperous families of the city's aristocracy, the funerary deposits can contain coins that were still circulating on the local market, being coins with exchange value. Such a funeral inventory is the one found in Mangalia, before 1965, in a tumulus from the western part of the city, where together with nine imperial bronze coins were deposited the following objects: a silver rushlight, glassware, gold jewelry, a chandelier, three bronze vessels and other clay pots<sup>71</sup>. About the coins, the author does not go into details, he only states that the pieces are very worn, being recognized by the figure of the emperor. These are coins from Trajan, Hadrian and Antoninus Pius, but the number of pieces for each emperor was not mentioned. The last issue dates the tomb in the time of Antoninus Pius.

Also, in Mangalia, in 1927, was found a deposit that contains besides items like clay and bronze rushlights, fragments of glass and clay vessels, a gold necklace and five bronze coins<sup>72</sup>. These are pseudo-autonomous issues from Callatis, of Herakles type, which we have identified as local issues struck in the city during the time of Trajan, Hadrian, Antoninus Pius and Marcus Aurelius<sup>73</sup>. The last issues preserved in a relatively good condition date from the reign of the philosopher emperor, a fact which allows us to date the tomb at this

<sup>69</sup> OCHEȘEANU, PAPUC 1973, p. 370-372.

<sup>70</sup> BUCOVALĂ, PAȘCA 1991, p. 235-236; RTMD, p. 178-179, no. 31 (XXVIII) and p. 182, no. 31 (LXI).

<sup>71</sup> PREDA 1965, p. 249; RTMD, p. 259, no. 85 (XXVII).

<sup>72</sup> OȚA, GRAMATICU 2002, p. 65-68.

<sup>73</sup> GRAMATICU, IONIȚĂ 1998-2003, p. 50.

time<sup>74</sup>.

As for the Commodus denarii deposits, only a small hoard found at Istros in the year 1952 is known, with the occasion of the archaeological researches carried out in the eastern part of the IV wave<sup>75</sup>. Near the Hellenistic wall, beneath a stone slab, a hoard composed of ten Roman imperial denarii issued between Vespasian and Commodus was found in a vessel. The authors make no reference to the distribution of the coins for each reign<sup>76</sup> or to the deposit's date of burial, but only state that the last coin is from the years 175-192 AD. There are no photos of the pieces, but it can be assumed that the pieces were not as much in the circulation as the bronze issues, because they represented a value in themselves, the metal itself. What we can observe is still the presence of the denarii from Vespasian and Domitian. It is assumed, by analogy, with the bronzes deposits from Dobruja passim, before 2016 and Comana, 1990, the significant percentage of the coins from the stage of the years 98-161.

If we set aside the funerary inventories, for Commodus period we have only three deposits: Dobrogea passim, before 2016, Comana, Constanța County, 1990, and Istros, 1952. Compared with the previous period, a drastic reduction of the hoarded cash is noted. It is not known whether this phenomenon is due to a deflationary policy promoted by Commodus, a theory that begins to be more and more supported<sup>77</sup>. However, it seems that from his time, the denarius was subjected periodically to minor alterations of the alloy, of which the most significant is the one from the year 192 AD, when the coin has less than

<sup>74</sup> OȚA, GRAMATICU 2002, p. 69-70.

<sup>75</sup> CONDURACHI *et alii*, 1953, p. 110; RTMD, p. 221, no. 61 (IV).

<sup>76</sup> Their division in the table was made by us, being in fact a decent assumption. In the table no. 3 we assume that they could be distributed in stages as follows: two pieces in the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD (Vespasian and Domitian); six pieces in the years 98-161 AD (Trajan, Hadrian and Antoninus Pius); two pieces in the years 161-192 AD (Marcus Aurelius and Commodus), by analogy with the other deposits.

<sup>77</sup> PETAC 2010, p. 33.

700‰ in its metal composition<sup>78</sup>. But this is not just about the regulations of the imperial economy. Dobruja was severely affected by the damages caused by the attacks of the Costoboci in their passage to the south, during the time of Marcus Aurelius. All the internal resources were used for reconstruction of the affected cities. In Callatis, an exceptional tax was imposed for the restoration of the walls by M. Valerius Bradua in 172 AD. There are also various manifestations related to the imperial cult: dedications on altars, buildings, statues, organization of celebrations, tasks that were fulfilled by the Greek cities, even by people with high status from the city aristocracy and with impressive fortunes<sup>79</sup>. These customs ceased after the Marcus Aurelius reign, the fulfillment of these duties being no longer an honor, but a burdensome task. Thus, it is obvious to request all the local resources for the reconstruction activity in the region, greatly limiting the possibilities of hoarding the existing cash. On the other hand, in Commodus' time it is evident that the Roman cash inflow into region is reduced, the same phenomenon being noticed in the Dacia province too<sup>80</sup>, precisely due to the emperor's deflationary policy. This fact is counteracted in Dobruja by the increasing of the monetary production of the Greek cities, which now records significant values (78%) and by their spread in the territory<sup>81</sup>. Unlike the provinces, in Moldavia, in the territories controlled by the populations of the free Geto-Dacians, the rate of the cash inflow decreases too little compared to the previous stage (18 hoards for Commodus compared to 23 hoards for Marcus Aurelius)<sup>82</sup>.

Regarding the burial date of our hoard, the only one for which is preserved the date of the last issue (192 AD), it would have been hidden only at the beginning of Septimius Severus's reign. In Moldavia, 13 hoards which have the last issues between 193-196 were

<sup>78</sup> GUEY 1965, p. 116.

<sup>79</sup> DID II, p. 166-173; MARIN, IONIȚĂ 2018, p. 587.

<sup>80</sup> PETAC 2010, p. 33.

<sup>81</sup> VERTAN 2002, p. 69.

<sup>82</sup> TUDORICĂ 2006, p. 61-62.

registered<sup>83</sup>. There are also some findings in Muntenia, the one from Lucieni, Dâmbovița County, completed in 193 AD, as well as those from Lungulețu, Dâmbovița County and Săhăteni, Buzău County, from the end of Commodus's reign or Pertinax's period, which could have been hidden under the same circumstances. The sources mention the attempt of the „Scythians” to plan an attack in the area<sup>84</sup>. It might have failed due to the unfavorable weather, of a torrential rain and of the lightings, which would have killed three of their leaders. Their intention produced a state of agitation that resulted in the cessation of the commercial trades between the Moldavian populations and the inhabitants of Dacia province.

In Dobruja, after the reign of Commodus, there are no longer attested hoards of Roman imperial bronze coins<sup>85</sup>, but only of denarii and very few in number. For the reign of Septimius Severus, an impressive hoard for our region was found at Adamclisi (Tropaeum Traiani)<sup>86</sup>, constituted of 1548 silver imperial denarii and also with some oriental issues, among which a drachma from Mannus VIII struck at Edessa after the years 167-168 AD<sup>87</sup>. The hoard was found during the archaeological excavations of 1968, inside a house, at a depth of 1.80 m, in a pot covered with a button lid. It consists of 1548 denarii staggered between 63-204 AD. The authors considered that this is an accumulation deposit, whose gathering started sometime after 140 AD. Despite the unusual number of denarii, the amount was not very large, representing the equivalent of three annual payments of a soldier during the time of Septimius Severus<sup>88</sup>. Its structure keeps the features of the previous denarii deposits:

<sup>83</sup> TUDORICĂ 2006, p. 65-66.

<sup>84</sup> CASSIUS DIO, LXXV, 3. There were no longer Scythians during that time. The author refers to the barbarian populations that were threatening the border, according to MACREA 1959, p. 79.

<sup>85</sup> In the literature, no deposits of provincial Greek bronzes in Dobruja are reported yet.

<sup>86</sup> BARNEA, 1980, p. 95-98; BARNEA 2011.

<sup>87</sup> PETAC 2010, p. 37.

<sup>88</sup> DUCH 2017, p. 78-79.

the presence of the coins from Vespasian (7.3%), followed by Trajan (9.4%) and Hadrian (11.1%), with a percentage peak for Antoninus Pius (26.9%), succeeded by Marcus Aurelius with a slightly lower value (21.5%). Commodus is represented by a number of coins with a clearly reduced proportion compared to the previous reigns. The deposit ends at Septimius Severus with an issue from the year 204 AD, without offering a historical explanation. But the presence of the Oriental coins from Edessa indicate the fact that it is a small fortune gathered by a soldier who participated in the wars of the African emperor with the Parthians. The last issue confirms this hypothesis, the hiding moment of the deposit taking place shortly after his arrival at Tropaeum Traiani, because in 208 AD the emperor's attention is directed to Britain where he is embarking on a new military campaign.

A similar distribution of the coins can be seen in the structure of the hoard from Pecenița (Isperih, Bulgaria), 1969, constituted of over 1500 silver roman pieces<sup>89</sup>. From its structure was analyzed a lot of only 345 pieces, that ends with four denarii from Caracalla. The very close percentages between the two hoards, Tropaeum Traiani and Pecenița, both of similar dimensions, each of them equivalent of three annual pays of a soldier, argue for the dating of the second one also in the time of Septimius Severus. The denarii from Caracalla are probably from the period of his father's reign, but this supposition cannot be verified anymore, because the hoard has not been preserved. The features of this hoard are related to those of the Tropaeum Traiani hoard, with small exceptions: the proportions of the Vespasian issues, which are slightly increased compared to those from Trajan and Hadrian; the reaching of the percentage peak at Antoninus Pius (23.4%), followed by a slightly lower value at Marcus Aurelius (19.7%); the obvious decrease in cash at Commodus, being succeeded by issues from Septimius Severus, Iulia Domna and Caracalla. A specific aspect of the deposits from the south of the Danube

<sup>89</sup> RTMD, p. 310-311, no. 116.

is the presence in their composition of the denarius from Marcus Antonius, inedited for the hoards of this period. Although, at first glance, we supposed that the deposit would belong to the reign of Caracalla, the structure, the size, as well as the analogy with Adamclisi hoard, plead for its concealment during the reign of Septimius Severus.

The hiding of the hoards from Tropaeum Traiani and Pecenița would have been caused by an event that would have taken place after the year 206 AD. This hypothesis is also supported by the findings from Moldavia, where two hoards from Ardeoani, Bacău County and Mastacăn, Neamț County, end with coins issued in the years 204-206 AD<sup>90</sup>. Therefore, it is not excluded that there was a new expedition, a fast raid lead by the barbarian populations from north to south, where they were defeated or they were spread in the province.

If we analyse the structure of the hoards from Septimius Severus by each stage, it can be noticed that they maintain the specific note of those finished during the Antonine dynasty, namely the coins issued between 98-161 AD are predominant, having values of 47.60% to 54.36%, followed by the coins from Marcus Aurelius and Commodus with significant proportions (20%-30%). From their analysis, it appears that the amounts of money sent as *stipendia* in the territory of the Carpii or as payment of the soldiers for the war with the Parthians are not yet affected by the monetary reform initiated by Septimius Severus at the beginning of the year 194 AD. This fact is proved by the lack of the reformed denarii. The main consequence of this action was the reduction of the precious metal, the silver, to about 500-475‰, continuing the slight devaluation applied by Commodus<sup>91</sup>. In the time of Septimius Severus, the mints struck massive amounts of reformed denarii that were immediately thrown on the market. The effects of the monetary reform will be obvious in the structure of the deposits

<sup>90</sup> TUDORICĂ 2006, p. 66.

<sup>91</sup> GUEY 1962, p. 86-87; GUEY 1965, p. 113-115.

starting from the end of his reign, when the proportion of the issues from Septimius Severus reaches impressive percentages. Another characteristic is that the old coins have not been withdrawn from the market in order to replace the newly issued coins<sup>92</sup>.

For the next period, there are not reported too many deposits. A few pieces of a denarii hoard, which was latter scattered, is preserved at the Balchik Museum, Bulgaria<sup>93</sup>. Its structure is extremely suggestive, despite the fact that were recovered only six silver coins: two pieces from the time of Marcus Aurelius, three coins from Septimius Severus and one piece from Geta, ending the hoard probably around 211 AD. From its composition it can be seen that starting with the end of Septimius Severus's reign, the proportion of the issues change, the value of the ones from the Severian dynasty massively increasing and reaching over 60%, to the detriment of the previous ones from 161-192 AD. This essential change is confirmed by all the subsequent deposits. The high proportion of the Severian issues becomes a defining characteristic of all the hoards analyzed from the end of the dynasty's founder until the middle of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD. The reason of the hiding of the Balchik deposit is not clear, but as it can be seen at the București-Herăstrău hoard, that was partially recovered<sup>94</sup>, it is quite possible that this deposit ended later.

During Caracalla's reign, only an imperial denarii hoard is mentioned, the one found at Silistra-Durostorum, 1964, that wasn't published in detail<sup>95</sup>. It was discovered during some construction works and consisted of 202 coins. A brief analysis of its composition allows several observations: the presence of the Vespasian denarii with a significant percentage (5.9%) compared to Trajan (2.9%) and Hadrian (3.9%), the maintaining of a high proportion of the issues from Antoninus Pius (21.7%), followed by the modest percentages

<sup>92</sup> PETAC 2010, p. 40.

<sup>93</sup> RTMD, p. 145, nr. 11 (IV). Balchik – Dionysopolis.

<sup>94</sup> TUDORICĂ 2006, p. 66.

<sup>95</sup> RTMD, p. 335, no. 140 (XXIV), Silistra-Durostorum, 1964. It is not known the date of the last issue.

from Marcus Aurelius and Commodus and an impressive amount from Septimius Severus (38.6%). By stage, in the deposit ending at Caracalla, the percentages of the Severian dynasty reach 52% compared to those of the years 98-161 AD, which represent only 26.73%. The concealment of the hoard from Silistra-Durostorum, 1964, seems to be part of the series of events from the second part of Caracalla's reign. The sources mention the fact that the emperor intends to reach Dacia as a result of some new threats to the border by the populations living outside the province, in 214 AD, before his departure to the East. He arrives in Thrace, but as the situation had already been resolved, he headed for Hellespont<sup>96</sup>. Therefore, it is possible that this deposit, whose last issues are not known to us, has been buried in this specific context characterized by the forcing of the Danubian border by the barbarians, followed by the passage of the Roman troops to the south.

A similar structure can be observed in the only hoard signaled during the time of Elagabal, the one from Trestnic, Nalbant commune, Tulcea County, 1947<sup>97</sup>. Only 100 silver coins were recovered, with a representative structure for this interval. The same slightly higher proportion of the denarii from Vespasian (6%) compared to Trajan (2%) and Hadrian (4%). Although one part of the hoard was purchased, the deposit faithfully reflects the impressive percentage of the Severian issues (54%), compared to previous stages. The fact that it is incomplete, perhaps even selected, arises from the high number of pieces from Commodus (15 pieces) compared to those from Antoninus Pius (8 pieces), which is much higher in the other findings. It is mentioned that the hoard was hidden between 220-222 AD, as a result of a Sarmatian attack at the end of Elagabal's reign or due to the measures taken by the Roman armies in order to deny the attack<sup>98</sup>.

<sup>96</sup> CASSIUS DIO, LXXVII, 16,7.

<sup>97</sup> RTMD, p. 361-363, no. 161, Trestenic.

<sup>98</sup> POENARU-BORDEA 1998, p. 62; TUDORICA 2006, p. 67.

Only at Severus Alexander is attested a whole horizon of hoards, constituted of Roman imperial issues, but also of Greek provincial coins. All these findings are linked with one of the first incursions of the Goths who would have crossed Dobruja in 238 AD.

By describing the structure and highlighting the percentages of each emperor in the coins hoards concluded during the period between Trajan and Elagabal, we tried to underline the characteristics of the hoarded cash at a given time. From this analysis results that the deposits have specific features, given by the historical events and by the imperial monetary policy, features that act as a chronological grid, despite the preservation state of the coins. Their state of wear is determined not so much by the long period of circulation, inevitably conditioned by historical and economic causes, as by the speed of cash rotation in the province, by the intensity of the commercial exchanges given by the number of the transactions in a certain interval: day, month or year. It is not a long circulation, but rather an intensive circulation, accelerated in certain period of time. And it is also determined by the amount of cash on the market, which is used daily in the trade. In Dobruja, as evidenced by the monetary findings, this coin quantity was not plentiful, but rather restricted. The entries of the Roman imperial coin, denarii and bronze coins, seem to be reduced during the time of Commodus's reign, while the cash deficit was compensated by the Greek cities, by the production of their own issues. However, it turns out that the commercial life was very active in this area. The lack of cash on the market is one of the main causes of the emergence of the casted imitations from the Ostrov-Durostorum area<sup>99</sup>, the using of this method being needed in order to meet the need for small coins (of low nominal) on the market.

From the presentation of the structure of the hoards between Trajan and Severus Alexander, it follows that for each reign or stage there is a typical model to which we can

<sup>99</sup> DIMA 2010, p. 38.

refer, with certain nuances: the predominance of Vespasian's denarii in deposits in the first part of the period, the close percentages of Trajan and Hadrian issues in those starting with Commodus, the large quantity of cash from Antoninus Pius, the deflationary policy of Commodus, the blatant superiority of the Severian issues in deposits starting with Geta and Caracalla.

For this reason, the wear degree of the coins from our deposit, and in general, is not necessarily a clue for dating the moment of their hiding. The earlier issues could be kept in circulation for several decades, such as the denarii of Marcus Aurelius from the deposits from the south of the Danube or the autonomous coins found in the roman funerary inventories, but these are generally isolated cases. A monetary deposit from a certain historical period (for instance Commodus) cannot be kept intact in the circulation for several decades without affecting its structure. Especially since after Septimius Severus, in the deposits prevail the Severian issues with values of over 50%. It is true that over the course of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD, especially after its first quarter, the volume of the roman common metal issues decreases sharply, due to the lack of profitability of their monetization. However, it is still difficult to accept that the hoarded common metal cash, with typical structures at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, would have been hidden a few decades later without its structure having been contaminated with subsequent or even much earlier issues that had remained in the circulation.

As a consequence, we cannot locate the burial moment of our deposit only in a period post 192 AD, maybe going towards the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD at the latest, in the circumstances of the agitation state created by the failed attempt of the „Scythians” to plan an attack. This tense situation is sustained by the hoarding horizons from Moldavia and Muntenia which end between 193-196 AD<sup>100</sup>.

<sup>100</sup> TUDORICĂ 2006, p. 65-66.

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**Table 1.** Structure of the hoard Dobruja passim, ante 2016.

<b>Emperors</b>	<b>Nr. total of coins</b>	<b>Monetary types</b>	<b>Dating / No. ex.</b>
Traian	2	RIC 549 RIC 652	103/104 – 111 AD / 1 ex. 114-117 AD / 1 ex.
Hadrian	17	RIC 587b RIC 612b, 614c RIC 636, 637 RIC 743, 758, 759, 767, 777 (3 ex.), 779, 785, 786, 851, 969	119-121 AD / 1 ex. 121-122 AD / 2 ex. 125-128 AD / 2 ex. 134-138 AD / 12 ex.
Antoninus Pius	17	RIC 610 (2 ex.), 624 (2 ex.), 626, 638 RIC 764, 770 (2 ex.), 778 (2 ex.) RIC 840 RIC 868, 872 RIC 904 RIC 917 RIC 967	140-144 AD / 6 ex. 145-161 AD / 5 ex. 147-148 AD / 1 ex. 150-151 AD / 2 ex. 152-153 AD / 1 ex. 153-154 AD / 1 ex. 156-157 AD / 1 ex.
Faustina Maior	5	RIC 1103A (2 ex.), 1106, 1118, 1128	Post 141 AD / 5 ex.
Marcus Aurelius	9 (from which 1 ex. Caesar)	RIC 1244 (Ant. Pius) RIC 861 RIC 964 RIC 1001 RIC 1033, 1037 RIC 1277 (3 ex.)	145-160 AD / 1 ex. 163-164 AD / 1 ex. 168-169 AD / 1 ex. 170-171 AD / 1 ex. 171-172 AD / 2 ex. 177-178 AD / 3 ex.
Faustina Minor	9 (from which 1 ex. in the period of Ant. Pius)	RIC 1383 (Ant. Pius) RIC 1628, 1638 (2 ex.), 1642, 1645, 1651, 1654, 1663	161 AD / 1 ex. 161-176 AD / 8 ex.
Lucilla	3	RIC 1736, 1755, 1756	161-169 AD / 3 ex.
Commodus	7	RIC 413 RIC 498 (2 ex.), 505 RIC 545 RIC 549 RIC 612	183-184 AD / 1 ex. 186-187 AD / 3 ex. 189 AD / 1 ex. 186-189 AD / 1 ex. 192 AD / 1 ex.
Crispina	1	RIC 669	180-182 AD / 1 ex.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70</b>		

**Table 2.** Structure of the deposits of Roman imperial bronze coins from Dobruja in the I - II century.

<b>Hoards/ Emperors</b>	<b>Constanța, years 1960</b>	<b>Dăeni, Tulcea County, 1913</b>	<b>Dăeni, Tulcea County 1910-1911</b>	<b>Noviodu- num, 1987</b>	<b>Mangalia 1994</b>	<b>Gârliciu, Constanța County 1999</b>	<b>Dobruja passim, ante 2016</b>	<b>Comana, Constanța County, 1990</b>
Claudius I	1 - 33,3 % ex. from Agrippina	-	1 - 7,7 %	2 - 15,3 %	1 - 7,7 %	-	-	-
Domitian	1 - 33,3 %	-	-	1 - 7,7 %	-	-	-	-
Nerva	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Traian	1 - 33,3 %	10 - 71,4 %	11 - 55 %	5 - 38,4 %	1 - 7,7 %	-	2 - 2,85 %	1 - 5,5 %
Hadrian	4 - 28,5 %	4 - 28,5 %	7 - 35 % (of which 1 ex. of the Sabina)	3 - 23 %	1 - 7,7 %	-	17 - 24,28 %	2 - 11,1 %
Antoninus Pius					8 - 61,5 % (from which 2 ex. Faustina Maior and 4 ex. Faustina Minor)	5 - 62,5 % (from which 1 ex. from Faustina Maior)	24 - 34,28 % (from which 5 ex. Faustina Maior, 1 ex. Marcus Aurelius, 1 ex. Lucilla)	13 - 72,2 % (from which 2 ex. Faustina Maior, 2 ex. Marcus Aurelius)
Marcus Aurelius			2 - 10 %	2 - 15,3 %	2 - 15,3 % ex. from Faustina Minor	3 - 37,5 % (from which 2 ex. Faustina Minor)	19 - 27,14 % (from which 8 ex. Faustina Minor, 3 ex. Lucilla)	1 - 5,5 % ex. from Faustina Minor
Commodus							8 - 11,42 % (from which 1 ex. Crispina)	1 - 5,5 %
Total	3	14 + 1 drachm Hisŭria	20	13	13	8 recovered from 20 ex.	70	18
Date of the last piece	Traian (104-111)	Hadrian (119-138)	Antoninus Pius -	Antoninus Pius (157-158)	Marcus Aurelius (161-176)	Marcus Aurelius -	Commodus (192)	Commodus -

**Table 3.** Distribution of deposits of Roman imperial bronze coins from Dobruja in chronological stages.

Hoards / Emperors	Constanța, years 1960	Dăeni, Tulcea County, 1913	Dăeni, Tulcea County, 1910-1911	Noviodunum, 1987	Mangalia, 1994	Gârlăciu, Constanța County, 1999	Dobruja passim, ante 2016	Comana, Constanța County, 1990
I century AD	2 66,6 %	-	3 23 %	1 7,69 %	-	-	-	-
98-161	1 33,3 %	14 100 %	20 100 %	10 76,9 %	10 76,92 %	5 62,5 %	43 61,42 %	16 88,8 %
161-192					2 15,38 %	3 37,5 %	27 38,57 %	2 11,1 %
Total	3	14 + 1 drachm Histria	20	13	13	8 recovered from 20	70	18
Date of the last piece	Traian (104-111)	Hadrian (119-138)	Antoninus Pius	Antoninus Pius (157-158)	Marcus Aurelius (161-176)	Marcus Aurelius	Commodus (192)	Commodus

**Table 4.** The hoards of Roman imperial denarii from Traian to Severus Alexander in Dobrogea.

Hoards / Periods	I century BC	I century AD	98-161	161-192	193-222	Total coins	Date of the last piece
Măcin, Tulcea County, 1934			14 100 %				Traian (114-117)
Mangalia, Constanța County, 2005 (funeral deposit)	8	53,33 %	7 46,66 %			15	Hadrian (134-138) 132
Medgidia, Constanța County, 1978	26	38,23 %	42 61,76 %			68	Antoninus Pius (145-161)
Sabla, Dobrici, years 1980	5	23 %	20 76,9 %			25 recovered from 50	Antoninus Pius
Pantelimonul de Sus (Ulmetum), years 2000-2001	3	16,66 %	13 72,22 %	2 11,11 %		18 <sup>1</sup>	Marcus Aurelius (167-168)

<sup>1</sup> From the catalogue edited by Talmațchi, Lungu 2006, p. 389-392, no. 12-43, without the bronze coins that would not belong to the treasure, it appears that there are 18 imperial denarii.

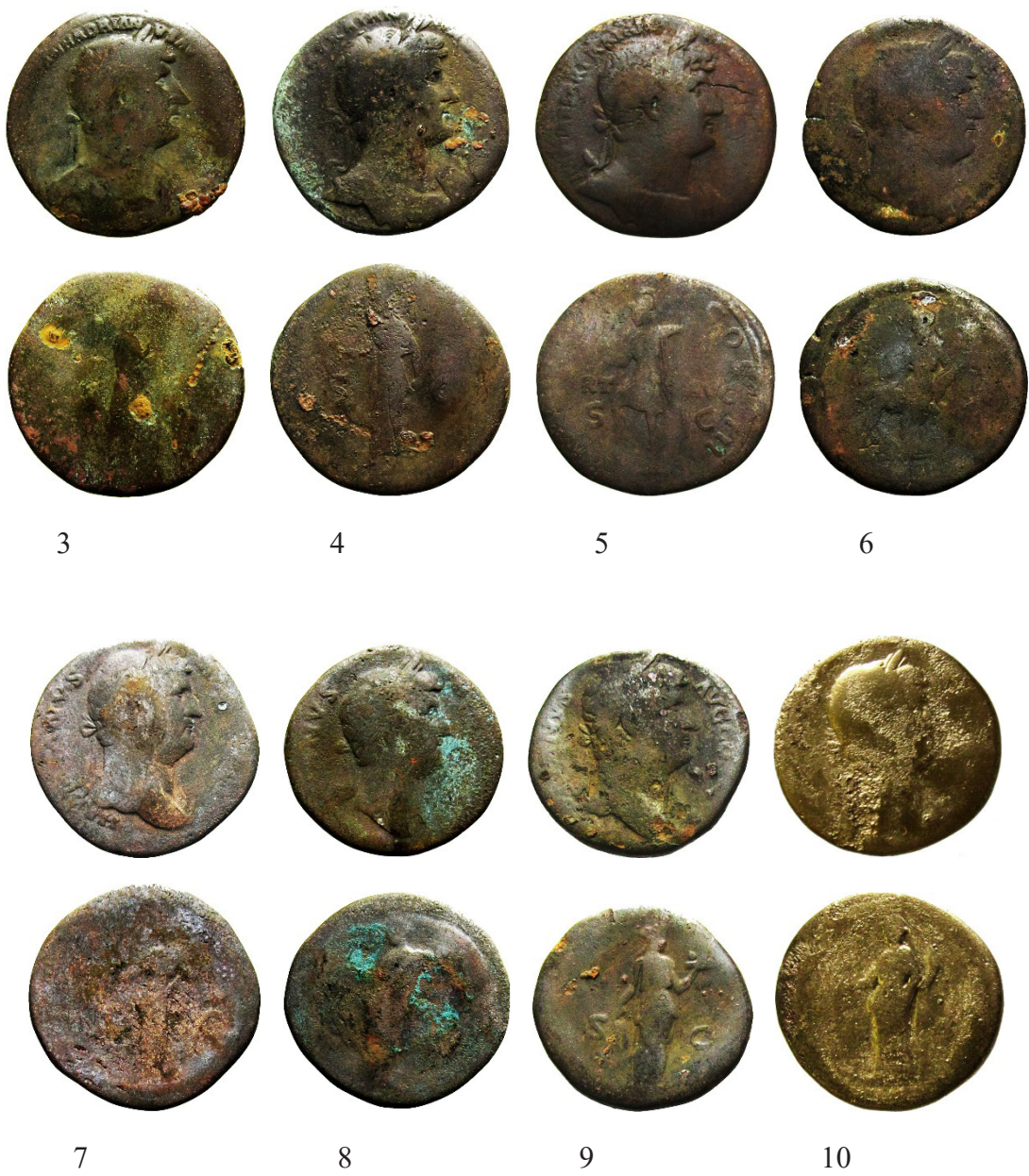
<b>Hoards / Periods</b>	<b>I century BC</b>	<b>I century AD</b>	<b>98-161</b>	<b>161-192</b>	<b>193-222</b>	<b>Total coins</b>	<b>Date of the last piece</b>
Silistra-Durostorum, 1978	7 20 %	4 11,42 %	21 60 %	3 8,57 %		35	Marcus Aurelius (164-168)
Silistra-Durostorum, 1964		347 36,91 %	538 57,23 %	55 5,85 %		940	Marcus Aurelius
Alfatar (Silistra), 1947			51 98,07 %	1 1,92 %		52 recovered	Marcus Aurelius (161-176)
Goleș (Silistra), 1964	1 3,12 %	4 12,5 %	20 62,5 %	7 21,87 %		32	Marcus Aurelius (180)
Gruncearovo (Silistra), 1912	39 6,85 %	126 22,14 %	299 52,54 %	105 18,45 %		569	Marcus Aurelius (180)
Histria, 1952		2 20 %	6 ? 60 % ?	2 20 %		10	Commodus
Adamclisi – Tropaeum Traiani, 1968		221 14,27 %	737 47,60 %	502 32,42 %	88 5,68 %	1548	Septimius Sever (204)
Pecenița, Ispernih, 1969	1 0,29 %	60 17,44 %	187 54,36 %	69 20,05 %	27 7,84 %	344 <sup>2</sup> recovered from 1500	Septimius Sever
Balcic (Dionysopolis), ante 1981			2 33,33 %	- -	4 66,66 %	6	Geta
Silistra-Durostorum, 1964		16 7,92 %	54 26,73 %	25 12,37 %	107 52,97 %	202	Caracalla
Trestenic, comm. Nalbant, Tulcea County, 1947		12 12 %	14 14 %	20 20 %	54 54 %	100 recovered	Elagabal (220-222)

<sup>2</sup> 345 are mentioned, but from the table there are 344 ex.

**TRAIAN**



**HADRIAN**



**Pl. I.** The sestertii hoard found in Dobruja passim, ante 2016.

## HADRIAN



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**Pl. II.** The sestertii hoard found in Dobruja passim, ante 2016.

**ANTONINUS PIUS**



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**Pl. III.** The sestertii hoard found in Dobruja passim, ante 2016.

**ANTONINUS PIUS**



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**Pl. IV.** The sestertii hoard found in Dobruja passim, ante 2016.

**FAUSTINA MAIOR**



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**MARCUS AURELIUS CAESAR**



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**MARCUS AURELIUS AUGUSTUS**



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**Pl. V.** The sestertii hoard found in Dobruja passim, ante 2016.

**MARCUS AURELIUS AUGUSTUS**



**FAUSTINA MINOR**



**Pl. VI.** The sestertii hoard found in Dobruja passim, ante 2016.

**FAUSTINA MINOR**

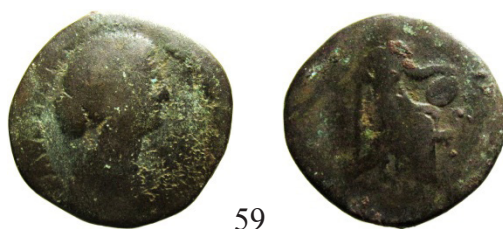


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**LUCILLA**



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**Pl. VII.** The sestertii hoard found in Dobruja passim, ante 2016.

**COMMODUS**



**CRISPINA**



**Pl. VIII.** The sestertii hoard found in Dobruja passim, ante 2016.

