

A COIN HOARD WITH IMITATIONS OF PHILIP III ARRHIDAEUS FROM THE VILLAGE OF KAPITAN DIMITROVO, DOBRICH DISTRICT, BULGARIA



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Abstract. – The National History Museum – Sofia stores 26 coins, a part of a coin hoard, which have been found near the village of Kapitan Dimitrovo, in the Dobrich district. The coins' obverse features the head of Herakles, with lion skin, facing right. The reverse depicts Zeus seated on a throne to the left, with a scepter and eagle. The coins are imitations of the tetradrachms of Philip III Arrhidæus. So far, 49 coin hoards containing imitations of Philip III Arrhidæus have been found on the territory of present-day Bulgaria. The data obtained from the archaeological excavations is of fundamental importance for the dating of these coins. Until now, only imitation drachms have been found during the archaeological research. The discovery of coins – imitations of Philip III Arrhidæus in hoards, along with other coins, is the second important factor in their dating. Fifteen coin hoards from Bulgaria have contained both imitations of coins of Philip III Arrhidæus and other Hellenistic coins. In conclusion, it can be assumed that the dating of Philip III Arrhidæus imitations should be set around 170–120 BC. The distribution area of this coinage was south of the Danube, and the issuer was the local tribe of the Getae. Yet, the purposes and functions of this coinage have not been confidently clarified, as well as the reason for their burial and non-recovery from the ground.

Key words. – Imitative coinage, Philip III Arrhidæus coins, Getae.

Location of discovery

The coins, which are the subject of this paper, were acquired in the mid-1980s for the National History Museum in Sofia as part of a hoard.¹ According to the submitter, they were discovered in the village of Kapitan

¹ In the fund of the National History Museum – Sofia is kept 26 coins under the inventory numbers 22271–22272. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Assoc. Prof. Vladimir Penchev (NIM-Sofia), who granted me access to this coin hoard.

Dimitrovo, in the Dobrich region. There is no information regarding the initial volume of the hoard, the context of its discovery, or any other details. It has not been reported in the bulletins for coin hoards discovered on the territory of Bulgaria, nor has it been included in summarizing works on coin hoards and circulation during the Late Hellenistic period.²

The village of Kapitan Dimitrovo is located in the Krushari Municipality, in the Dobrich region, on the border with the Silistra region. About 3.0 km west of the village, in a locality called Deve Boyun, a Late Antique fortification has been registered. Archaeological research has revealed that the fortress functioned intermittently during the 4th-6th centuries.³ In the surrounding area of the neighbouring village of Gaber, habitation from the Late Iron Age is presumed, and similar habitation has also been registered along the canyon of the Suha river in the neighbouring areas, which are part of today's Silistra region.⁴

The coins from the hoard

The coins received by the National History Museum in Sofia are imitations of Alexander-type tetradrachms, all made of silver, and slightly concave in shape. Their weights range from 14.42 g to 15.70 g (with an average of 15.04 g), and their diameters vary between 26.6 mm and 31.2 mm. Based on the obverse and reverse images, the coins can be divided into two groups.

On the obverse of the first coin group, the head of Heracles is depicted, with lion skin, facing right. On eight coins, the face of Heracles is clearly distinguishable (Fig 1. 1-8), while on five coins, only details of his head are visible (Fig 1. 9-10; 2, 11-13). On the reverse, only the outlines of Zeus Aetophoros, seated on a throne facing left, holding a scepter and eagle can be seen. There are no symbols, monograms, or traces of inscriptions (Fig 1. 1-10; Fig 2. 11-13).

The remaining 13 coins build the second group. Their obverse features an oval protrusion (Fig 2. 14-19; Fig 3. 20-26). On the reverse, Zeus is depicted schematically, with a disproportionate head and arms. On all the coins, beneath the eagle, there are traces of the same monogram – a labrys (Fig 2. 14-19; Fig 3. 20-26). On ten coins, there are traces of a second monogram beneath the throne (Fig 2. 14-19; Fig 3. 20-23). Traces of letters imitating the legend behind or below the figure of Zeus are visible on ten coins (Fig 2. 14-19; Fig 3. 21-24).

² Прокопов 2016, 259-345; Теодосиев 2017, 154-155; Paunov 2021, 754-757.

³ Бобчева 1976, 42-43; Торбатов 2002, 310-315 and the referenced sources. According to unconfirmed information, several small tumuli from the Hellenistic period have been excavated by looters in the area surrounding the village.

⁴ Торбатов 2002, 318; Торбатов 2010, 149-160.



Fig. 1. Coin hoard from Kapitan Dimitrovo. Cat. Nos. 1–10.
Imitations of tetradrachms of Philip III Arrhidaeus

According to the presented images and imitative legend, these coins imitated the tetradrachms of Philip III Arrhidaeus minted in the Syrian city of Arados.⁵

⁵ Cf. Димитров 2013, 723.



Fig. 2. Coin hoard from Kapitan Dimitrovo. Cat. Nos. 11-19.
Imitations of tetradrachms of Philip III Arrhidaeus

The determination of series for the obverse and reverse dies is complicated by the fact that the matrices (with positive relief) employed to create the dies (with negative relief) were used until they were almost completely worn out.⁶ Thus, from a single matrix, different coin dies were produced, which effectively illustrate its significant wear.

⁶ Preda 1973, 330; Petolescu 1980, 20; Топалов 2001, 119.

Coins Cat. Nos. 1–3 (Fig 1. 1–3) share the same obverse die, as well as probably coin Cat. No. 7 (Fig 1. 7). Coins Nos. 4–5 and possibly No. 6 (Fig 1. 4–6) originate from another very similar die. Coins Nos. 8–13 (Fig 1. 8–10; Fig 2. 11–13) were struck with the same die, but after it had become worn.

By the obverse of the coins from the second group, it is more difficult to identify identical dies, but this is certain for Nos. 20–21 (and possibly 17?) and Nos. 23–24 (Fig 2. 17; Fig 3. 20–21, 23–24). On the reverses from this group, the dies of coins Nos. 17–18 (Fig 2. 17–18) are identical. The dies for coins Nos. 19–21 (Fig 2. 19; Fig 3. 20–21) likely derive from them, but with a defect in the striking/casting. The reverses of the coins Nos. 22–23 (Fig 3. 22–23) originate from one die, and the coins Nos. 24–26 (Fig 3. 24–26) are derivatives of these.



Fig. 3. Coin hoard from Kapitan Dimitrovo. Cat. Nos. 20–26.
Imitations of tetradrachms of Philip III Arrhidaeus

A peculiarity of the imitations of Philip III Arrhidaeus is the combination of a worn reverse die with a better-preserved obverse die (Fig 1. 1–10; Fig 2. 11–13), and vice versa (Fig 2. 14–19; Fig 3. 20–26). One of the coins has traces of silver testing (Fig 1. 6), while three others show a “defect” on the reverse (Fig 2. 19; Fig 3. 20–21). Coins with the same “defect” are found in all published hoards of imitations of Philip III Arrhidaeus so far.⁷

Coin hoards with imitations of Philip III Arrhidaeus coins from Bulgaria and Romania

Up to the present, 49 hoards containing late imitations of Philip III Arrhidaeus have been discovered on the territory of Bulgaria, with 15 of them also including other coin types (Fig. 4). Their concentration is in the regions of Ruse and Veliko Tarnovo, and seven other hoards have been found in Southern Bulgaria. Seventeen of the hoards include smaller denominations – imitations of drachms. Eleven similar hoards have been discovered on the territory of Romania. Of those discovered in Bulgaria, six hoards have been published up to now.⁸

Discussion

Who issued the imitations of the Philip III Arrhidaeus coins and why?

Since the early 20th century, the imitative coinage of the silver emissions of the Macedonian kings from the territory of the Eastern Balkans has been generally attributed to the “eastern Celts”.⁹ Constantin Preda associated this coinage with the local “Geto-Dacian” tribes, a thesis supported by Romanian scholars to this day.¹⁰ Following the publication of Preda’s monograph in 1973, other works have been published that examine this imitative coinage, some of which do not link it to the Celtic tribes.¹¹ In Bulgarian numismatic literature, there are still proponents of the Celtic affiliation of this coinage,¹² while the majority of Bulgarian researchers associate it with local tribes.¹³

⁷ See the catalog and the notes within.

⁸ Върбанов, Маринов 2024, 276–305.

⁹ Paunov 2021, 185; Прокопов 2021, 208 and the cited sources.

¹⁰ Preda 1973, Talmačhi 2023.

¹¹ For example, Ivo Lukanc calls these coins “Balkan imitations”, while Derek Allen states: *It would be pleasing if it were so, but it is not.* (Lucanc 1996, 8–21; Allen 1976, 270). See the collected references in Живков 2021, 282–287; Paunov 2021, 185; Прокопов 2021, 208.

¹² Манов 2018, 245–260; Прокопов 2021, 207–230. In his notable dissertation, analyzing all available data on the Celtic presence in Bulgaria during the period of the 4th to the 1st centuries BC, Julij Stoyanov does not discuss the imitative “eastern Celtic” coinage (Стоянов 2014). The reason for this is that, at this stage of research, it cannot be linked to the Celts. It should be noted here that there is a lack of connection between the imitative coinage

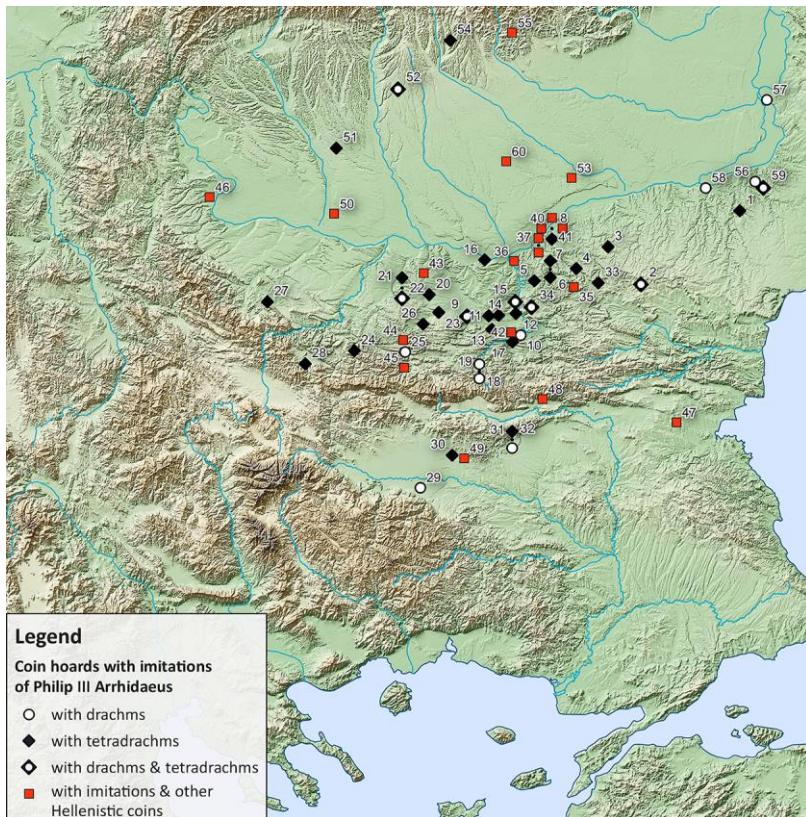


Fig 4. Distribution of coin hoards with imitative coins of Philip II Arrhidæus:

A. Homogeneous hoards, containing only Philip III Arrhidæus imitations:

1. Kapitan Dimitrovo, Dobrich region, 2. Visoka Polyana, Shumen region, 3–4. Kamenovo and Kostandenets, Razgrad region, 5–7. Borovo, Ostritsa and Pepelina, Ruse region, 8. Ruse region, 9–16. Varbovka, Gorna Oryahovitsa, Daskot, Kutsina, Musina, Paskalevets, Radanovo, Svishtov, Veliko Tarnovo region, 17. Veliko Tarnovo region, 18–19. Gradishte, Kromyansko, Gabrovo region, 20–21. Pordim, Pleven region, 22. Pleven region, 23–26. Aleksandrovo, Glozhene, Lomets, Smochan, Lovech region, 27. Glavatsi, Vratsa region, 28. Vrachesh, Sofia region, 29–30. Krumovo, Choba, Plovdiv region, 31. Stara Zagora, 32. Stara Zagora region, 33–34. Northeast/Central Bulgaria; 51. Pieleşti, Dolj region, 52. Optaşani, Olt region, 54. Opreşti, Argeş region, 56–59. Florile, Harsova, Ostrov, Ulruia, Constanţa region.

B. Mixed hoards – with imitations of Philip III Arrhidæus and other Hellenistic issues:

35. Opaka, Targovishte region, 36–41. Belyanovo, Mechka, Pirdovo, Ruse, Ruse region, 42. Samovodene, Veliko Tarnovo region, 43. Mechka, Pleven region, 44–45. Sokolovo, Terziysko, Lovech region, 46. Slana bara, Vidin region, 47. Troyanovo, Burgas region, 48. Tvarditsa, Sliven region, 49. Bratya Daskalovi, Stara Zagora region; Romania: 50. Sadova, Dolj region, 53. Comana, Gurgevo region, 55. Urseiu, Damboviţa region, 60. Videle, Teleorman region.

of Alexander III – Philip III Arrhidæus and that of the Celtic ruler Cavarus. The geographical distribution of the two coin types does not overlap, and the tetradrachms of Cavarus have never been found in hoards with anepigraphic imitations.

¹³ Драганов 2008, 36–41; Димитров 2013, 716; Драгоев 2013, 99; Живков 2021, 282–287; Жекова, Върбанов 2024, 101.

The finds of imitations of Alexander III – Philip III Arrhidaeus coins are located mainly south of the Danube, in central and particularly north-eastern Bulgaria (see Fig. 4). They mark the tribal (or rather state) union that issued them or for which they were issued. Regarding the ethnic affiliation of their issuers (at this stage of research), I assume that they were local inhabitants of present-day northern Bulgaria – the Getae. This assumption is supported by the results of archaeological investigations at sites where this coin type has been found.¹⁴

The imitations of the coins of Philip III Arrhidaeus differ significantly from the imitations of the coins of Philip II, which are widespread in present-day Romania – specifically the Aninoasă-Dobrești, Adâncata-Manastirea, Vârteju-București, and Inotesti-Răcoasa types (the last three known in the West as Sattelkopfpferd). The latter have much lower weights, as well as a significantly lower silver content.¹⁵

The imitations of the coins of Philip III Arrhidaeus are much closer in features to other widely circulated coins in present-day northern Bulgaria during the 2nd to the 1st c. BC – specifically those of the “Thasian” type, as well as those from the I Macedonian Region and Maroneia. This, along with the high silver content and weight standard, includes some stylistic and technical features, such as well-preserved (and engraved) obverse dies being combined with more worn or degraded reverses, and vice versa.¹⁶

It is widely accepted that the tetradrachms of Thasos and those of the First Macedonian Region are not civic coinages, but were inspired by Rome for military needs and payments to its enemies and allies.¹⁷ The coin finds containing “Thasian” coins and those of the First Macedonian Region are mainly located in present-day northern Bulgaria and Romania,¹⁸ i.e., far from the territory of their presumed production (Macedonia). Their discovery allows us to assume that the coins entered these lands as gifts, salaries, bounties, ransoms, or contributions for the locals.¹⁹

In my opinion, the purpose of the imitations of the coins of Philip III Arrhidaeus is similar to that of the issues of Thasos and of the First Macedonian Region. However, it is unlikely that Rome stands behind the issuer of the imitations; undoubtedly, this is the work of a state organization. One possibility is that it was the Getic state in the lands of present-day northeastern Bulgaria.

¹⁴ Върбанов, forthcoming.

¹⁵ Paunov 2021, 185; An analysis of the coins from the Svishtov hoard (with imitations of Philip III Arrhidaeus) revealed that the tetradrachms have a silver content of ca. 90% and above, and a weight close to the Athenian standard for tetradrachms (Върбанов, Маринов 2024, 283-284, 290-295).

¹⁶ Petolescu 1980, 12; see Прокопов 2016, 23, 200.

¹⁷ Прокопов 2016, 5-40; Paunov 2021, 139-140 and the cited references.

¹⁸ Paunov 2021, 142, Fig. 5.2, 147, Fig. 5.5.

¹⁹ Прокопов 2016, 19, 40-41; Paunov 2021, 138-147.

Another hypothesis is that the issuer of these coins was the Odrysian Kingdom, an ally of Rome during the 2nd century BC. The coins were likely produced for payments, gifts, or contributions to the Getae in order to ensure peace from the north. Support for this assertion comes from the single coins and hoards of imitations found in the lands of present-day southern Bulgaria. An analogy can be drawn with the distribution of the coins of Thasos, of the “Thasian” type, and those of the First Macedonian Region. The majority of these coin finds were discovered far from their place of origin – Macedonia – in the lands of the destination for the local inhabitants.

What is the dating of these coins?

The data obtained from archaeological excavations is of primary importance for dating the imitations of the coins of Philip III Arrhidaeus. To date, no tetradrachms of this type have been found as single finds during archaeological investigations (on the territory of present-day Bulgaria and Romania). However, during excavations of late Hellenistic sites on the same territory, imitations of drachms are frequently discovered.²⁰ They are the most commonly found late Hellenistic coins at the site of Sexaginta Prista (third and fourth groups according to Preda), primarily in contexts from the 1st century BC.²¹ In a 1st century BC context, two drachms were also found in the village of Bratya Daskalovi, Stara Zagora Province.²²

The discovery of coins imitating Philip III Arrhidaeus in mixed hoards, along with other coins, is the second important factor for dating them. In the hoards from the village of Slana Bara, Vidin region, Tvarditsa, Sliven region, and Terziysko, Lovech region, these imitations have been found alongside coins from the 3rd century BC. In the hoards from Opaka, Targovishte region, Samovodene, Veliko Tarnovo region, Sokolovo, Lovech region, Mechka, Ruse region, Troyanovo, Burgas region and Videle, Teleorman region such imitations have been found with tetradrachms from the 2nd to the first half of the 1st century BC: from Thasos and the Thasian type, the First Macedonian Region, Maroneia, and Mesambria (second period). In the last of these cases, they were found with imitations of the coins of Philip II: the finds from Ruse and the villages of Belyanovo, Mechka, Pirogovo, Ruse region.²³

According to Ilya Prokopov, the dating of the imitations of the Alexander III – Philip III Arrhidaeus coins is in the second half or at the end

²⁰ Preda 1973, 332–339; Preda, Drob 1984, 49.

²¹ Върбанов, forthcoming.

²² Прокопов 2019.

²³ Paunov 2021a, 754–757; Върбанов, Маринов 2024, 299–301.

of the 3rd to the 2nd century BC.²⁴ Derek Allen dates them to the first half of the 2nd century BC.²⁵ Constantin Preda states that they were issued in the second half of the 2nd century BC (later specifying the period 150–120 BC).²⁶ The majority of the Bulgarian researchers accept this date.²⁷ I also believe that the issuing of the imitations took place in the 2nd century BC. An earlier group is represented by the type of imitations from the hoard found in the village of Terziysko, Lovech region (beginning to the first half of the 2nd century BC), while the coins from the hoard discussed here can be dated within the range of 170–120 BC.²⁸

Why have the hoards with the Philip III Arrhidaeus coin imitations remained in the ground up to the present?

As shown, the hiding of the hoards with imitative coins is to be dated at the end of the 2nd to the beginning of the 1st century BC.²⁹ The reasons for their concealment and remaining in the ground have not been discussed. Whether this is related to the campaigns of Gaius Scribonius Curio or Marcus Terentius Varro Lucullus between 75–72 BC, or some other unknown from the sources event prior to that, remains unclear.

Conclusion

The imitative coinage of Alexander III – Philip III Arrhidaeus is a reflection of the state organization of the local Getic population in central/northeastern Thrace. The questions regarding this coinage still exceed the answers. One thing is certain: it has been neglected in Bulgarian numismatic and academic literature, which the present study is attempting to change.

²⁴ Прокопов 2021, 213–215; Христов, Прокопов 2021, 411–435.

²⁵ Allen 1987, 34–35.

²⁶ Preda 1973, 341–343; Preda, Drob 1984, 51.

²⁷ Dzanev, Prokopov 2007, 73; Димитров 2013, 716–717; Paunov 2021, 185–189; Живков 2021, 282–287.

²⁸ Based on information from mixed hoards containing imitations and other Hellenistic coins.

²⁹ Димитров 2013, 716–717, Paunov 2021, 185–189, Живков 2021, 291–295.

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CATALOGUE

GROUP I

1. Obverse: Head of beardless Heracles right wearing lion skin headdress. Dotted circle; very worn.³⁰
Reverse: Zeus seated on stool-throne left, eagle on outstretched right hand (Zeus Aetophoros), scepter in left hand; heavily worn, the image is barely recognizable, only in general outline; no distinguishable details, symbols, monograms, or inscriptions
Inv. No. 22271–222722, 15.11 g, 28–27.1 mm, 11 h.
2. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 1.
Reverse: same as Cat. No. 1.
Inv. No. 22271–222724, 15.17 g, 29.0–28.4 mm, 11 h.
3. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 1.
Reverse: same as Cat. No. 1.
Inv. No. 22271–222727, 15.,05 g, 27.6–28.1 mm, 11 h.
4. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 1; the face of Heracles is more visible, while the lion skin is more worn.³¹

³⁰ A similar obverse die to the coins Cat. No. 1–3 and 7 is found in the collection of the Lovech Museum. (Gushterakliev, Prokopov 2007, 18–19, no. 48).

³¹ Similar obverse dies as Cat. Nos. 4–5, there are specimens from the Optășani find, Romania (Petelescu 1980, Pl. I, 3), and from the Lovech Museum (Gushterakliev, Prokopov 2007, 18–19, No. 46).

Reverse: same as Cat. No. 1; Zeus Aetophoros is better preserved; the eagle and his scepter are poorly visible.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₆, 15.32 g, 27.2–28.1 mm, 11/12 h

5. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 4, but more worn.
 Reverse: same as Cat. No. 4; heavily worn, image is barely recognizable.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₈, 14.77 g, 28.4–29.0 mm, 12 h

6. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 4. On the face of Heracles, a deep cut made with a sharp tool (8 mm long); above it – another smaller and shallower diagonal incision; third incised line also on the edge of the coin, in front of the eye.
 Reverse: same as Cat. No. 5; traces of diagonal cut, only the outer parts on the edge of the coin are visible; behind and below the figure of Zeus, there are two straight, shallow lines.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₁, 15.70 g, 30.8–28.5 mm, 11/12 h

7. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 1, but more worn.
 Reverse: same as Cat. No. 1; the image of Zeus is clearer, but still no distinguishable details, symbols, monograms, or inscriptions.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₃, 14.87 g, 28.0–29.9 mm, 12 h

8. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 4–6, but more worn.³²
 Reverse: same as Cat. No. 7.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₅, 15.50 g, 27.9–29.4 mm, 11 h

9. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 4–6, but more worn – details of the face are unclear (notably the eye area), and the lion skin at the top is flattened, lacking details.
 Reverse: same as Cat. No. 1.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₉, 14.82 g, 29.0–27.8 mm, 11 h

10. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 9.
 Reverse: same as Cat. No. 9.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₁₀, 15.08 g, 27.2–28.0 mm, 12 h

11. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 9, but with a greater degree of wear, resulting in a deformed face.
 Reverse: same as Cat. No. 1, the figure of Zeus is not centered, the die is shifted downwards.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₁₂, 15.28 g, 27.4–27.8 mm, 12 h

12. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 11.³³
 Reverse: same as Cat. No. 11, but the die is centered.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₁₁, 14.87 g, 31.2–29.3 mm, 12 h

13. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 12.
 Reverse: same as Cat. No. 12.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₁₃, 15.41 g, 28.7–29.0 mm, 12 h

GROUP II

14. Obverse: Head of Heracles barely recognizable, only as a contour with no details, appearing as an oval bump.

³² From the hoard from the village of Smochan, there are parallels of Cat. Nos. 8, 9–10, and 11 (Gushterakliev, Prokopov 2007, respectively 25, No. 74, 27, No. 96 and 23, No. 69).

³³ The coins Cat. Nos. 12–13 have parallels in the Optaşani hoard (Petelescu 1980, Pl. III, 25–28).

Reverse: Zeus seated on stool-throne left, eagle on outstretched right hand (Zeus Aetophoros), scepter in left hand; in the field to the right and in the field below – letters imitating coin legend; in the field left – monogram labrys; under the throne – monogram H.

The image of Zeus Aetophoros is highly schematic, the throne is rendered with dots, as well as the scepter. The monogram consists of two isosceles triangles facing each other to the tops and containing two dots. There are remnants of an inscription behind Zeus's figure (ΔΔΔ and 13 straight lines, with dotted ends). There are also traces of an inscription beneath the throne.³⁴

Inv. No. 22271–22272₁₄, 15.26 g, 27.5–27.6 mm, 9 h (?)

15. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 14.

Reverse: same as Cat. No. 14, the upper right part is damaged.³⁵

Inv. No. 22271–22272₁₆, 15.19 g, 29.4–28.9 mm, 1 h (?)

16. Obverse: Instead of the head of Heracles, there is an oval bump, making it impossible to determine the head's facing and to distinguish the lion skin.

Reverse: same as Cat. No. 14, different die.

Inv. No. 22271–22272₁₅, 15.70 g, 27.7–28.9 mm

17. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 14.

Reverse: same as Cat. No. 14. Zeus is more schematically rendered (the die is worn). There is a symbol, a monogram, and remnants of an inscription, but they are in poorer condition.³⁶

Inv. No. 22271–22272₂₁, 14.77 g, 27.2–28.3 mm, 11 h (?)

18. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 16, different die.

Reverse: same as Cat. No. 17.

Inv. No. 22271–22272₂₀, 14.79 g, 29.3–27 mm, 11 h (?)

19. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 14, different die.

Reverse: same as on Cat. Nos. 17–18, more worn, with a triangular “defect” behind the throne.³⁷

Inv. No. 22271–22272₁₈, 14.42 g, 29–28 mm, 6 h (?)

20. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 15.

Reverse: same as Cat. No. 19, damaged part in the center behind the figure.

Inv. No. 22271–22272₁₉, 14.49 g, 28.6–27.3 mm, 11 h (?)

21. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 20.

Reverse: same as Cat. No. 20.

Inv. No. 22271–22272₁₇, 14.61 g, 28–26.9 mm, 11 h (?)

22. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 18.

Reverse: same as Cat. Nos. 17–18, different die.³⁸

³⁴ A similar reverse die is found in the collection of the Razgrad museum (Dzanev, Prokopov 2007, 99, No. 117, 122).

³⁵ Parallels of the die of cat. no. 15 can be found in the Urseiu hoard, Romania (Preda, Drob 1984, Pl. V, 8) and in the Razgrad museum (Dzanev, Prokopov 2007, 95, No. 98).

³⁶ Coins Cat. Nos. 17–18 have parallels in the Visoka Polyana and Kamenovo hoards (Жекова, Върбанов 2024, 99, Plate I, 3; Dzanev, Prokopov 2007, 97, No. 108).

³⁷ Coin cat. no. 19 and its derivatives – cat. nos. 20 and 21, have parallels in all published hoards – Visoka Polyana, Svishtov, Smochan, Urseiu, and Optășani (Жекова, Върбанов 2024, 99, Plate I, 1–2; Върбанов, Маринов 2024, 304, Табло 2, 11; Gushterakliev, Prokopov 2007, 25, No. 75; Petolescu 1980, Pl. VIII, 75–80, Preda, Drob 1984, Pl. VI, 5).

³⁸ Coins cat. no. 22–23 (and their derivatives Cat. 24–25) have parallels in the Svishtov and Kamenovo hoards (Върбанов, Маринов 2024, 304, Plate 2, 8; Dzanev, Prokopov 2007, 103, No. 145).

Inv. No. 22271–22272₂₂, 14.60 g, 28.2–28.0 mm
23. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 16, different die.
 Reverse: same as Cat. No. 22.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₂₄, 15.32 g, 28.9–28.1 mm
24. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 23.
 Reverse: same as Cat. Nos. 22–23, worn lower right part.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₂₃, 14.80 g, 29.3–29.0 mm
25. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 16, different die.
 Reverse: same as Cat. No. 24.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₂₅, 15.26 g, 28.5–29.0 mm
26. Obverse: same as Cat. No. 16, different die.
 Reverse: same as Cat. Nos. 24–25.
 Inv. No. 22271–22272₂₆, 14.89 g, 27.6–26.6 mm

