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Any correspondence will be sent to the editor:
INSTITUTUL DE ARHEOLOGIE ŞI ISTORIA ARTEI
Str. M. Kogălniceanu nr. 12–14, 400084 Cluj-Napoca, RO
e-mail: choprean@yahoo.com

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND EPIGRAPHICAL NOTES

REVIEWS

THE FIBULAE IN THE NORTH-PONTIC SARMATIAN ENVIRONMENT (1ST CENTURY – FIRST HALF OF THE 2ND CENTURY AD)*

Vitalie Bârcă**

Abstract: *This study, although not exhaustively, attempts a presentation and analysis of the fibulae in the Sarmatian environment of the 1st century – first half of the 2nd century AD in the north-Pontic region between Don river and the Danube mouths (current territory of Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova). We concluded that the number of fibulaee in the Sarmatian graves of the discussed territory and chronological frame illustrate a rather great typological variety, while chronologically they belong to a distinct evolutional stage corresponding to certain substages of the Late La Tène and the early Roman imperial period. The earliest fibulae of the investigated chronological frame correspond to La Tène D2 and the early imperial period substage B1. In addition, we noted that their majority come from features datable mostly between mid 1st century AD and the beginning of the 2nd century AD (substage B1b and substage B2a). Except for a few fibulae types specific to the north-Pontic area, where they were in fact produced, the remaining are mostly of Roman type, amongst them, the most numerous being the strongly profiled fibulae.*

Keywords: *Sarmatians, fibulaee, north-Pontic region, chronology, typology.*

Fibulae, a special category of jewellery and dress items, and not only, are one of the most precious artefacts in various ethnic and cultural areas of the Antiquity. They served both functional and decorative purposes, being products commonly traded in cultural exchanges between populations from different areas. Moreover, they provide multiple data on certain aspects of the economic and social life, fashion, ethnic aspects and are dating elements supporting a more accurate chronological framing of a series of other categories of artefacts dated rather broadly or for which chronological criteria are uncertain. Finally, it is worth mentioning that *fibulae* are series artifacts mirroring a certain degree of economic and social structuring.

The production of respective adornment and dress items requires mastership of various technical procedures, all the more that artisans made such artefacts of a variety of metals.

We shall present and analyse below, in as much as possible, the types of *fibulae* discovered in the Sarmatian graves of the north-Pontic territory dated to the Mid Sarmatian period (1st century – mid 2nd century AD)[1]. Most of them reached the north-Pontic Sarmatian

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** Institute of Archaeology and Art History Cluj-Napoca, Romanian Academy Cluj Branch, str. M. Kogălniceanu 12–14, 400086, Cluj-Napoca, Cluj county, RO; e-mail: vitalie_barca@yahoo.com.

[1] For *fibulae* in the Sarmatian graves of the north-Pontic area west of Don river dating from the 2nd – 1st century BC see BÂRCĂ 2003, 93–115; BÂRCĂ 2006, 121–124; BÂRCĂ 2006a, 81–88. The Early Sarmatian

environment most likely following trade exchanges with various economic centres in the north-Pontic area as well as the result of relations with various neighbouring populations or with whom the Sarmatians were in contact.

The study of the *fibulae* in the north-Pontic Sarmatian environment of the 1st – mid 2nd century AD may complete, on one hand, the image on adornment and dress items in that area, and on the other, they may clarify certain aspects related to the Sarmatian inhabitancy in this region as well as their relations with neighbouring populations.

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The *fibulae* identified in the Sarmatian graves of the 1st – mid 2nd century are typologically identical to those in other cultural environments of the same chronological frame.

From G 2 at Ostrivec-Verteba[2] (Fig. 1/4) comes a bronze *fibula* with highly arched bow made of a single metal piece, with 4-turns bilateral spring and internal chord. A knot marking the bending point of the two *fibula* parts lies between the bow and foot. The catchplate is triangular and perforated.

This *fibula* belongs to type 2 in O. Almgren's[3] typology and variant O in that of J. Kostrzewski[4], which included both internal chord specimens as well as those with external chord and plate-protected spring. Three decades ago, P. Glüsing divided these *fibulae* in type A 2a – those with internal chord – and type A 2b – those with external chord and plate-protected spring[5]. Rather recently, *fibulae* of the type were examined by Th. Völling[6], who divided type A 2a *fibulae* in two variants on the basis of the spring shape in cross section: A 2aI and A 2aII. The first variant includes *fibulae* with round-shaped spring in cross section and the second those with triangular-shaped spring[7].

These *fibulae* cluster in Bohemia, Warta river basin, Vistula mouths, Mid Elba as well as Havel and Main rivers. To the north, they distribute up to Gotland islands[8]. Isolate, such *fibulae* are also found in the Zarubineck culture environment[9], where they are imports, but also on upper Dniester within the graves of Przeworsk culture[10] bearers. Not very often, they are found in the Roman environment as well, especially in that of the military[11]. A few such *fibulae* are also known in the Geto-Dacian environment[12].

Items of the type were fashionable for a rather short period, being discovered within contexts framing chronologically between the end of the 1st century BC – first quarter of the 1st century AD[13], however a few specimens might have remained in use subsequent this period as well.

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period north the Black Sea dates in the 2nd – 1st century BC, the Mid period in the 1st century – mid 2nd century AD and the Late period in the second half of the 2nd century – 4th century AD. The latter was divided in two stages: 1. Second half of the 2nd century – first half of the 3rd century AD; 2. the second half of the 3rd century – 4th century AD (SIMONENKO 1999, 5, 9, 12, 27, 34; SIMONENKO 2004, 134–173. For various views on the chronology and periodization of the Sarmatian culture see BÂRCĂ, 2006, 31–36; BÂRCĂ 2006a, 27–30; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 37–40).

[2] Cf. SMIŠKO 1962, 55, Pl. II/7; ŠČUKIN 1989a, 38; GROSU 1990, 39, Fig. 7G/, 16; BÂRCĂ 2005, 123–124, Fig. 2/6; BÂRCĂ 2006, 124, 339, Fig. 89/4, 172/6; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 155, Fig. 58/4.

[3] ALMGREN 1923, Pl. I/2.

[4] KOSTRZEWSKI 1919, 38 sqq., Fig. 25.

[5] *Apud* VÖLLING 1994, 222.

[6] VÖLLING 1994, 222–226.

[7] VÖLLING 1994, 22, Fig. 35.

[8] VÖLLING 1994, 222–226, Annex 9.

[9] Cf. AMBROZ 1966, 25, Pl. 15, 18/4; KASPAROVA 1984, Fig. 2/22; PAČKOVA 2006, 86, Fig. 31/3.

[10] AMBROZ 1966, 25.

[11] Cf. KOŠČEVIĆ 1980, 13–14, Pl. I/7; VÖLLING 1994, 222–226, Annex 9.

[12] RUSTOIU 1997, 56, Fig. 66/5–6; TEODOR/ȚAU 1996, Fig. 21/11, 22/6.

[13] Cf. AMBROZ 1966, 25; KASPAROVA 1984, 110, Fig. 5; VÖLLING 1994, 224–226; RUSTOIU 1997, 56.

Regarding the *fibula* discovered in the Sarmatian grave at Ostrivec-Verteba, it is in our view, rather an import from the Przeworsk environment[14].

Another type is represented by filiform *fibulae* with short bilateral spring and internal chord ("soldier's" *fibulae*) made of a single metal piece, with bilateral spring of four coils and internal chord. The bow is simple and the catchplate is solid, either triangular or trapezium in shape. They are commonly made of bronze and rarely of iron.

Within the Sarmatian graves of the discussed period they are represented by a series of specimens like those in T 1 G 9 at Dubăsarii Vechi[15] (Fig. 1/6), T 1 G 3 at Novocotovsc[16], T 29 G 1 at Ust'-Kamenka[17], T 224 at Jablunovka (Smela)[18] etc. These *fibulae* have a circular bow in cross section and a solid catchplate, either triangular (Novocotovsc) or trapezoid (Dubăsarii Vechi, Ust'-Kamenka).

Fibulae of the type were widely spread, being frequently found in the Roman military environment, thereof the name of "soldier's" *fibulae*.

Traditionally, they were dated to the end of the 1st century – beginning of the 2nd century AD[19] or in the second half of the 1st century – first half of the 2nd century AD[20]. Similar *fibulae* on the territory of former USSR are named by A. K. Ambroz "military" *fibulae* (or "semi-Roman") and dated by the end of the 1st century BC – 1st century AD[21]. Beside the specimens presented by A. K. Ambroz, such *fibulae* are known in the cemetery at Zolotaja Balka (Lower Dnieper)[22], the sanctuary at Gurzufskoe Sedlo (Crimea)[23] and the late Scythian graves in the cemeteries at Baljaus, Neapois and Ust'-Al'ma (Crimea)[24]. They are also present in the Zarubineck[25], Przeworsk and Oksyw cultures environment[26] as well as in that of the Geto-Dacians[27].

M. Babeş pointed out that such *fibulae* emerge in Eastern Europe much earlier and chooses the mid 1st century BC as start date of their use[28]. Still, as A. Rustoiu noted, it is currently hard to say when precisely during the second half of the 1st century BC they emerge[29]. It is certain that their emergence sometime during the second half of the 1st century BC is confirmed by both finds in the Zarubineck culture[30] and Geto-Dacian environments[31]. Evidence supporting the above mentioned assessment is the *fibula* in the Sarmatian find at Soloncy, found beside a series of other pieces, amongst which a gold Mid La Tène – construction *fibula*, which does not exceed the limits of the 1st century BC[32].

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[14] Cf. BÂRCĂ 2006, 124.

[15] GROSU 1990, 42, Fig. 7V /11; BÂRCĂ 2005, 124, Fig. 2/8; BÂRCĂ 2006, 124–125, 308, Fig. 49/6, 172/8.

[16] LEVINSCHI/AGULNICOV 1996–1997, 87, Fig. 1/5; AGUL'NIKOV/SAVA, 2004, 177, Fig. 87/6; BÂRCĂ 2005, 124–125, Fig. 2/9; BÂRCĂ 2006, 124, 336, Fig. 84/2, 172/9.

[17] KOSTENKO 1993, 25, Fig. 7/9.

[18] SIMONENKO 2008, 58–59, Pl. 17/2b; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009 155.

[19] ALMGREN 1923, 106 sqq., 251; BÖHME 1972, 13–14.

[20] RIHA 1979, 59–61, type 1.6, Pl. 3; RIHA 1994, 56–59, type 1.6, Pl. 2–4.

[21] AMBROZ 1966, 23–25, Pl. 3/12–14, 4/4/1–8, group 4. See for finds of such *fibulae* at Olbia in FURMANS'KA 1953, 81, Pl. II/7–10, 13–14.

[22] VJAZ'MITINA 1972, 131–132, Fig. 65/1–3, 8–9, 11.

[23] NOVIČENKOVA 2000, 156–158, Fig. 4.

[24] Cf. MIHLIN 1980, 205; DAŠEVSKAJA 1991, 36.

[25] Cf. AMBROZ 1966, 23–25; KASPAROVA 1972, 89–90, Fig. 19/11–15, 18; KASPAROVA 1976, 128–140, Fig. 1.

[26] Cf. KASPAROVA 1976, 128–140.

[27] Cf. TEODOR/ȚAU 1996, 64, Fig. 10/11, 16–20, 11/1–8, 10–12, 14–16, 15/1, 3–7, 11–12; RUSTOIU 1997, 42, Fig. 36/1–13, 37/12–14, type 9.

[28] BABEŞ 1975, 134.

[29] RUSTOIU 1997, 42.

[30] Cf. KASPAROVA 1976, 128–140; KASPAROVA 1977, 75; MAKSIMOV 1982, Pl. XVII/27–28, XXXIV/14.

[31] Cf. RUSTOIU 1997, 42.

[32] Cf. BYLKOVA 1993, 164–168, Fig. 2; SIMONENKO 1993, 15–18, Fig. 5; SIMONENKO 1994, 115, Fig. 15; BÂRCĂ 2006a, 214–215, Fig. 34.

The chronological gap between the *fibulae* of this type in the Roman world and those in Eastern Europe is explained by the fact that they were overtaken by the Romans from the region in question, while their extended use is due to their simple form and practical use[33].

The *fibula* in T 1 G 9 at Dubăsarii Vechi (Fig. 1/6) and that in T 1 G 3 at Novocotovsc are part of certain graves whose dead heads are oriented southwards. In the north-west Pontic territory, the southern orientation is a feature of most early graves, dated up to mid 1st century AD[34].

To the rich Sarmatian grave at Kovalevka, barrow Sokolova Mogila belongs a golden "spoon"-type *fibula*[35] (Fig. 1/7). It is made of two metal pieces: the *fibula* proper body (bow, foot, catchplate) and the spring with the pin. The bow's head broadens in the shape of a "spoon" and is lamellar over the rest of its length. The catchplate is perforated.

Over time, researchers dated these *fibulae* very differently[36]. Recently, following a detailed analysis of such *fibulae* in the Geto-Dacian environment, A. Rustoiu noticed that the period of maximum use of spoon-type *fibulae* is comprised between the last quarter/end of the 1st century BC until mid/third quarter of the 1st century AD[37].

The golden *fibula* in the rich Sarmatian barrow at Sokolova Mogila, beside other two bronze specimens from the settlement at Kozyrka, close to Olbia[38] are in our view, most likely imports from the Geto-Dacian environment[39] where such *fibulae* were discovered in large numbers in Geto-Dacian sites, graves and hoards[40]. The grave in the barrow at Sokolova Mogila is dated on the basis of remaining furniture sometime by mid/third quarter of the 1st C CE[41].

A special group is represented by Aucissa type *fibulae*. They are hinged *fibulae* and have a highly arched bow in the shape of half circle, short foot ornamented with a knob. Their catch-plate is solid. Usually, they are made of bronze, however iron specimens may also be found.

Within the north-Pontic Sarmatian environment of the chronological frame under discussion, Aucissa *fibulae* come from T 69 G 1 and T 70 G 1 at Ust'-Kamenka[42] (Fig. 1/8).

Aucissa type *fibulae* were ones of the most distributed hinged-*fibulae*, being discovered in most provinces of the Roman empire[43]. Their wide dissemination on the entire Roman territory is placed by researchers on the account of the Roman army, wherein they were very popular[44].

They are also known outside the Roman world. Such *fibulae* are recorded in rather significant numbers in various cultural environments, including those of the north-Pontic area, the Kuban region, north Caucasus or the northern regions of Eastern Europe[45]. Although not

[33] RUSTOIU 1997, p. 42.

[34] See to this effect BÂRCĂ 2006; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009.

[35] KOVPANENKO 1986, 37–38, Fig. 35, 36/7–9; BÂRCĂ 2002, 117–118, Fig. 20/4; SIMONENKO 2008, 74, Pl. 103/4; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 156, Fig. 58/7.

[36] Cf. RUSTOIU 1997, 49 with complete bibliography.

[37] RUSTOIU 1997, 48–50.

[38] KOVPANENKO 1986, 37–38, Fig. 35, 36/7–9.

[39] BÂRCĂ 2002, 117.

[40] RUSTOIU 1997, 48–50 with bibliography and finds.

[41] KOVPANENKO 1986, 127 dated the grave in the first half of the 1st century AD.

[42] KOSTENKO 1993, 78, 81, 105, Fig. 24/22, 26/22; SIMONENKO 2008, 30, 65, Pl. 52/2, 55/5; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 157, Fig. 58/8.

[43] Cf. ALMGREN 1923, 109, Pl. X/242; AMBROZ 1966, 26; ETTLINGER 1973, types 29–30; RIECKHOFF 1975, 47–48; KOŠČEVIĆ 1980, 15–17, Pl. II/10, 12–15, III-IV; BOJOVIĆ 1983, 22 sqq.; FEUGÈRE 1985, 312 sqq., type 22; RIHA 1979, 114–115, Pl. 23–27, Pl. 79 type 5.2; RIHA 1994, 101 sqq., Pl. 18–22, Pl. 51, type 5.2; COCIŞ 2004, 78 sqq.

[44] FEUGÈRE 1985, 318.

[45] Cf. FURMANS'KA 1953, Pl. VII/10–12; ŠELOV 1961, 34, Pl. XXXIX/7; AMBROZ 1966, 26, Pl. 4/9–16; AMBROZ 1969, Pl. I/8; SYMONOVIČ 1963, Fig. 2/5, 3/23; SYMONOVIČ 1983, 90, Pl. XXVI/1–2; KORPUSOVA 1983, Pl. XXXVIII/10; ABRAMOVA 1993, 152, Fig. 59/1–4; ZAJCEV/MORDVINCEVA 2004, 182, Fig. 7/28; PAČKOVA 2006, 88, Fig. 31/7; PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 174, Fig. 194/5–6; MARČENKO/LIMBERIS 2008, 310–311, cat. no. 115, 124, 128, 135, 137, 142, 145, 147, 152, 197.

many, Aucissa type *fibulae* are also present in the Geto-Dacian environment[46]. Fibulae of the type were identified in a series of Sarmatian graves from the entire space they inhabited as well[47].

Aucissa type *fibulae* emerged by the end of the 1st century BC (BCE 20s–10s)[48] and were intensely used during the first half of the 1st century AD, certain specimens remaining in use also in its second half[49]. Except the fact that *fibulae* of the type were used mainly over the period comprised between the last decade of the 1st century BC and the third quarter of the 1st century AD[50], they were occasionally worn, even though outfashioned, also in the Roman provincial environment of the beginning of the 2nd century AD[51]. According to A. V. Simonenko, these *fibulae* reached the ancient cities in the north of the Black Sea and the Barbarian environment (including the Sarmatian) only after the military units reached that area[52]. Last but not least, it is worth noticing that *fibulae* of the type in the north-Pontic Sarmatian environment originate in inventories of eastern features graves belonging to the new Sarmatian wave coming from the east starting with mid 1st century AD, thus accounting for a definite use of Aucissa *fibulae* in the north-Pontic Sarmatian environment also in the second half of the 1st century AD. In fact, within late Scythian cemeteries from Crimea, Aucissa *fibulae* are known starting only with mid 1st century AD[53], although they emerged in Crimea by the beginning of the 1st century AD[54]. More extended use had certain *fibulae* of the type within the Geto-Dacian[55] and Barbarian environments from Central Asia[56].

From the disturbed grave at Davydov Brod[57] (Fig. 1/9), T 9 G 1 of group IX of barrows from Podgorodnoe[58] and T 65 G 1 at Ust'-Kamenka[59], come the *fibulae* with tubular hinge and flat bow with chased decoration longitudinally. The catchplate, with approximately spherical small-sized knob by the end is solid and triangular. These *fibulae* are very close to classical Aucissa type *fibulae* and represent, most likely, their variant or simplified form.

Fibulae with tubular hinge, similar to the specimens at Davydov Brod, Podgorodnoe and Ust'-Kamenka, are commonly present within the military Roman environment of the second half of the 1st century AD, being catalogued as variants of Aucissa *fibulae*[60], which furthermore proves the popularity of tubular- hinged "Hülsenscharnierfibeln" *fibulae*[61]. Last but not least, it is noteworthy that the chased decoration on the flat bow of the three *fibulae* is close to that on certain *fibulae* with tubular hinge from Augst[62]. Fibulae similar to those discussed herein are known in Crimea and Caucasus[63], where Roman military units were present in the second half of the 1st century AD, which may point to the period when they approximately reached the Sarmatian environment north of the Black Sea.

[46] Cf. RUSTOIU 1997, 60, fig. 71/1–4.

[47] SKRIPKIN 1990, 109, Fig. 38/31, 33; MEDVEDEV 1990, 68, 87, Fig. 27/6.

[48] FEUGÈRE 1985, 306.

[49] Cf. BÖHME 1972, 11; ETTLINGER 1973, 29, 93–96, type 29–30; FEUGÈRE 1985, 233–234; RIHA 1979, 114–115; RIHA 1994, 101 sqq.; RUSTOIU 1997, 60.

[50] Cf. FEUGÈRE 1985, 333; RIHA 1979, 114–115.

[51] Cf. COCIŞ 2004, 78.

[52] SIMONENKO 2004, 143; SIMONENKO 2008, 31.

[53] PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 174.

[54] Cf. TREJSTER 1993, 59, 60; NOVIČENKOVA 2000, 160–161, Fig. 6/1–5

[55] RUSTOIU 1997, 60.

[56] Cf. LITVINSKIJ 1967, 31, 32; OBOLDUEVA 1988, 166, Fig. 4/11.

[57] SIMONENKO 1993, 62, Fig. 19/2B; SIMONENKO 2008, 31, 67, Pl. 67/2b; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 157, fig. 58/9.

[58] KOSTENKO 1986, Pl. 26/41; SIMONENKO 2008, 31, 60, Pl. 25/2b.

[59] KOSTENKO 1993, 71, Fig. 23/20; SIMONENKO 2008, 31, 65, Pl. 51/2b.

[60] ULBERT 1959, 68, Pl. 15/10, 50/11; RIHA 1979, 118, type 5.2., variant 5.2.2, Pl. 25/663–665; RIHA 1994, 100, 102, 105, 107–108 type 5.2, variant 5.2.2, Pl. 20/2289, type 5.3, Pl. 22/2330–2331, 2336.

[61] Cf. for this *fibulae* group RIHA 1994, 100 sqq.

[62] RIHA 1994, Pl. 30/2545, 2549, 31/2565–2569.

[63] AMBROZ 1966, 27, Pl. 4/17–18

The *fibulae* from Davydov Brod, Podgorodnoe (T 9 G 1) and Ust'-Kamenka (T 65 G 1) come from the inventory of graves that belonged to the new wave of Sarmatians (the Aorsi, Alani) coming from the east starting with mid 1st century AD.

Another *fibulae* type is represented by hinged-*fibulae*, with arched bow ornamented and transverse mouldings. Occasionally, the foot terminal of certain specimens is also decorated with mouldings similar to those on the bow. The catchplate is trapezoid and sometimes perforated.

Fibulae of the type are mainly distributed in northern Gaul, the Rhine region, Upper Danube and Switzerland[64]. Some were also identified on the territory of the former USSR[65].

Within the Sarmatian graves of the Mid period they are recorded by a specimen coming from T 7 G 1 at Costeşti[66] (Fig. 1/5). It is bronze- made and polished with silver, while the transverse mouldings were made by incision. The *fibula* at Costeşti is the single item of the type in the Sarmatian environment and represents a Roman import.

Fibulae of the type are posterior to Aucissa *fibulae*. They emerged under Tiberius and were intensively used especially over the second half of the 1st century AD[67].

Within the graves of the 1st century – mid 2nd century AD, most numerous and well represented *fibulae* are those with returned foot wound to the bow made of a single metal piece, with 4-turns bilateral spring and either internal or external chord. The bow is arched, the extended foot is returned and attached to the bow by wounding, forming several revolutions. The vast majority of the specimens are made of bronze and iron, however a few silver specimens were also found.

Fibulae with returned foot wound to the bow[68] were divided by A. M. Ambroz, on the basis of certain morphological peculiarities in several series, and within series, upon variants[69]. All are mainly specific to the north-Pontic area, where they were in fact produced. They are the best investigated *fibulae* type and also the best spread type in the region.

They are recorded in the north-Pontic Sarmatian graves by approximately 23 specimens belonging to the first series in A. K. Ambroz's classification (T 2 G 3 at Glubokoe[70] (Fig. 1/1), T 7 G 1 at Vladimirovka[71] (Fig. 1/15), T 8 G 3 at Vodoslavka[72], T 5 G 9 at Vol'naja Družina[73] (Fig. 1/11), T 3 G 3 at Novoe[74], T 3 G 2 at Baltazarovka[75], T 2 G 1 at Novofilippovka[76] (Fig. 1/14), T 4 G 1 at Sergeevka[77], Konskie Razdory[78] (Fig. 1/13), T 5 G 1, T 6 G 1, T 12

[64] Cf. ETTLINGER 1973, 99, type 32; RIECKHOFF 1975, 53 sqq., Pl. 7, group C; FEUGÈRE 1985, 331 sqq., type 23; RIHA 1994, 110–112, Pl. 23–24, type 5.6.

[65] AMBROZ 1966, p. 27, Pl. 14/1.

[66] Cf. DERGACEV 1982, 20, Fig. 5/6; GROSU 1982, 12–13, Fig. 2/25; GROSU 1990, 49, Fig. 16A/1; GROSU 1995, Fig. 12/11; BÂRCĂ 2005, 126, Fig. 2/7; BÂRCĂ 2006, 126, 305, Fig. 47/5, 172/7.

[67] ETTLINGER 1973, 99; FEUGÈRE 1985, 334–335; RIHA 1994, 110–112. The *fibula* at Costeşti was found together with a mirror with round and flat disc. They are frequent in the Sarmatian environment of the 1st century BC – 1st century AD (HAZANOV 1963, 64), mainly in the latter (SKRIPKIN 1990, 153; see for this type mirror finds in the 1st century AD ABRAMOVA 1971, 121–132; GROSU 1990; SIMONENKO/LOBAJ 1991; KOSTENKO 1993; DZIGOVS'KIJ 1993; SIMONENKO 1993; MARČENKO 1996, 19–20; BÂRCĂ 2006, 148–150; BÂRCĂ 2006a, 93–95). Once with the end of the 1st CE, they cease dominating in the Sarmatian world, while from the beginning of the 2nd century only singular specimens are found (HAZANOV 1963, 64; SKRIPKIN 1990, 153, Fig. 44).

[68] They belong to group 15 in A. K. Ambroz's classification (AMBROZ 1966, 47).

[69] Cf. AMBROZ 1966, 47–57.

[70] Cf. ŠMAGLIJ/ČERNJAKOV 1970, 47–48, Fig. 65/13; GROSU 1990, 44–45; BÂRCĂ 2005, 127, Fig. 2/1; BÂRCĂ 2006, 126–127, 314, Fig. 58/6, 172/1.

[71] SIMONENKO 2008, 71, Pl. 88/5; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 158, Fig. 58/15.

[72] SIMONENKO 1993, 40, Fig. 11/1G.

[73] SIMONENKO 1993, Fig. 12/3V; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 158, Fig. 58/11.

[74] BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 158.

[75] SIMONENKO 1993, 55, Fig. 17/1G.

[76] SIMONENKO 2008, 80, Pl. 136/3; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 158, Fig. 58/14.

[77] SIMONENKO 1993, 43, Fig. 11/3B.

[78] BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 158, Fig. 58/13.

G 2, T 13 G 1, T 31 G 1, T 32 G 1 (Fig. 1/12) and T 71 G 1 at Ust'-Kamenka[79], T 1 G 8 at Dneprovsk[80], T 26 G 2 at Ljubimovka[81] (Fig. 1/10), T 3 G 1 at Širokaja Balka[82], G 5 at Kalantaevo[83] etc.). According to the bow and foot shape they are represented in the graves of the 1st century – mid 2nd century AD by the first three variants. The first variant includes the majority of the specimens characterised by the same thickness of both bow and foot. They can be dated in the 1st century AD (with a more intense use in its first half). The second variant comprises the items with downward bow and slightly widened foot dating mainly to the second half of the 1st century AD, however some are also found by the beginning of the 2nd century AD. The *fibulae* of the third variant are characterised by a highly arched bow and broad foot. They mainly date to the first half of the 2nd century AD[84].

Such *fibulae* were identified in all cultural environments of the north-Pontic area[85], including that Sarmatian up to Volga[86].

Similarly to the *fibulae* of series VI (series "lebjaž'inskaja")[87], those belonging to the first series originate in Mid La Tène construction *fibulae*, continuing somehow the tradition of the latter[88]. In fact, recently, complexes within which Mid La Tène construction *fibulae* associate with those of the discussed type (variant 1) were investigated[89]. These finds confirm the view according to which the latter were formed based on Mid La Tène construction *fibulae*[90], while on the other hand, the two types coexisted for a short period of time by the beginning of the 1st century AD.

The above mentioned *fibulae* are completed by those one-piece, flat bow, returned foot wound to the bow, bilateral spring of four coils and external chord. The bow is arched and mostly flat in the shape of an oval, oval-extended or rectangular plate. The elongated foot is returned and attached to the narrow part of the bow by wounding, thus forming several revolutions. Certain specimens have the bow decorated with dots, circles or a vertical moulding in relief. They are bronze and rarely iron-made.

Morphologically, they are very close to the previous type. Certain technical details (flat bow in the shape of an oval, oval-extended or rectangular-extended plate), require though distinct defining.

In A. K. Ambroz's typological classification they belong to the second variant of series VI (series "lebjaž'inskaja") of *fibulae* with returned foot wound to the bow (group 15)[91].

Compared to the *fibulae* of the previous type, they are not that numerous, however similarly, they are specific to the north-Pontic area where they were in fact manufactured[92].

[79] MAHNO 1960, 29–30; SIMONENKO 2008, 63, 65, Pl. 42/3g, 43/5, 54/1a; KOSTENKO 1993, 28, 30, 82, Fig. 8/9, 9/10, 26/15, 28/12, 41, 29/13, 20; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 158, Fig. 58/12.

[80] SIMONENKO 2008, 67, Pl. 67/1b.

[81] SIMONENKO 1993, 45, Fig. 12/1J; SIMONENKO 2008, 67–68, Pl. 70/2; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 158, Fig. 58/10.

[82] SIMONENKO 1993, 66; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 158.

[83] POKROVS'KA/KOVPANENKO 1961, 132, Fig. 7/4; SIMONENKO 2008, 59, Pl. 20/4; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 158.

[84] AMBROZ 1966, 48–49; SKRIPKIN 1990, 109.

[85] See for the *fibulae* of the series in the Late Scythian environment from Crimea ZAJCEV/MORDVINCEVA 2004, 182, Fig. 7/22–23; PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 177, 182, Fig. 197/26–31, 198/1–6, 8–27, 199/1–14.

[86] Cf. SKRIPKIN 1990, 109, Fig. 38/12–19, 20–25; SERGACKOV 2004, 108.

[87] AMBROZ 1966, 55 sqq.

[88] AMBROZ 1966, 48.

[89] GEJ, BAŽAN 1990, 135–138.

[90] Cf. AMBROZ 1966, 48, MIHLIN 1980, 201, 206; SKRIPKIN 1990, 107–108; SKRIPKIN 2000, 140–141.

[91] AMBROZ 1966, 56, Pl. 10/4–6.

[92] Cf. AMBROZ 1966, 56.

Fibulae with flat bow, returned foot wound to the bow are recorded in T 3 G 4 at Mărculeşti[93] (Fig. 1/3), T 6 G 1, T 31 G 1, T 43 G 1, T 53 G 1, T 59 G 1 (Fig. 1/16) at Ust'-Kamenka[94] etc.

Fibulae of the type date in the 1st century AD, while specimens with the bow decorated with a vertical moulding in relief extend their dating, according to A. K. Ambroz, also in the 2nd century AD[95]. Such *fibulae* are found in the Late Scythian environment of Crimea as well[96].

A special type is represented by the *fibulae* with bilateral spring of four coils and external chord, with flat bow either in band-shape or triangular and trapezoid catchplate. Their bow is decorated by incision and the foot terminal is provided with a knob. Such *fibulae* come from T 10 G 1 and T 19 G 1 at Akkermen' II[97] (western group of graves) (Fig. 2/1–2), the cemetery at Molčansk[98], to which adds the specimen from T 45 G 1 at Ust'-Kamenka[99].

In A. K. Ambroz's typological classification[100], the *fibulae* at Akkermen' II belong to the third variant of *fibulae* with flat bow and trapezoid catchplate with poorly marked knob by the end (group 12), while that at Ust'-Kamenka is included in the first variant with the well marked knob[101]. Fibulae of both variants are also not very large in size.

Fibulae of the type were discovered also in a few Sarmatian graves in the area east of the river Don[102]. They are though more numerous in the Late Scythian environment of Crimea[103].

A. K. Ambroz dated *fibulae* of the type belonging to the first two variants to the 1st century AD and those of the third variant by the end of the 1st century – first half of the 2nd century AD[104]. A careful analysis of the well datable complexes whose goods include *fibulae* belonging to the first two variants shows they do not date earlier than the third quarter of the 1st century AD. In the case of the specimens discovered in Crimea, the dating of the first two variants was proposed to the last quarter of the 1st century AD[105], while the emergence of *fibulae* of the third variant was placed by the turn of the 1st – 2nd century AD[106].

All three Sarmatian graves in the north-Pontic area are dated on the basis of the funerary furniture sometime in the interval between the second half of the 1st century AD and the start of the 2nd century AD. Referencing M. I. Vjaz'mitina's studies[107], A. K. Ambroz dated the *fibula* in T 19 G 1 at Akkermen' II in the 2nd – 3rd century AD[108], although in M. I. Vjaz'mitina's studies this grave is not dated in this chronological time frame. The funerary furniture of the grave at

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[93] Cf. BEJLEKČI 1992, 75, Fig. 2/6; BÂRCĂ 2005, 128–129, Fig. 2/3; BÂRCĂ 2006, 127, 327, Fig. 73/2, 172/3.

[94] KOSTENKO 1983, 58, Fig. 12/14; KOSTENKO 1993, 28, 46, 57, 65, 105, 113, 117, Fig. 8/10, 15/4, 19/6, 21/23, 28/26; SIMONENKO 2008, Pl. 43/4; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 158, Fig. 58/16.

[95] AMBROZ 1966, 56.

[96] ZAJCEV/MORDVINCEVA 2004, 182, Fig. 7/20; PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 176, 182, Fig. 194/8–18.

[97] VJAZ'MITINA/IL'INS'KA/POKROVS'KA/TERENOŽKIN/KOVPANENKO 1960; VJAZ'MITINA 1953, 69, Fig. 7/4; VJAZ'MITINA 1954, 224, Pl. 6/4; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 158, Fig. 59/1–2.

[98] The cemetery at Molčansk is within the range of Novofilippovka, Novovasil'evka district (region Zaporož'e) and is formed by the Sarmatian vestiges known in the specialty literature as coming from Akkermen' II and Novofillipovka.

[99] KOSTENKO 1993, 49, 106, Fig. 16/6; SIMONENKO 2008, Pl. 49/3.

[100] AMBROZ 1966, 43.

[101] KOSTENKO 1993, 106.

[102] Cf. SKRIPKIN 1977, 116, Fig. 6/20–21; SKRIPKIN 1990, 110–111, Fig. 38/5–6, 11; SERGACKOV 2004, 108, Fig. 1/16–19.

[103] PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 181, 185, Fig. 197/11–13, 202/1–13.

[104] AMBROZ 1966, 43.

[105] PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 181.

[106] PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 185.

[107] VJAZ'MITINA 1954, 224, Pl. 6/4; VJAZ'MITINA/IL'INS'KA/POKROVS'KA/TERENOŽKIN/KOVPANENKO 1960, 79, Fig. 65/6.

[108] AMBROZ 1966, 44.

Akkermen' II also includes a disc shaped mirror with thick rim, perforated side handle and concave protuberance in the disc centre of north-Caucasus origin[109] and date in the north-Pontic Sarmatian environment in the second half of the 1st century – beginning of the 2nd century AD[110].

From T 2 G 1 at Şcerbaca[111] (Fig. 1/2), G 65 at Selişte[112] and T 4 G 1 of the eastern group of graves at Akkermen' II[113] (Fig. 2/3) come *fibulae* with bilateral spring of four coils and external chord. The bow of this *fibulae* type is arched and broad in the shape of a rectangular, lamellar, lance-shaped or rhomboid plate. The catchplate is solid, either rectangular or trapezoid, and the foot extremity is turned upward and is twisted in loop/coil or S shape. They are made of bronze and rarely of iron. The specimens at Şcerbaca and Selişte are fragmentary. Certain specimens, like the *fibulae* at Şcerbaca and Akkermen' II, have their bow decorated with incisions, dots, circles, dotted zig-zag lines etc.

In A. K. Ambroz's typological classification these *fibulae* belong to group 13[114]. The items at Selişte and Akkermen' II belong to the third variant of *fibulae* with solid catchplate and end loop[115], while that at Şcerbaca, most likely, to the second variant in A. K. Ambroz's classification characterised by the foot extremity turned upward and twisted in S shape, while the bow is often ornamented[116].

Fibulae of the type are recorded north of the Black Sea, Crimea, Bosporus and the Kuban region[117].

Chronologically, the specimens of the third variant of the type are intensively used over the 1st century AD and are rarely found also in the 2nd century AD[118]. Regarding the small *fibulae* with S-shaped foot terminal, it is noteworthy that they date mainly to the second half of the 1st century AD[119], while those of larger sizes date in the last quarter of the 1st century – beginning of the 2nd century AD[120]. For finds in Crimea it was noticed that larger specimens are also found in complexes of the second quarter of the 2nd century AD[121].

Above *fibulae* are completed by the one-piece bronze specimens from T 1 G 3 at Sokolovo, T 1 G 9 at Lyčkovo and T 6 G 1 at Podovoe[122] (Fig. 2/4). They are smaller and have their bilateral spring of four turns and external chord. Their bow is flat and is in oval-elongated shape, with small rectangular catchplates. The bow of the *fibula* at Podovoe is decorated on the edge with two longitudinal lines made by incision. Morphologically, these *fibulae* differentiate

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[109] ABRAMOVA 1971, 124–125, 129–131; VINOGRADOV/PETRENKO 1976, 44–49; SKRIPKIN 1990, 153.

[110] Cf. BÂRCĂ 2006, 152–153; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 173–174.

[111] Cf. GROSU 1988, 81, Fig. 2/4; GROSU 1990, 57, Fig. 18V/4; GROSU 1995, Fig. 12/6; BÂRCĂ 2005, 128, Fig. 2/2; BÂRCĂ 2006, 128, 357, Fig. 116/2, 172/2; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 159, Fig. 58/2.

[112] Cf. RAFALOVIČ/LĂPUŞNEAN 1974, 120, Fig. 7/9; GROSU 1990, 51–52, Fig. 10/25; BÂRCĂ 2006, 128, 354, Fig. 113/6.

[113] VJAZ'MITINA 1953, 69, Fig. 7/3; VJAZ'MITINA/IL'INS'KA/POKROVS'KA/TERENOŽKIN/KOVPANENKO 1960, 85; SIMONENKO 2008, 81, Pl. 141/1d; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 159, Fig. 59/3.

[114] Cf. AMBROZ 1966, 45.

[115] AMBROZ 1966, 45, Pl. 5/15–16.

[116] Cf. AMBROZ 1966, 45, Pl. 5/14; PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 177, 181, 188, Fig. 197/21–23, 25, 202/23–24.

[117] AMBROZ 1966, 45; PAČKOVA 2006, 88. See for *fibulae* of this series in the Late Scythian environment from Crimea PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 181, 185, 188.

[118] AMBROZ 1966, 46. Amongst the funerary goods of the grave at Şcerbaca counts a *terra sigillata orientales B* bowl (Cf. BÂRCĂ 2006, 77–78, 357, Fig. 116/1, 161/1) and in the grave at Akkermen' II a *terra sigillata* bowl, a *Lekythos* and a cylinder-shaped bone pyxide (SIMONENKO 2008, 81, Pl. 141/1a, b, e) accounting for a dating of the graves in the second half of the 1st century AD.

[119] Cf. AMBROZ 1966, 45; PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 177.

[120] Cf. AMBROZ 1966, 45.

[121] PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 188.

[122] SIMONENKO 1993, 43, Fig. 11/2V; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 159, Fig. 59/4.

from those belonging to the first three variants of group 13 in A. K. Ambroz's classification only by the lack of the spiral or S-shaped loop by the catchplate extremity.

Another type is represented by the strongly profiled *fibulae* made of a single metal piece, with a bilateral spring of 6–8 turns and tall external chord supported by a hook. The bow is broad in the spring area and decorated with a knot. There is a knob by the foot terminal and the rectangular catchplate is solid. They are made of bronze and rarely of silver[123].

Within the type, there are specimens of either up to 5 cm in size or between 5 and 7 cm long.

Fibulae of the type are recorded by a large size specimen (6.4 cm) coming from T 5 G 2 at Bădragii Noi[124] (Fig. 2/6) and few other of smaller size like those in T 29 G 1 at Gordeevka[125] (Fig. 2/5), Hrușca[126] (Fig. 2/7), T 2 G 2 at Porogi[127] (Fig. 2/8) and T 2 G 1 at Čuguno-Krepinka[128].

Strongly profiled *fibulae* of the type in question emerged, similarly to those of type Almgren 67 and 68[129], in the south and east areas of the Alps, from where they distributed mainly in the Roman provinces of Noricum, Pannonia and Moesia[130], but also outside the borders of the Roman empire[131]. The specimens belonging to this type are commonly found on the territory of pre-Roman Dacia, however especially in the settlements in Siret river basin (Brad, Răcătău, Poiana)[132]. Their extreme large numbers in this part of the territory inhabited by the Geto-Dacians is explained by the operation of the workshop in the settlement at Poiana[133] producing such *fibulae* during the second half of the 1st century AD.

As well noted by M. Babeş[134], likewise other categories of items, such *fibulae* may be deemed "supranational" artifacts since they disseminated over vast areas.

Chronologically, *fibulae* of the type date in the 1st century AD, being used mainly in its second part[135]. Rarely, certain copies are found also by the beginning of the 2nd century AD. Evidence to this effect is represented by finds of such *fibulae* in Trajanic levels from Roman Dacia[136].

The workshop at Poiana and the extremely large number of *fibulae* belonging to this type identified in the eastern Geto-Dacian environment make us believe, as argued on several other occasions[137], that certain of the specimens in the north-Pontic Sarmatian environment are, most likely, imports from respective environment.

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[123] Cf. for *fibulae* of the type ALMGREN 1923, 37, type 69; BOJOVIĆ 1983, 31–35, type 9 variant 3, RUSTOIU 1997, 52, Fig. 58, 59/1–5, type 19c; COCIŞ 2004, 49, Pl. VI/78–82, 84–90, types 8a1c1 and 8a1c2.

[124] BÂRCĂ 2005, 129, Fig. 4/4; BÂRCĂ 2006, 128, 274, Fig. 3/2, 171/4; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 159, Fig. 59/6.

[125] BÂRCĂ 2005, 129; BÂRCĂ 2006, 128, 315, Fig. 59/1; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 159, Fig. 59/5; SIMONENKO 2008, 78, Pl. 126/6.

[126] GROSU 1986, 259, Fig. 1/23; GROSU 1990, 53, Fig. 16D/3; GROSU 1995, Fig. 14/23; BÂRCĂ 2005, 129, Fig. 3/13; BÂRCĂ 2006, 128, 320, Fig. 65/23, 170/13; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 159, Fig. 59/7.

[127] SIMONENKO/LOBAJ 1991, 32–33, Fig. 20/3; SIMONENKO 2008, 79, Pl. 133/12; BÂRCĂ 2005, 129, Fig. 3/14; BÂRCĂ 2006, 128, 320, Fig. 108/2, 170/14; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 159, Fig. 59/8.

[128] SIMONENKO 2008, 66, Pl. 63/9; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 159.

[129] Cf. KOSSACK 1962, 125–126.

[130] Cf. ALMGREN 1923, 37, 108; PATEK 1942, 93–94; KOŠČEVIĆ 1980, 20–24; BOJOVIĆ 1983, 34.

[131] Cf. ALMGREN 1923, 37, 108; AMBROZ 1966, 36; PEŠKAŘ 1972, 79; RUSTOIU 1997, 52–53, type 19c.

[132] Cf. RUSTOIU 1997, 52–53, Fig. 58, 59/1–5; TEODOR/ȚAU 1996, Fig. 16/1, 3–15, 17/1–9, 11–15, 17, 18/1–5, 8, 16–19, 19/1, 5–7, 10–20.

[133] RUSTOIU 1997, 20–21, 52–53.

[134] BABEŞ 1999, 230.

[135] PEŠKAŘ 1972, 79–80; BOJOVIĆ 1983, 34; GUGL 1995, 13–15.

[136] Cf. COCIŞ 2004, 49, types 8a1c1 and 8a1c2.

[137] BÂRCĂ 2005, 129; BÂRCĂ 2006, 128; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 159.

Much more numerous are the eastern type strongly profiled *fibulae*[138]. They are small and have their bilateral spring usually made of a number of 10–14 coils and external chord supported by a hook. There are also cases when the chord is wound to the bow. The latter is ornamented with two knots, one by the end and the other by the junction between bow and foot. The foot is decorated with a conical knob and the catchplate is trapezoid and rarely rectangular. They are of small size and are made of bronze and seldom of silver.

Specimens of the type differentiate from the other west European *fibulae* types of strongly profiled *fibulae* in use over the first two centuries AD, but also from those in the north of the Black Sea, called by A. K. Ambroz "north-Pontic strongly profiled *fibulae*" [139]. Moreover, these *fibulae* differ also from the "Carpic-Pontic" strongly profiled *fibulae* termed as such by Gh. Bichir, who believes they were produced in the Geto-Dacian region east of the Carpathians under Roman influence[140].

Within the Sarmatian graves of the discussed territory and period, *fibulae* of the type are recorded mainly in graves of the west of the north-Pontic territory (T 1 G 1 at Codrul Nou[141], T 9 G 13 at Dumeni[142], T 6 G 3 at Duruitoarea Nouă[143], T 3 G 13 at Mărculeşti[144] (Fig. 2/11), T 1 G 8 at Pisarevka[145], T 23 G 1 at Plavni[146] (Fig. 2/10), T 2 G 1 at Porogi[147] (Fig. 2/9), T 11 G 1 at Semenovka[148], T 3 G 3 at Şcerbaca[149], T 1 G 5 at Zîrneşti[150]). A fragmentary bronze *fibula* belonging most likely to this type comes from T 7 G 1 at Turlaki[151]. Such *fibulae* can be documented also for the Sarmatian graves west of the river Pruth, like those at Cândeşti (G 71)[152] and Tutova (G 1)[153].

Fibulae of the type are mainly distributed in the Geto-Dacian settlements in the Siret river basin[154] from where they spread to neighbouring regions[155]. In fact, at Brad and

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[138] Cf. RUSTOIU 1997, 53 sqq., types 20a and 20b, Fig. 61, 62, 63/1–7.

[139] AMBROZ 1966, 40–43, Pl. 8.

[140] BICHIR 1973, 100–101.

[141] GROSU 1990, 53–54, Fig. 13A/10–11; BÂRCĂ 2005, 130, Fig. 3/12; BÂRCĂ 2006, 129, 304, Fig. 46/6, 170/12; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 160.

[142] GROSU 1988, 84, Fig. 3/6; GROSU 1990, 58, Fig. 18B/1; BÂRCĂ 2005, 130, Fig. 3/9; BÂRCĂ 2006, 129, 309, Fig. 51/2, 170/9; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 160.

[143] BÂRCĂ 2005, 130; BÂRCĂ 2006, 129, 311, fig. 54/6; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 160.

[144] BEJLEKČI 1992, 82, Fig. 4/5; BÂRCĂ 2005, 130, Fig. 3/7; BÂRCĂ 2006, 129, 327, Fig. 73/8, 170/7; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 160, Fig. 59/11.

[145] SIMONENKO 2008, 79, Pl. 128/4; BÂRCĂ 2005, 130; BÂRCĂ 2006, 129, 346, Fig. 92/1; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 160.

[146] GUDKOVA/FOKEEV 1984, 57, Fig. 16/5; GROSU 1990, 59; DZYGOVS'KYJ 1993, 74, Fig. 42/1; BÂRCĂ 2005, 130, Fig. 3/6; BÂRCĂ 2006, 129, 347, Fig. 94/5, 170/6; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 160, Fig. 59/10.

[147] SIMONENKO/LOBAJ 1991, 24, Fig. 14/2; SIMONENKO 2008, 79, Pl. 132/12; BÂRCĂ 2005, 130, Fig. 3/5; BÂRCĂ 2006, 129, 349, Fig. 106/2, 170/5; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 160, Fig. 59/9.

[148] DZIGOVSKIJ 1981, 117, Fig. 2/6; DZYGOVS'KYJ 1993, 73, Fig. 42/2; GROSU 1990, 59; BÂRCĂ 2005, 130, Fig. 3/11; BÂRCĂ 2006, 129, 356, Fig. 115/4, 170/11; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 160.

[149] GROSU 1988, 83, Fig. 2/14; GROSU 1990, 60, Fig. 15V/1; BÂRCĂ 2005, 130, Fig. 3/8; BÂRCĂ 2006, 129, 358, Fig. 117/2, 170/8; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 160.

[150] RIKMAN 1966, 79, Fig. 9/3; RIKMAN 1975, 27, Fig. 12/5; GROSU 1982, 14–15, Fig. 3/2; GROSU 1990, 59, Fig. 19B/4; BÂRCĂ 2005, 130, Fig. 3/10; BÂRCĂ 2006, 129, 376, Fig. 143/3, 170/10, 170/8; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 160.

[151] DZYGOVS'KIJ 1993, 69, Fig. 39/8; GROSU 1995, fig. 29/6; BÂRCĂ 2006, 366, Fig. 130/4.

[152] Cf. BOBI 1987, 334, Fig. 4/1–3; BICHIR 1993, 143, Fig. 6/1–3; BABEŞ 1999, 230, Fig. 7/1–3; BÂRCĂ 2005, 130, Fig. 3/2–4; BÂRCĂ 2006, 129, 302, 44/1–3, 170/2–4.

[153] BICHIR 1993, 142, Fig. 4/4, 5/1; BÂRCĂ 2005, 130, Fig. 3/1; BÂRCĂ 2006, 129, 367, Fig. 131/4, 170/1.

[154] RUSTOIU 1997, 54.

[155] BÖHME 1972, 13, Pl. 2/46; KOŠČEVIĆ 1980, 24.

Poiana operated also workshops where such *fibulae* were produced[156]. They are common in the Geto-Dacian settlements and fortresses of south-east Transylvania[157] and that of Ocnița[158]. Given all the above, we believe that the discussed *fibulae* originate in the east-Carpathian Geto-Dacian environment from where they reached also the Sarmatian environment in the territory in question. Regarding this *fibulae* type, it is also worth mentioning that in the north-Pontic Sarmatian environment other specimens are unknown[159]. Such *fibulae* were unknown in the other cultural environments documented for the regions north of the Black Sea.

Chronologically, *fibulae* of the type were dated to the 1st century AD and the first half of the 2nd century AD[160]. We believe this framing to be too extended and argue they emerged most likely by mid/second half of the 1st century AD. Regarding the upper limit, it was established based on the consideration that strongly profiled Carpic-Pontic *fibulae* of the first half of the 2nd century are of the same type with those discussed[161]. However, as previously mentioned, one may notice upon a simple comparison between the *fibulae* of the discussed type and those Carpic that they differ and represent two distinct types[162].

Given all the above, we believe that *fibulae* of the type analysed were in use only until the beginning of the 2nd century AD. Evidence to this effect is their lack within Sarmatian graves of the first half of the 2nd century AD in the area east the Carpathians.

From Buteşti[163] (Fig. 2/12) and Vasil'evka[164] come the strongly profiled *fibulae* made of a single metal piece with bilateral spring of eight turns and external chord supported by a hook. The bow is ornamented with two knots: one by the end, the other separating the bow from foot. The latter is rectangular or circular in cross section and decorated with linear incisions or concentric circles and end knob. The catchplate is trapezoid or rectangular. An iron-made *fibula* of the type with unornamented foot alike that at Buteşti comes from T 2 G 1 at Čuguna-Krepinka[165].

Fibulae of the type are of south Danubian origin and were distributed especially in Moesia[166], however they are common in both Pannonia[167] as well as Roman Dacia[168]. Such *fibulae* are not missing from the north-Pontic area[169] and the German limes[170] either. It is believed they emerge in the second half of the 1st century AD[171] and that they are intensely used also in the first half of the 2nd century AD[172]. Upon the analysis of *fibulae* of the type from Roman Dacia, it was noted that they emerge beside those with unornamented foot in well

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156 RUSTOIU 1997, 20–21.

157 RUSTOIU 1997, 54; CRIȘAN 2000, 140, Pl. 114/8–10, 12.

158 BERCIU 1981, Pl. 20/1, 71/5, 82/7, 91/6, 11, 102/10–11, 16; RUSTOIU 1997, 54, Fig. 62/14–20, 63/7.

159 Except for the *fibulae* in the Sarmatian graves T 3 at Kazanskaja ("Zolotoe kladbišče" cemetery, located on the right bank of Kuban river), (GUŠČINA/ZASECKAJA 1994, cat. no. 22, Pl. 2/22) and T 4 at Kolpački (Lower Volga region) (SERGACKOV 2004, 109, Fig. 1/21).

160 RUSTOIU 1997, 54.

161 RUSTOIU 1997, 54.

162 It is not excluded that Carpic type strongly profiled *fibulae* derive from those of the discussed type.

163 GROSU 1983, 38, Fig. II/8; GROSU 1990, 63, Fig. 20V/1; BÂRCĂ 2005, 131, Fig. 4/3; BÂRCĂ 2006, 130, 300 Fig. 171/3; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 160–161, Fig. 59/12.

164 SIMONENKO 1999, 147, Fig. 21/17; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 160–161.

165 SIMONENKO 2008, 66, Pl. 63/8; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 160–161.

166 Cf. BOJOVIĆ 1983, 42, type 11, variant 2, Pl. XIII-XIV.

167 PATEK 1942, 112, Pl. XXII/1; KOŠČEVIĆ 1980, 24, type 12, Pl. XIX/136–140

168 COCIS 2004, 42–44, types 6a1, 6a2, 6b1, 6b2, Pl. II/19–24, III/25–39.

169 AMBROZ 1966, 40, Pl. 8/1–2.

170 BÖHME 1972, 19, Pl. II/46.

171 COCIȘ 2004, 43.

172 BÖHME 1972, 13; BOJOVIĆ 1983, 42.

dated sites only in the Trajanic level, which account for their use only until the beginning of the 2nd century AD[173]. To this period is also dated the *fibula* of the type from Grădiştea de Munte (Sarmizegetusa Regia), which reached the area after the Roman conquest of Dacia, when units of *IV Flavia Felix* were present in the former capital of the Dacian kingdom[174].

The piece from Buteşti belongs to type 6a1 in S. Cociş's typological classification, while those at Vasil'evka and Čuguno-Krepinka[175] to type 6b2[176]. The specimens from Buteşti and Vasil'evka are imports from the Roman environment, where such *fibulae* were mainly used and dated by the end of the 1st century – beginning of the 2nd century AD. Regarding the iron *fibula* at Čuguno-Krepinka it most likely the product of a workshop in *barbaricum*.

A strongly profiled *fibula* with internal chord, bilateral spring of 12 coils and chord inserted under the bow comes from T 27 G 1 at Bădragii Vechi[177] (Fig. 2/13). Its bow is decorated with two knots: one by the bow end, the other separating the bow from foot. The latter has a small knob by the terminal and the catchplate is trapezoid. The *fibula* is made of two metal pieces.

The grave at Bădragii Vechi dates, on the basis on the entire furniture among which also an Eggers 142 casserole, by the end of the 1st century – beginning of the 2nd century AD[178].

Regarding the peculiarity of two metal piece- working of certain strongly profiled *fibulae* types (the *fibula* body on one hand and the spring with pin on the other), it was noted it was specific to the end of the 1st century AD, becoming popular in the first decades of the 2nd century AD[179]. Strongly profiled *fibulae* made of two metal pieces are recorded by the end of the 1st century – beginning of the 2nd century AD also in pre-Roman Dacia, where they are Roman imports[180].

Regarding the *fibula* from Bădragii Vechi, it is worth mentioning that as yet, an identical analogy is unknown. Given the fact its chord is internal, we may assume it may be a product of a workshop in *barbaricum*.

From T 2 G 1 at Porogi[181] (Fig. 2/14) comes a *fibula* with highly arched facetted bow. It is made of a single metal piece and has the bilateral spring of 18 turns and the external chord wound to the bow end. The latter, highly arched and trapezoid in plan, has a facetted surface. The foot is narrow and decorated in the bow part with two protuberances in relief, while the foot extremity is decorated with a small knob in relief. The catchplate is solid, rectangular (in shape of a casing).

At the moment, we know of no analogy for the piece from Porogi, but based on the funerary inventory of the tomb[182] in which it was discovered among which also an eastern-type strongly profiled *fibula*, in can be dated in the second half/ last quarter of the 1st century AD.

The fragmentary *fibula* in grave T 361 at Konstantinovo[183] belongs to another type. It is made of a single metal piece and has the bilateral spring made of 6 coils and external chord

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[173] COCIŞ 2004, 43–44.

[174] RUSTOIU 1997, 55, Fig. 63/11.

[175] For the rich funerary furniture of the grave at Čuguno-Krepinka accounting for a dating by the end of the 1st century – beginning of the 2nd century AD see SIMONENKO 2008, 65–66, Pl. 56–66/1; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 132, 135, 147, 159, 183, 185–186, 187, 189–190, 191, 192–195, 274.

[176] Cf. COCIŞ 2004, 43.

[177] BÂRCĂ 2005, 131–132, Fig. 4/2; BÂRCĂ 2006, 130, 283, Fig. 17/6, 171/2; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 161, Fig. 59/13.

[178] Cf. BÂRCĂ 2006, 283–285, Fig. 17–19.

[179] RUSTOIU 1997, 54.

[180] RUSTOIU 1997, 54.

[181] SIMONENKO/LOBAJ 1991, 23–24, Fig. 14/1; SIMONENKO 2008, 79, Pl. 132/11; BÂRCĂ 2005, 132, Fig. 4/1; BÂRCĂ 2006, 130, 349, Fig. 106/1, 171/1; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 161, Fig. 59/14.

[182] Cf. SIMONENKO/LOBAJ 1991; SIMONENKO 2008, 79, Pl. 131–132; BÂRCĂ 2006, 348–352, Fig. 97–107.

[183] SIMONENKO 2008, 58, Pl. 17/3.

supported by a hook. The *fibula* head is bent, slightly widened and the bow is decorated with two knobs. The foot ending in a knob and the catchplate is not preserved. The catchplate of *fibulae* of the type is rectangular or trapezoid, solid or perforated.

The *fibula* at Konstantinovo belongs to the *fibulae* type specific to provinces Noricum and Pannonia thus deriving the name of Norican-Pannonian double knob *fibulae*[184]. From these two Roman provinces, respective *fibulae*, of several variants[185], disseminated to other provinces of the Roman empire[186], as well as in the Barbarian environment[187].

The *fibula* at Konstantinovo may be framed to the type dating by the end of the 1st century BC – first half of the 1st century AD[188]. However, given the fact that there are many cases when Norican-Pannonian *fibulae* belonging to early types were in use, although outfashioned, also in the second half of the 1st century AD – beginning of the 2nd century AD, including in the Roman provincial environment[189], it is very likely that the *fibula* at Konstantinovo dates in this chronological time frame.

A special group is represented by flat or disc *fibulae* included in various European systems as distinct typological types or variants. The main feature of the *fibulae* within this group is the hinged fastening system.

Thus, from T 13 G 3 at Olăneşti[190] (Fig. 2/15) comes a disc unenamelled *fibula* provided in the central part with four half-moon shaped orifices placed symmetrically, and a small heightened knob in the centre decorated with two incised concentric circles. On the inside, the hinged fastening system is formed of two distanced and perforated plates, where the axis around which the pin was pivoting was inserted. The edge of the *fibula* is ornamented with semicircular perforated festoons.

Specimens of the type are well recorded in the Roman world, especially in Britannia, Gaul, the Rhine region and the current territory of Switzerland[191]. Such *fibulae* are found also in the cultural environments of the north-Pontic area and its neighbourhood[192].

Such *fibulae* emerged in the Roman world sometime in the first quarter of the 1st century AD and are intensely used in the second and third quarter of the 1st century AD[193], certain specimens remaining in use also later. A. K. Ambroz dated the specimens of the type in the north of the Black Sea in the second half of the 1st century – beginning of the 2nd century AD[194]. The grave at Olăneşti is dated, on the basis of all grave goods, in the second half of the 1st century AD[195].

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184 The one systemising *fibulae* of the type is J. Garbsch (GARBSCH 1965, 27 sqq.).

185 Cf. GARBSCH 1965, 27 sqq.

186 Cf. COCIŞ 2004, 72–73, type 11a, 11b1.

187 Cf. RUSTOIU 1997, 57–58, type 24a; PAČKOVA 2006, Fig. 31/12.

188 GARBSCH 1965, 27 sqq.

189 For the province of Dacia see COCIŞ 2004, 73.

190 JAROVOJ 1990, 197, 226, Fig. 88/4; GROSU 1990, 71, Fig. 19A/6; GROSU 1995, Fig. 12/18; BÂRCĂ 2005, 132, Fig. 4/5; BÂRCĂ 2006, 131, 338, Fig. 87/4, 171/5; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 161–162, Fig. 59/15.

191 ETTLINGER 1973, 112, Pl. 12/14, type 40/1; RIHA 1979, 183–184, Pl. 59/1554–1557, Pl. 79, type 7.6; RIHA 1994, 156–157, Pl. 40/2796–2799, Pl. 51, type 7.6; FEUGÈRE 1985, 335 sqq., Fig. 50, Pl. 147/1842–1843, type 24c.

192 Cf. AMBROZ 1966, 31–32, group 8/2; SYMONOVIČ 1963, Fig. 2/3; SYMONOVIČ 1983, Pl. XXV/17–19; KORPUSOVA 1983, 66; DAŠEVSKAJA 1991, 37, Pl. 65/11; ABRAMOVA 1993, 152, Fig. 59/35; VYSOTSKAJA 1994, 100, Fig. 30/XVIIg; NOVIČENKOVA 2000, 162, Fig. 1/2–3; PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 175, Fig. 195/12–14; MARČENKO/LIMBERIS 2008, 312–313, Pl. 112/3, 156/7; N. Ju. Limberis and I. I. Marčenko date such *fibulae* in the Kuban region in the second quarter of the 1st century AD (LIMBERIS/MARČENKO 2004, 225, 226; MARČENKO/LIMBERIS 2008, 313).

193 Cf. ETTLINGER 1973, 112; FEUGÈRE 1985, 344; RIHA 1979, 183–184, Pl. 78; RIHA 1994, 156–157.

194 AMBROZ 1966, 31.

195 Cf. BÂRCĂ 2006, 283–285, Fig. 17–19.

Very likely, the *fibula* from the rich Sarmatian grave discovered in 1918 at a distance of approximately 10 km north of Olbia, close to the village Kozyrka[196] belongs to the same type. It is round and the body was flat, with a small heightened knob in the central part and six semicircular protuberances on the edge[197]. Although further information on this *fibula* is missing, it most likely had a hinged fastening system, of which we only know it was iron made, which indicates that at a certain point it was repaired and reused. The grave near Olbia, likely dates by the end of the 1st century AD – beginning of the 2nd century AD[198].

The two *fibulae* above are completed by the rhomb-shaped unenamelled silver *fibula* coming from Ružičevka[199] (Fig. 2/16) and another same type bronze-made from Novofilippovka[200]. They have flat body, concave edges and the central part decorated with concentric circles.

Similarly to disc *fibulae*, specimens of the above type are well recorded in the Roman world, especially in Britannia, Gallia, the Rhine region and the current territory of Switzerland[201].

Such *fibulae* are well represented in the north-Pontic Greek cities and the Late Scythian environment of Crimea[202]. Rhomb-shaped *fibulae* are found also within Sarmatian graves east of Don river[203], but also in Meotian graves in the Kuban region[204]. They are not missing from the Geto-Dacian environment either[205].

E. Riha dates these *fibulae* in the chronological period between the second quarter of the 1st century AD and the end of the century[206], and A. K. Ambroz dated the specimens of the type from the north of Black Sea in the second half of the 1st century – first half of the 2nd century AD[207]. N. Ju. Limberis and I. I. Marčenko propose to restrict the dating of these *fibulae* to the second quarter of the 1st century AD[208], although such *fibulae* were found in complexes that account for their use both in the third quarter of the 1st century AD[209] and its end. Regarding the specimen from Ružičevka, it dates in our view, on the basis of remaining grave goods, sometime in the second half of the 1st century AD.

From the barrow Kamovo Mogila (Radionovka)[210] (Fig. 2/17) comes a golden polychrome *fibula* in the shape of an oval disc, with large black glass pieces in the centre and red and blue enamel in five places on the edge. The bronze *fibula* from T 10 G 1 at Akkermen' II (eastern group of graves)[211] (Fig. 2/18) is also in the shape of a round disc. Its surface is decorated with a rosette and glass is inserted in the central part.

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196 SYMONENKO 1999; SIMONENKO 2004a.

197 SYMONENKO 1999, 107, 110, Fig. 1/6; SIMONENKO 2004a, 200, 205, Fig. 1/A.

198 Cf. SYMONENKO 1999; SIMONENKO 2004a; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 162.

199 SIMONENKO 2004, 144, Fig. 7/25; SIMONENKO 2008, 70, Pl. 82/4; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 162, Fig. 59/16.

200 BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 162. The *fibula* together with the rest of the grave goods were lost during WWII (information A. V. Simonenko).

201 RIHA 1979, 181–182, type 7.4, Pl. 58/1527–1536, Pl. 78, type 7.4; RIHA 1994, 154–155, type 7.4, Pl. 39/2777, 40/2778–2782, Pl. 51, type 7.4; FEUGÈRE 1985, 335 sqq., Fig. 49, Pl. 147/1836–1840, type 24b1.

202 Cf. AMBROZ 1966, 33; MIHLIN 1980, 209, Fig. 9/4–5; SYMONOVIČ 1983, 90, Pl. XXV/20; DAŠEVSKAJA 1991, 37, Pl. 65/8–9; VYSOTSKAJA 1994, 100, Fig. 30/XVIIj, Pl. 46/6, 25; NOVIČENKOVA 2000, 162, Ris1/1; ZAJCEV/MORDVINCEVA 2004, 182, Fig. 7/27; PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 175, Fig. 195/1–8.

203 SKRIPKIN 1990, 110, Fig. 38/7–8: SERGACKOV 2004, 109, Fig. 1/24.

204 MARČENKO/LIMBERIS 2008, 313, 369, Pl. 163/2.

205 VULPE/VULPE 1933, 327, Fig. 106/22; BERCIU 1981, 112, Pl. 96/23; RUSTOIU 1997, 61, Fig. 73/2.

206 RIHA 1979, 182, type 7.4.1.; RIHA 1994, 154, type 7.4.1.

207 AMBROZ 1966, 33.

208 LIMBERIS/MARČENKO 2004, 225, 226.

209 ZAJCEV/MORDVINCEVA 2004, 182, Fig. 7/27; PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 175, Fig. 195/1–2.

210 SIMONENKO 2004, 144, Fig. 7/20; SIMONENKO/MEL'NIK 2004, 270, Fig. 2/3; MORDVINCEVA/TREJSTER 2007, I, 136, II, 37, III, Pl. 29/A102.1; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 162, Fig. 59/17.

211 VJAZ'MITINA/IL'INS'KA/POKROVS'KA/TERENOŽKIN/KOVPANENKO 1960, 88–90, Fig. 68; VJAZ'MITINA 1953, 69, Fig. 7/1; VJAZ'MITINA 1960, 20; SMIRNOV 1984, 96, Fig. 43/8; AMBROZ 1966, 31, Pl. 15/1; SIMONENKO 2004, 144, Fig. 7/22; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 162, Fig. 59/18.

Golden polychrome brooch-*fibulae* are common in the north-Pontic area of the 2nd – 1st century BC and were largely spread especially in the Kuban region[212], where they may be found both in Sarmatian and Meotian graves[213]. Nonetheless, such *fibulae* were also used, although seldom, in the 1st century – first half of the 2nd century AD including in the Sarmatian environment[214]. It is believed that part of the specimens in the north-Pontic area were manufactured in Bosporan workshops[215].

The fastening system of the specimen at Akkermen' II contains a bilateral spring and internal chord, with flat bow and solid catchplate soldered on the inner part. The fastening system of the specimen at Kamova Mogila has two pins, which are specific to many of such *fibulae*.

The grave at Kamovo Mogila dates in the second half of the 1st century AD, while that at Akkermen' II (T 10 G 1) in the 1st century AD and not in the 2nd century AD as previously dated by certain researchers on the basis of the *fibula*[216].

A disc-shaped silver *fibula* with anthropomorphic shield comes from T 2 G 11 at Širokaja Balka[217] (Fig. 2/19). The central part of the disc depicts Aphrodite and Eros. Its fastening system contains, similarly to the other north-Pontic specimens, a bilateral spring of four turns, internal chord, flat bow and rectangular solid catchplate.

Fibulae with disc-shaped anthropomorphic shield and anthropomorphic or zoomorphic representations in relief are common in the Barbarian environment of the north-Pontic area during the 1st – 2nd century AD. Medallions with anthropomorphic or zoomorphic depictions were often used in the manufacture of these *fibulae*[218].

A *fibula* in the shape of a disc depicting Aphrodite and Eros comes from a grave (T 43 G 1) dated to the start of the 1st century AD within the cemetery at Panticapaeum[219]. The *fibula* from grave 3 within the fourth cemetery at Ust'-Labinsk[220] dates to the 1st century AD. Fibulae with similar representations were discovered also in complexes of the end of the 1st century – 2nd century AD within the cemetery at Bel'bek IV[221]. Fibulae with depictions of Aphrodite and Eros were identified also in two late Scythian graves dating from the end of the 1st century – beginning of the 2nd century AD within the cemetery at Ust'-Al'my[222]. Very similar to the *fibula* in G 759 at Ust'-Al'my is the golden specimen from the barrow at Kurdžipsk, dating in the first half/mid 1st century AD[223]. Stylistically, one of the closest analogies for the specimen at Širokaja Balka is the *fibula* in G 54 at Gorgipia[224].

Last but not least, we wish to mention the rather large cluster of such finds in the eastern part of Bosporus, especially at Gorgippia, where from a series of graves of the first two centuries AD were identified golden and silver medallions depicting Aphrodite and Eros[225].

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[212] Cf. AMBROZ 1966, 31; MORDVINCEVA/TREJSTER 2007, I, 131–135, III, 182–183, map 56, 57, 58; for the complex analysis of *fibulae* of the type in the north-Pontic Barbarian environment as well as their genesis see TREISTER 2002, 29–72.

[213] MARČENKO 1996, 28–30; MARČENKO/LIMBERIS 2008.

[214] MORDVINCEVA/TREJSTER 2007, I, 135–136, III, Pl. 9/B1.9, B13.6, 24/A39.2, 29/A102.1, 32/A131.1, 51/B13.661/B/1.7. 70/C/1.2.2.7, 75/D4.3, map 59.

[215] AMBROZ 1966, 30; TREISTER 2002, 29–72; MORDVINCEVA/TREJSTER 2007, I, 135.

[216] SMIRNOV 1984, 96. This erroneous dating was recently agreed also by V. Mordvinceva and M. Trejster (MORDVINCEVA/TREJSTER 2007, I, 135).

[217] SIMONENKO 1993, 64, Fig. 20/1B; SIMONENKO 1995, 346, Fig. 4; SIMONENKO 2004, 144, Fig. 7/21; SIMONENKO 2008, 67, Pl. 68/4; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 162, Fig. 59/19.

[218] PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 179.

[219] GALANINA 1973, 55.

[220] ANFIMOV 1952, 83–85, Fig. 22/4.

[221] GUŠČINA 1973, 84–85, Fig. 34/9; GUŠČINA 1978, 25–30, Fig. 2/3, 3/4.

[222] PUZDROVSKIJ 2007, 179–180, Fig. 196/4–5.

[223] GALANINA 1973, 54, 55, 57, 58, Fig. 1/10.

[224] ALEKSEEVA 1982, 84.

[225] ALEKSEEVA 1997, 183–222, Fig. 55, 56, 63, 64.

A last type is represented by the *fibula* in T 4 G 4 at Olăneşti[226] (Fig. 2/20). It is a hinged one-piece bronze *fibula*. The highly arched bow and slightly widened is semicircular in profile. Its central part is decorated with a waved line in relief and on the edges, with small incisions. The bow is delimited from foot by a transverse rib in relief, with the edge decorated with incisions. The foot upper part is in the shape of a disc, which was enamelled. The catch-plate is triangular.

An identical *fibula* with that at Olăneşti is currently unknown to us. Morphologically, the closest analogies are the Roman provincial enamelled *fibulae*, part of the group of *fibulae* with tubular hinge, "Hülsenscharnierfibeln"[227], which most likely relate from the constructional point of view to the subsequent evolution of Aucissa *fibulae*. The *fibula* from Olăneşti belongs to group I of *fibulae* with enamelled body in K. Exner's classification[228], to type "Emailbügelfibeln" in that of E. Riha[229] and S. Rieckhoff[230] or "Bügelfibeln mit Hüsenscharnier und Emalzier" in that of A. Böhme[231].

The fastening system of such *fibulae* is made of a tube through which a bar was inserted, the body is flat and trapezoid, round, rhombic or rectangular, decorated with incisions filled with enamel. Their foot is short and usually trapezoid or rendering animal heads, and the catch-plate is usually trapezoid.

These *fibulae* were used on a large scale by the Romans and are found even in the Barbarian world. Within the Roman empire, they are well represented especially in the Roman forts of the Rhine area mainly in the first half of the 2nd century AD, which is entirely explicable if we consider that the major production centres were located in Gallia Belgica and the Rhine area[232].

Regarding their chronology, it is rather different.

The *fibula* at Olăneşti has a series of common traits with certain *fibulae* at Augst[233] and Saalburg[234]. At Augst, such *fibulae* date in the first half of the 2nd century AD[235], while those at Höfingen, in the first third of the same century[236]. Fibulae belonging to this type identified on the territory of Switzerland are dated between CE 100–140[237].

All these close analogies point to a dating of the grave at Olăneşti no later than the first half of the 2nd century AD, and on the basis of historical facts and its rich funerary furniture[238], we believe it dates as mentioned previously[239], most likely in the first quarter of the 2nd century AD[240].

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[226] MELJUKOVA 1962, 202–204, Fig. 6/1; GROSU 1990, 82, Fig. 25/11–12; KURČATOV/BUBULICI 2003, 297, Fig. 4/5; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 162–163, Fig. 59/20.

[227] Cf. for this group of *fibulae* RIHA 1994, 100 sqq.

[228] EXNER 1939, 48 sqq., Pl. 6–7.

[229] RIHA 1979, 154 sqq., type 5.17; RIHA 1994, 138 sqq., type 5.17.

[230] RIECKHOFF 1975, 57–59, type 4.11, Pl. 8/128–132.

[231] BÖHME 1972, 15–17, Pl. 5/321–341, 6/342–348.

[232] EXNER 1939, 41–42, SELLYE 1939, 4–5; BATESON 1981, 19–21.

[233] RIHA 1979, 156–157, type 5.17.2, Pl. 46/ 1370.

[234] BÖHME 1972, 15, Pl. 5/321.

[235] RIHA 1979, Pl. 78, type 5.17.

[236] RIECKHOFF 1975, 59.

[237] ETTLINGER 1973, 29.

[238] For the funerary furniture of this grave see MELJUKOVA 1962; SIMONENKO 1998; KURČATOV/BUBULICI 2003; POPA 2008; BÂRCĂ 2009; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009.

[239] SIMONENKO 1998, 72; BÂRCĂ 2009, 111; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 125, 163.

[240] A. I. Meljukova dated the grave in the 2nd or 3rd century AD (MELJUKOVA 1962, 207), V. Grosu in the third quarter of the 2nd century AD (GROSU 1990, 83), S. Kurčatov and V. Bubulici towards the mid 2nd century AD (KURČATOV/BUBULICI 2003, 297), and A. Popa chose a dating towards the beginning of the 2nd century AD (POPA 2008, 209).

Finally, we wish to mention that the number of *fibulae* from 1st – mid 2nd century AD Sarmatian graves in the north-Pontic territory illustrate, for this period and space, a rather vast typological variety, while chronologically, they belong to distinct evolutional stages corresponding to substages of the Late La Tène and early Roman imperial periods.

The earliest *fibulae* in the investigated chronological interval are *fibulae* corresponding to La Tène D2 and the early imperial period substage B1 (*fibulae* with highly arched bow and internal chord (Ostrivec-Verteba M 2) (Fig. 1/4), filiform *fibulae* with short bilateral spring and internal chord – "soldier's" brooches (Dubăsarii Vechi T 1 G 9, Novocotovsc T 1 G 3, Ust'-Kamenka T 29 G 1, Jablunovka T 224) (Fig. 1/6) and "spoon" *fibulae* (Sokolova Mogila) (Fig. 1/7). Filiform *fibulae* with short bilateral spring and internal chord ("soldier's" brooches) represent a type used in diverse cultural environments for a long period of time.

An important element is represented by the distribution of the first hinged Roman *fibulae* (Aucissa *fibulae*), which were used in the Sarmatian environment also in the second half of the 1st CE. Tubular hinged Roman *fibulae* with flat ornamented bow (Davydov-Brod, Podgorodnoe T 9 G 1, Ust'-Kamenka T 65 G 1) (Fig. 1/9), a variant or simplified form of Aucissa type *fibulae* reached the Sarmatian environment in the second half of the 1st century AD. A Roman import is also the hinged *fibula* with bow decorated with transverse mouldings from Costeşti (T 7 G 1) (Fig. 1/5). Noticeably, these *fibulae* come from graves with eastern traits, belonging to the new wave of Sarmatians coming from the east starting with mid 1st century AD. Within the graves that may be assigned to such new wave of Sarmatians come also *fibulae* with flat bow, returned foot wound to the bow (series Lebjaž'inskaja) (Fig. 1/16) specific to the north-Pontic area, where they were in fact manufactured.

Most numerous and best represented *fibulae* are those with returned foot wound to the bow (Fig. 1/1, 10–15). They belong to the first series within group 15 of *fibulae* in A. K. Ambroz's classification and are specific especially to the north-Pontic area, the region of their production. They are followed by the strongly profiled *fibulae* which are of several types. Amongst, most numerous are the so-called eastern type strongly profiled *fibulae* (Fig. 2/9–11) originating in the east-Carpathian Geto-Dacian environment from where they also reached the Sarmatian environment of the north-west Pontic area. Rather numerous are the strongly profiled *fibulae* belonging to Almgren 69 type (Fig. 2/5–8), to which they may belong as well should we take into account the workshop producing such *fibulae* in the Geto-Dacian settlement at Poiana, imports from the Geto-Dacian environment. They are supplemented by other few *fibulae* pertaining to types represented in the north-Pontic Sarmatian environment in question by 1–3 specimens. Amongst, count the specimens at Čuguna-Krepinka (T 2 G 1) and Bădragii Vechi (T 27 G 1) (Fig. 2/13) that might have been products of the workshops in *barbaricum*, but also those at Buteşti (Fig. 2/12) and Vasil'evka, which are Roman imports. Regarding the strongly profiled *fibulae*, one may also notice they come from the funerary furniture of graves datable to the second half of the 1st century AD or the end of the 1st century – beginning of the 2nd century AD (substage B1b and substage B2a).

The few unenamelled disc-shaped (Fig. 2/15) and rhomb-shaped *fibulae* (Fig. 2/16), coming from within graves datable to the second half of the 1st century AD and end of the 1st century – beginning of the 2nd century AD as well as the Norican-Pannonian *fibula* from Konstantinovo, which is singular in the Sarmatian environment of the Black Sea are the product of Roman workshops. The tubular hinged *fibula* belonging to the type with enamelled body identified in the rich grave at Olăneşti (T 4 G 4) (Fig. 2/20) is also a Roman import.

Following the *fibulae* analysis, it was noted that the majority come from complexes mostly datable to the chronological period between mid 1st century AD and beginning of the 2nd century AD (substage B1b and substage B2a). Except for certain *fibulae* types specific to the north-Pontic area, where they were in fact manufactured, the other are mainly of Roman type. Amongst, most numerous are the strongly profiled *fibulae*.

The topography of *fibulae* from the Sarmatian graves of the discussed period is rather interesting. For instance, the grave where the *fibula* with highly arched bow and internal chord (Ostrivec-Verteba M 2) was identified, were discovered in the Upper Dniester area, while filiform *fibulae* with short bilateral spring and internal chord ("soldier's" *fibulae*) come from graves in the Lower Dniester and Lower Dnieper areas. From areas right of the Lower Bug river comes the "spoon" type *fibula*, while Norican-Pannonian *fibulae* (Konstantinovo T 361) originate in the region west Mid Dnieper. From graves located mainly in the area west of Dnieper come hinged Roman *fibulae* (Aucissa type and those which are their variant or their simplified form) and those with returned foot wound to the bow (series Lebjaž'inskaja). From left of the Mid Dnieper, Lower Bug and Lower Dniester come disc or rhomb-shaped unenamelled *fibulae* with hinged fastening system. The strongly profiled *fibulae* produced in Roman or Geto-Dacian workshops cluster in the north-Pontic area mainly.

Regarding the returned foot wound to bow *fibulae* of various variants it is noteworthy the fact that they are rare in the western part of the north-Pontic territory, similarly to those with bilateral spring of four coils and external chord with flat band or triangular bow and trapezoid catchplate (Fig. 2/1–2). The rest of the represented types, not many, spread rather uniformly in the north-Pontic region. Regarding the returned foot wound to the bow *fibulae* that belong to various variants, it is also worth mention that they also prevailed in the Sarmatian environment east of Don in the 1st century – first half of the 2nd century AD.

This topography mirrors, inasmuch as best possible, the different cultural relations established by the Sarmatians in both west and east European Sarmatia.

As regards certain *fibulae* types, one may also note that within Sarmatian graves of the territory and period in question, they are more numerous than in graves east of Don and Volga, where, for this period, they are few. These circumstances are explained by the fact that the discussed territory is much closer to the cultural areas where these artifacts were manufactured and used on a large scale, and secondly, by the ample contacts between the Sarmatians in the discussed territory and the neighbouring cultural environments.

It is certain that all these items record certain aspects of the Sarmatians' life in this area and draw a picture, though vague, on their tastes and preferences (at least of part of them) in relation to dress[241]. Therefore, the study of *fibulae* together with other categories of dress and jewellery items successfully completes data on Sarmatian fashion and taste evolution in the 1st century – mid 2nd century AD. Concurrently, above artifacts often supply the best dating clues for certain archaeological features. Additionally, they occasionally allow a more accurate establishment of the chronology of other categories of archaeological materials.

[241] We wish to mention that following the analysis of dress and adornment objects in the north-Pontic Sarmatian environment of the 1st century – mid 2nd century AD, one would note the preference for *fibulae* and beads, followed by earrings, pendants, while collars and necklaces are less used in this period. Typologically, within adornment and dress items, one may notice, except for collars, necklaces, rings, foot rings, hair rings and buckles, a rather large variety. Furthermore, it was noted that the vast majority of such artifacts were imports from neighbouring cultural environments (Cf. BÂRCĂ 2006, 99–145; BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009, 134–171).

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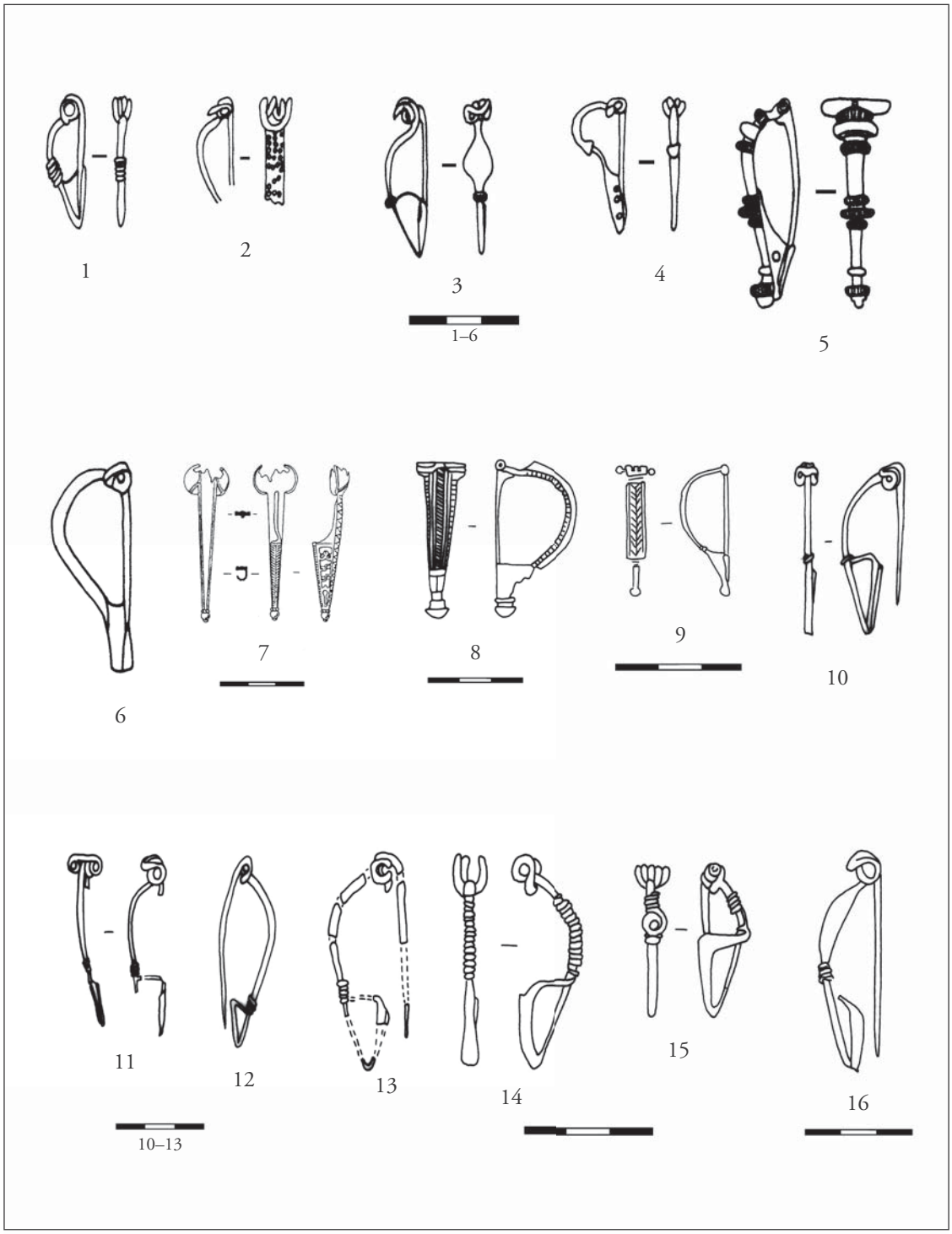

Fig. 1. Brooches. 1. Glubokoe T 2 G 3; 2. Şcerbaca T 2 G 1; 3. Mărculeşti T 3 G 4; 4. Ostrivec-Verteba G 2; 5. Costeşti T 2 G 1; 6. Dubăsarii Vechi T 1 G 9; 7. Sokolova Mogila; 8. Ust'-Kamenka T 70 G 1; 9. Davydov Brod; 10. Ljubimovka T 26 G 2; 11. Vol'naja Družina T 5 G 9; 12. Ust'-Kamenka T 32 G 1; 13. Konskie Razdory; 14. Novofilippovka; 15. Vladimirovka T 7 G 1; 16. Ust'-Kamenka T 59 G 1 (1–6 after BÂRCĂ 2006; 7 after KOVPANENKO 1986; 8–9, 16 after KOSTENKO 1993; 10–15 after BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009).

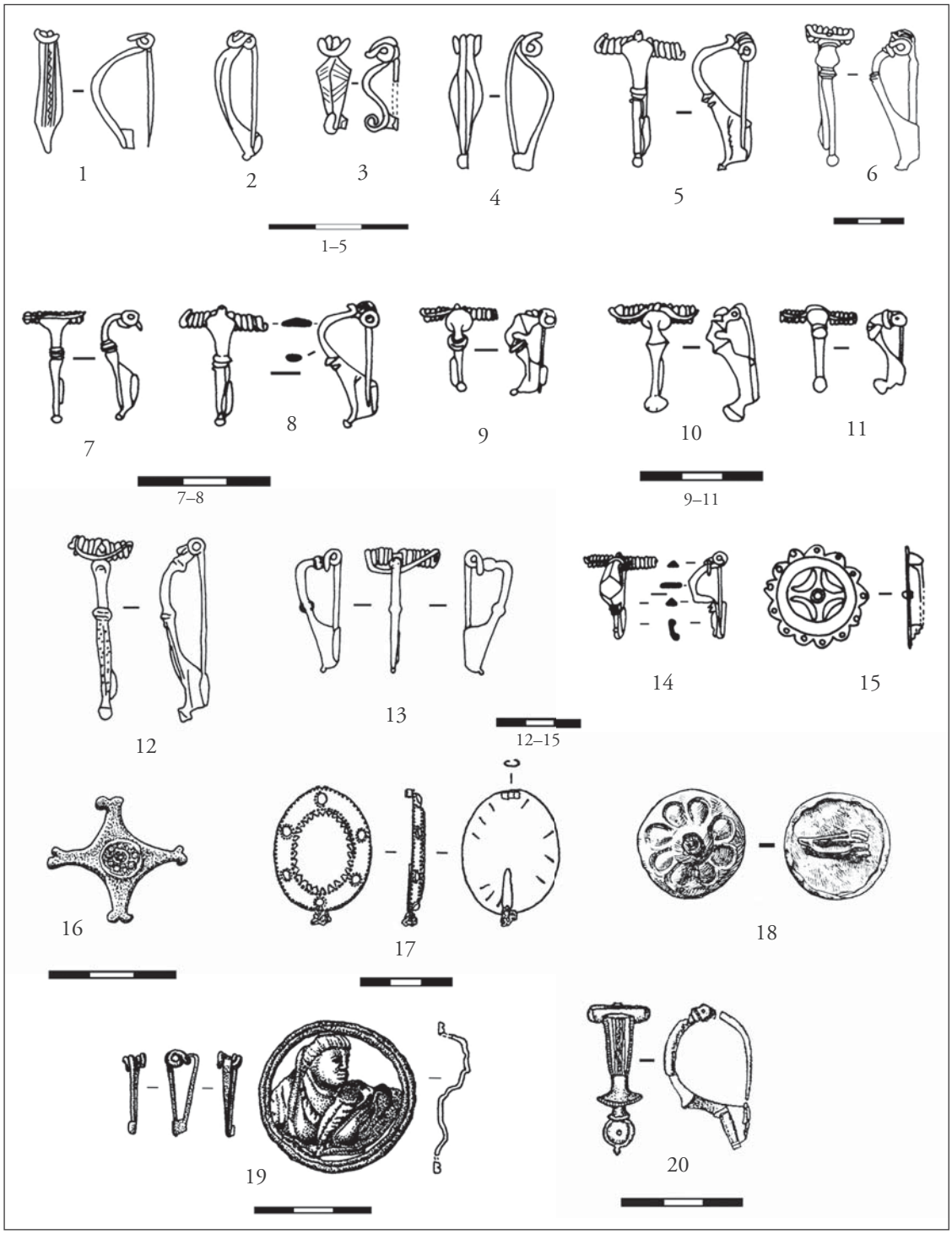

Fig. 2. Brooches. 1. Akkermen' II T 10 G 1; 2. Akkermen' II T 19 G 1; 3. Akkermen' II T 4 G 1; 4. Podovoe T 6 G 1; 5. Gordeevka T 29 G 2; 6. Bădragii Noi T 5 G 2; 7. Hruşca; 8. Porogi T 2 G 2; 9. Porogi T 2 G 1; 10. Plavni T 23 G 1; 11. Mărculeşti T 3 G 13; 12. Buteşti; 13. Bădragii Vechi T 27 G 1; 14. Porogi T 2 G 1; 15. Olăneşti T 13 G 3; 16. Ružičevka; 17. Kamovo Mogila; 18. Akkermen' II T 10 G 1; 19. Širokaja Balka T 2 G 11; 20. Olăneşti T 4 G 4 (1–5 after BÂRCĂ/SYMONENKO 2009; 6–7, 10–13, 15 after BÂRCĂ 2006; 8–9, 14 after SIMONENKO/LOBAJ 1991; 16, 19 after SIMONENKO 2008; 17 after SIMONENKO/MEL'NIK 2004; 18 after VJAZ'MITINA 1953; 20 after MELJUKOVA 1962).