

There remains only a mention from the year 445 about a state price of 1/200 solidus for 1 sextarius of wine<sup>31</sup>. The data included in the papyri from the 6<sup>th</sup> century and amounting to 1/192 and 1/140 solidus remain on an approximate level, authorising as acceptable 0,02 g of gold for 1 sextarius of wine. The decrease of the wine price may be stated only in the first half of the 7<sup>th</sup> century when there prevails the value of 1/442 solidus (about 0,01 g of gold)<sup>32</sup>.

Furthermore, the sources from the 5<sup>th</sup> century do not mention oil prices. Only very few papyrus documents from the 6<sup>th</sup> century quote 1/40, 1/45 and 1/42 solidus for 1 sextarius of oil. The decrease of oil prices, as in the case of wine prices, can only now be checked off against the sources from the 7<sup>th</sup> century<sup>33</sup>.

Only one price from the 5<sup>th</sup> century amounting to 1/144 solidus and quoted in the *Theodosius' Code*, refers to pork meat. There are values coming from a later period and similar to those of pork meat. They read as follows: 1/120, 1/120 and 1/142 solidus. This fact makes us recognize the price of 1/130 solidus or about 0,03 g of gold as a representative one for that period<sup>34</sup>.

As far as the slave prices in the 5<sup>th</sup> century are concerned, we possess only the work of Palladius which quotes 20 solidi (about 90 g of gold) for a grown-up slave<sup>35</sup>. Furthermore, the late Gregory of Tours mentions prices from 12 to 20 solidi, while *Justinian's Code* assumes prices between 20 and 30 solidi. The higher payments are provided only for slaves experienced in professions in demand, e.g., for a physician 50 solidi and for a writer 60 solidi. Analogically, John of Almoner mentions sale transaction of a grown-up slave for 30 solidi at the turn of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> centuries<sup>36</sup>.

We have a greater quantity of data as far as domestic animals are concerned. A pig, according to the papyrus sources from the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> centuries, cost about 0,1 solidus, i.e., 0,4 g of gold. A higher price,

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sol. (P. O. 2033); 1/47 sol. (P. O. 2058); 1/27 sol. (P. Lond. 1673); 1/40 sol. (P. Lond. 1907); 1/44 sol. (P. Cairo 67289); 1/40 sol. (P. Cairo 67139); 1/27 sol. (P. Cairo 67062); 1/20 sol. (P. Cairo 67229); 1/42 sol. (PSI 88); 1/50 sol. (CPR Copt. II 10); 1/40 sol. (P. Bad. 95); 1/30 sol. (Lib. Sab. LXVII, *Vita Sab. Papae*, p. 315).

<sup>31</sup> Nov. Val. XIII 4.

<sup>32</sup> PSI 953; P.O. 1920. From the seventh century come the prices: 1/536 sol. per sext. (SB 4505); 1/332 sol. (SB 4504); 1/500 sol. (CPR Copt. 21).

<sup>33</sup> 0,6 ker. per sext. (P.O. 1917); 0,53 ker. per sext. (P.O. 1920); 1 sol.-5 ker. per 333 sext. (P.O. 2052).

<sup>34</sup> *Cod. Theod.* XIV 4,19; P. Cairo 67320; P.O. 1920; PSI 953. Compare Rugini, *o.c.* p. 368.

<sup>35</sup> Pallad., *Hist. Laus.* XXXVI 5.

<sup>36</sup> Greg. Tur. *Hist. Franc.* III 15, VI 36; id., *Mirac.* II, *Passio s. Juliani* 17; *Cod. Just.* VII 1,5; John Almon. XXII. See West, Johnson, *Byz. Egypt*, p. 134-135. Compare *Cod. Just.* VI 43,3.