



## DIVERSITY OF THE WILD MAMMALS, HUNTED IN THE MEDIEVAL SETTLEMENTS ON THE ROMANIA`S TERRITORY

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### SYNOPSIS

This study represents a synthesis based on the archaeozoological data concerning 40 medieval settlements on Romania`s territory (4<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries). Wild mammal remains are described in terms of their frequencies based on the number of identified specimens. The identified species are discussed in relation to their ecological characteristics. Archaeozoological results show generally a low proportion of wild mammals. The most frequent species, such as *Cervus elaphus*, *Sus scrofa*, *Capreolus capreolus*, are present in the majority of the assemblages, while rare species, such as the carnivores appear mostly in the larger samples.

### INTRODUCTION

The Roman influence across Dacia and the development of the Daco-Romanic population represents the first stage of the long process of the ethnogenesis of the Romanian people. This process continued until the beginning of the sixth century, with the romanizing influence going on over the territory north of the Danube, inclusive Dobrudja. The sixth century AD marks the beginning of the second stage in the formation of the Romanian people. The civilizing impact of the Roman Empire comes to an end because of the intrusion of Slavic population in between, as well as because of the internal changes which changed it from a Roman Empire into a Byzantine Empire. From the IX<sup>th</sup> and the X<sup>th</sup> centuries, the Romanian people can be considered as completely constituted. The regions of Dacia which were not conquered by the Romans (106 AD) (Moldavia, the greatest part of Muntenia, Crisana and Maramures) continued to be peopled by free Dacians.

After the retreat of the Romans (275 AD), the Daco-Romans of the former Roman province ceased to be part of the Roman Empire and had to stand against the successive migrations of the Sarmathian, Gothic, Hunic, Gepidic, Slavic, Petcheneag and Hungarian populations.

The history of the Dobrudja is, to some extent, different from the history of the Roman Dacia. It came under Roman government after its anexation to Moesia (46

AD), and it remained integral part of the Empire until year 602 AD. After the year 395 AD, when the Empire is divided between the Western and the Eastern Roman Empire, Dobrudja was part of the latter. In 587 AD Dobrudja was devastated by the Avars, and beginning with the 8<sup>th</sup> century it is extensively populated by Slavic people. By the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> century, these regions of the Lower Danube knew a temporary Byzantine domination.

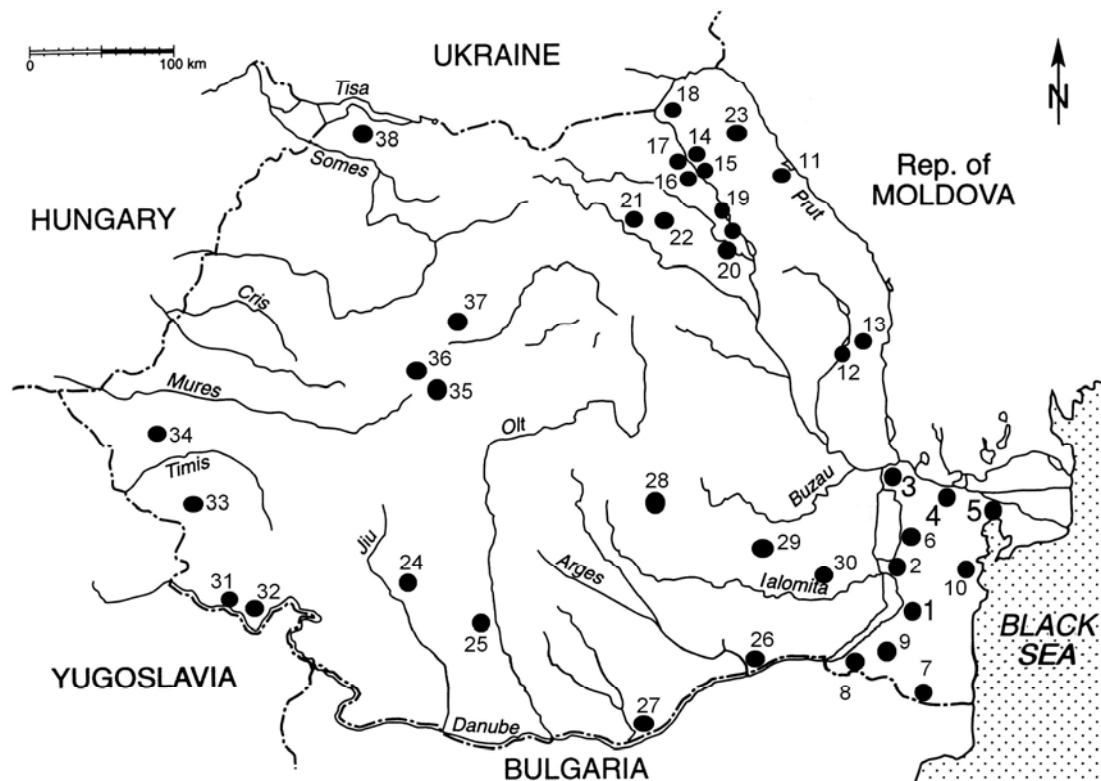


Figure 1 – Localisation of the analysed sites

- (1 – Capidava, 2 – Harsova, 3 – Garvan, 4 – Noviodunum, 5 – Nufaru, 6 – Piatra Frecatei, 7 – Dumbraveni, 8 – Oltina, 9 – Adamclisi, 10 – Slava Rusa, 11 – Nicolina, 12 – Gara Banca, 13 – Barlalesti, 14 – Todiresti, 15 – Poiana, 16 – Podeni, 17 – Udesti, 18 – Lozna Strateni, 19 – Davideni, 20 – Stefan cel Mare, 21 – Malesti, 22 – Vararie, 23 – Ghilanești, 24 – Racari, 25 – Dulceanca, 26 – Radovanu, 27 – Pauleasca, 28 – Bucov, 29 – Dridu, 30 – Bucu, 31 – Gornea (Caunita de Sus, Zomonite, Tarmuri), 32 – Moldova Veche - Rat, 33 – Berzovia Patruieni, 34 – Parta, 35 – Alba Iulia, 36 – Sanmiclaus – Rastoci, 37 - Moresti, 38 - Lazuri)

Romania has a transitional type of temperate-continental climate, specific to Central Europe, with four clearly defined seasons. Three well-differentiated relief steps exist in Romania: the highest is represented by the Carpathian Mountains, the middle by the Sub-Carpathians, the hills and the tablelands, and the lower by the plains, the river meadows, and the Danube Delta. The forests, which in ancient times

and during the Middle Ages covered large areas of Romania, were gradually cleared for farming land. According to the archaeozoological data, during ancient times, agriculture and animal husbandry were constantly practiced. In the same times, the hunting keeps an economical importance, differing according especially to regional forms of relief and environment.

### **SUBJECT AND METHODS OF RESEARCH**

The material studied is represented by faunistic remains found in archaeological sites. The study is based on the archaeozoological data concerning 42 faunistic samples taken from 40 medieval settlements (figure 1) on Romania's territory (4<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries). The number of the analyzed samples is greater because two settlements (Garvan and Gara Banca) presented samples belonging to two different historical periods. This paper contains information from the literature in the domain as well as from the results of our personal research.

The assemblages were grouped according to geographical and historical regionalisation of the Romanian territory (Moldavia, Dobrudja, Muntenia, Banat, Transylvania).

The study methodology was specific to archaeozoology, mainly consisting of anatomical, taxonomical and taphonomical identifications, encoding and quantification of data (Udrescu *et al.*, 1999).

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

For the settlements in Moldavia, as well as for those in Muntenia, Dobrudja and Transylvania, the predominant bone remains are from mammals, these representing, in most cases 95 per cent of the whole sample. An exception are samples from Dumbraveni (where mammals are represented by 64.3%), Oltina (70.4%), Garvan (the IV-VI<sup>th</sup> centuries) (71.6%), Harsova (57.4%), Capidava (76%) and Slava Rusa (46.2%). In the samples from Gara Banca (the IV-V<sup>th</sup> centuries), Pauleasca, Pietra Frecatei and Alba Iulia the proportion is 85 - 90% (table 1). The smaller percentage of mammal remains in the samples as a whole is due to the presence of more fish remains: 27.6% at Dumbravei, 23.5% at Oltina, 9.3% at Gara Banca, 10.6% at Pauleasca, 52.5% at Slava Rusa, 37% at Harsova, 20.4% at Capidava.

In table 1 the mammal group include both specifically identified remains, and remains attributed to mammals but whose species could not be determined precisely. Table 2 presents only specifically identified mammals remains, both wild and domestic.

Table 1- Quantification of faunistic remains from medieval sites in Romania

Historical dating	Geographical area	Faunistical sample	References	Total sample (NR)	Taxonomic group		
					Group	NR	%
IV	Moldavia	Podeni	Haimovici <i>et al.</i> , 1992	1217	Aves Mammalia	14 1203	1.15 98.85
IV-V	Moldavia	Gara Banca	Stanc, 2006	4222	Mollusca Pisces Reptilia Aves Mammalia	78 392 1 146 3605	1.85 9.28 0.02 3.46 85.39
IV-V	Moldavia	Nicolina	Stanc, 2006	1438	Mammalia	1438	100
IV-VI	Moldavia	Todiresti	Stanc <i>et al.</i> , 2002; Stanc, 2006; Ungurianu, 2001	387	Aves Mammalia	1 386	0.26 99.74
V-VII	Moldavia	Davideni	Haimovici, 1987; Haimovici, 1992	185	Aves Mammalia	2 183	1.08 98.92
V-VII	Moldavia	Stefan cel Mare	Haimovici, 1987	95	Mammalia	95	100
VII	Moldavia	Udesti	Haimovici, Carpus, 1982.	815	Aves Mammalia	27 788	3.31 96.69
VII-VIII	Moldavia	Lozna Strateni	Haimovici, 1986	1035	Mollusca Pisces Aves Mammalia	2 4 8 1021	0.19 0.39 0.77 98.65
VI-VIII	Moldavia	Malesti	Haimovici, 1987	166	Aves Mammalia	1 165	0.6 99.4
VII-VIII	Moldavia	Vararie	Haimovici, 1987	86	Aves Mammalia	5 81	5.81 94.19
VIII-IX	Moldavia	Poiana	Stanc, Bejenaru, 2003	1523	Mollusca Aves Mammalia	50 17 1456	3.28 1.12 95.6
VIII-X	Moldavia	Ghilanesti	Ungurianu, 2000	240	Mammalia	240	100
X-XI	Moldavia	Barlalesti	Haimovici, 1984	1300	Mollusca Aves Mammalia	5 2 1293	0.38 0.15 99.47
IX-X	Moldavia	Gara Banca	Haimovici, 1986.	1050	Mollusca Pisces Aves Mammalia	8 2 6 1034	0.76 0.19 0.57 98.48
IV	Muntenia	Racari	Stanc, 2006	274	Aves Mammalia	1 273	0.36 99.64
VI	Muntenia	Dulceanca II	Udrescu, 1986	186	Pisces Aves Mammalia	2 1 183	1.08 0.54 98.38
IX-X	Muntenia	Radovanu	Haimovici, 1995; Haimovici, 2003	530	Mollusca Pisces Aves Mammalia	4 4 6 516	0.76 0.76 1.13 97.35
VIII-X	Muntenia	Bucov	Haimovici, 1979; Haimovici, 1995	4121	Mollusca Pisces Aves Mammalia	312 7 60 3742	7.57 0.17 1.46 90.8
IX	Muntenia	Pauleasca	Haimovici, Gava, 2002	75	Pisces Aves Mammalia	8 1 66	10.67 1.33 88
X-XI	Muntenia	Dridu	Necrasov, Haimovici, 1967	2400	Mollusca Pisces Aves Mammalia	24 1 72 2303	1 0.04 3 95.96

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X-XI	Muntenia	Bucu	Moise, 2000	471	Pisces Reptilia Aves Mammalia	8 2 6 455	1.7 0.42 1.27 96.61
IV-VI	Dobrudja	Slava Rusa (Ibida)	Stanc, 2006; Stanc, 2008; Stanc, 2005	17393	Mollusca Pisces Aves Mammalia	31 9131 186 8045	0.18 52.5 1.07 46.25
V-VII	Dobrudja	Adamclisi	Stanc, 2006; Haimovici, 2001	241	Pisces Reptilia Aves Mammalia	3 1 1 236	1.24 0.41 0.41 97.93
IV-VI	Dobrudja	Garvan (Dinogetia)	Haimovici, 1991	180	Mollusca Pisces Aves Mammalia	16 28 7 129	8.89 15.56 3.89 71.66
X-XI	Dobrudja	Oltina	Stanc, Bejenaru, 2005	2465	Mollusca Pisces Aves Mammalia	21 580 128 1736	0.85 23.53 5.19 70.43
IX-XII	Dobrudja	Garvan (Dinogetia)	Haimovici, 1989	-	Dom.mamm. Wild mamm.	2961 261	- -
IX-X	Dobrudja	Dumbraveni	Haimovici, 2000	630	Mollusca Pisces Reptilia Aves Mammalia	6 174 13 32 405	0.95 27.62 2.06 5.08 64.29
XI-XIII	Dobrudja	Harsova (Carsium)	Bejenaru, 2003	1620	Mollusca Pisces Aves Mammalia	7 600 83 930	0.43 37.04 5.12 57.41
XI-XIII	Dobrudja	Isacceca (Noviodunum)	Bejenaru, 2003; Bejenaru, 2007	10898	Mollusca Pisces Aves Mammalia	4 718 142 10034	0.04 6.58 1.3 92.08
XI-XII	Dobrudja	Piatra Frecatei (Beroe)	Stanc, ms	3920	Pisces Aves Mammalia	316 89 3515	8.06 2.27 89.67
XI-XIII	Dobrudja	Nufaru (Perislava)	Bejenaru, Tarcan, 2007	-	Dom.mamm. Wild mamm.	464 79	- -
X-XI	Dobrudja	Capidava	Haimovici, Ureche, 1979	1810	Mollusca Pisces Reptilia Aves Mammalia	16 370 1 45 1378	0.88 20.44 0.05 2.49 76.13
VIII	Banat	Gornea-Caunita de Sus	El Susi, 1996	735	Mollusca+ Pisces Aves Mammalia	48 8 679	6.53 1.09 92.38
VIII-X	Banat	Gornea- Zomonite	El Susi, 1996	275	Mollusca Pisces Aves Mammalia	25 23 3 224	9.09 8.36 1.09 81.45
XI-XIII	Banat	Gornea-Tarmuri	El Susi, 1996	150	Mammalia	150	100
XI-XII	Banat	Parta	El Susi, 1996	430	Mammalia	430	100
XIV	Banat	Berzovia- Patruieni	El Susi, 1996	584	Pisces Aves Mammalia	8 50 526	1.37 8.56 90.07
XI-XIII	Banat	Moldova Veche- Rat	El Susi, 1996	473	Pisces Aves Mammalia	12 2 459	2.54 0.42 97.04

V-VI	Transylvania	Alba Iulia	Haimovici, Blajan, 1990	160	Pisces Aves Mammalia	1 16 143	0.63 10 89.37
V	Transylvania	Sanmiclaus	Gevoceanu <i>et al.</i> , 1977	368	Aves Mammalia	5 363	1.36 98.64
VI	Transylvania	Moresti	Haimovici, 1979	1298	Aves Mammalia	5 1293	0.39 99.61
VIII	Transylvania	Lazuri	Stanc, in press	889	Aves Mammalia	9 877	1.02 98.98

Dom. mamm. – domestic mammals, Wild mamm. – wild mammals, NR – number of remains

In general, hunting was of relatively little importance for the inhabitants of the medieval settlements, except for those at Gornea, Parta, Berzovia, Piatra Frecatei, Ghilanesti, Nufaru where the number of wild mammal remains is greater than 10%. This occupation furnished a relatively small quantity of animal protein, for the proportion of wild mammal remains among the sample under research was relatively small as compared to the remains of domestic mammals (table 2).

For the majority of the settlements in the Moldavia region the proportion of wild mammals as compared to the domestic ones is between 0.4% at Podeni and 5%, for example at Davideni (3.83%), Stefan cel Mare (3.16%), Udesti (2.09%), Vararie (4.94%), Nicolina (1.26%), Gara Banca (2.15%) and Todiresti (1.08%). For the 8<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries this percentage is somehow modified, increased in some cases up to 7.96% at Poiana, 8.6% at Lozna Strateni and even 14.29% at Ghilanesti (table 2).

For Muntenia, the proportion of wild mammals doesn't exceed 7% of the total number of the mammal remains under study, the smallest percentage being of 1.4 at Dridu and the highest at Pauleasca (6.5%).

For the Dodrudja region the smallest percentages are of 4 at Adamclisi and Slava Rusa and the highest of 16 of Nufaru and even of 43 at Piatra Frecatei.

For the Banat, the settlements at Gornea (Caunita de Sus and Zomonite), the proportion representing the wild mammals is above 20%, and for the settlement at Parta is 39%; this illustrate a greater importance of hunting for this settlements.

For the settlement in Transylvania the values of the proportion of wild mammal remains range between: 4.2% at Alba Iulia and 10.89% at Sanmiclaus.

A number of 17 species have been identified (table 3), among which *Cervus elaphus* (red deer) (figures 2 and 3) and *Sus scrofa* (wild boar) (figure 4) are most frequent, they are followed by *Capreolus capreolus* (roe deer). These three species are present in almost all the analysed assemblages. Other species, like *Ursus arctos* (bear), *Canis lupus* (wolf), *Felis sylvestris* (wild cat), *Lepus europaeus* (hare), *Castor fiber* (beaver), *Bos primigenius* (aurochs) (figure 5) have a low frequency (table 3).

The small size species of mammals (*Castor fiber* – beaver – figure 6, *Lutra lutra* – otter, *Meles meles* – badger, *Martes sp.* – marten) are rarely present in the samples studied. Some species, as in the case of *Alces alces* (elk) is represented by only one bone remain (in the sample from Garvan) or two bone remains identified for *Lutra lutra* (otter) in the samples from Garvan and Isaccea. *Mustela nivalis* and *Citellus citellus* present an uncertain appearance in the sample at Dumbraveni.

A unic species of wild mammal is *Delphinus* sp. caught in the Black Sea and identified in the sample from Slava Rusa.

**Table 2 – The percentages of the domestic and wild mammal remains in the medieval archeozoological samples from Romania**

<b>Faunistical assemblage</b>	<b>Identified mammals (NR)</b>	<b>Domestic mammals (%)</b>	<b>Wild mammals (%)</b>
Podeni	1023	99.6	0.4
Gara Banca (4-5 <sup>th</sup> )	1769	97.85	2.15
Nicolina	945	98.73	1.26
Todiresti	277	98.22	1.08
Davideni	183	96.17	3.83
Stefan cel Mare	95	96.84	3.16
Udesti	718	97.91	2.09
Lozna Strateni	721	91.4	8.6
Malesti	165	99.4	0.6
Vararie	81	95.06	4.94
Poiana	867	92.04	7.96
Ghilanesti	217	85.71	14.29
Barlalesti	928	97.74	2.26
Gara Banca (9-10 <sup>th</sup> )	870	97.82	2.18
Racari	153	95.42	4.58
Dulceanca II	105	97.15	2.85
Radovanu	475	97.48	2.52
Bucov	3238	97.78	2.22
Pauleasca	61	93.44	6.56
Slava Rusa	4001	95.4	4.6
Adamclisi	199	95.48	4.52
Garvan (4-6 <sup>th</sup> )	106	90.57	9.43
Oltina	940	93.62	6.38
Dridu	1865	98.6	1.4
Bucu	280	95.71	4.29
Garvan (9-12 <sup>th</sup> )	2961	91.19	8.81
Dumbraveni	199	91.96	8.04
Piatra Frecatei	1947	56.75	43.25
Capidava	1028	93.58	6.42
Isaccea	6890	93,02	6.98
Nufaru	543	85.45	14.55
Harsova	781	92.7	7.3
Gornea-Zomonite	224	73.21	26.79
Gornea-Caunita de Sus	558	77.42	22.58
Gornea Tarmuri	121	81.82	18.18
Parta	430	61.16	38.84
Berzovia-Patruieni	422	86.49	13.51
Moldova Veche-Rat	361	79.78	20.22

Sanmiclaus	358	89.11	10.89
Moresti	1293	96.06	3.94
Lazuri	379	98.68	1.32
Alba Iulia	143	95.8	4.2



Figure 2 – Mandible of *Cervus elaphus*, identified in the sample at Piatra Frecatei



Figure 3 – Metatarsus of *Cervus elaphus*, identified in the sample at Piatra Frecatei



Table 3 – The relative importance of wild mammal species identified in the medieval archeozoological samples from Romania

Faunistical samples	NR wild mammals	Ce. e	Ca. c	Su. s	Bo. p	Le. e	Ca. l	Ur. a	Ca. v	Me. m	Lu. l	Fe. s	Ca. f	Mu. n	Ci. c	Al. a	Ma. sp.	De. sp.
Podeni	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gara Banca (4-5 <sup>th</sup> )	38	15	15	4	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nicolina	12	6	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slava Rusa	184	67	17	52	-	18	1	1	26	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Todiresti	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Garvan (4-6 <sup>th</sup> )	10	3	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Adamclisi	9	6	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dulceanca II	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Racari	7	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Davideni	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stefan cel Mare	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Udesti	15	3	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lozna Strateni	62	43	5	9	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Malesti	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vararie	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poiana	69	37	6	20	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Ghilanesti	31	22	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birlalesti	21	12	5	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Radovanu	12	7	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bucov	72	38	2	17	12	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dumbraveni	16	6	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 ?	1 ?	-	-	-
Gara Banca (9-10 <sup>th</sup> )	19	14	-	-	3	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oltina	60	33	4	17	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Pauleasca	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Garvan (9-12 <sup>th</sup> )	261	184	6	56	1	3	-	-	2	5	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
Dridu	26	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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Faunistical samples	NR wild mammals	Ce. e	Ca. c	Su. s	Bo. p	Le. e	Ca. l	Ur. a	Ca. v	Me. m	Lu. l	Fe. s	Ca. f	Mu. n	Ci. c	Al. a	Ma. sp.	De. sp.
Bucu	12	6	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capidava	66	27	8	28	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Harsova	57	20	7	26	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Isaccea	481	223	14	216	12	10	-	-	2	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-
Piatra Frecatei	842	488	11	331	-	3	1	-	3	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
Nufaru	79	17	1	60	-	-	1?	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gornea-Caunita	126	61	14	44	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gornea-Zomonite	60	35	7	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gornea-Tarmuri	22	11	2	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parta	167	121	15	26	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Berzovia-Patruieni	57	13	9	32	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Moldova Veche-Rat	73	38	4	22	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-
Sanmiclaus	39	34	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Moresti	51	5	-	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alba Iulia	6	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lazuri	5	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Ce.e – *Cervus elaphus* (red deer), Ca.c – *Capreolus capreolus* (roe deer), Su.s – *Sus scrofa* (wild boar), Bo.p – *Bos primigenius* (aurochs), Le.e – *Lepus europaeus* (hare), Ca.l – *Canis lupus* (wolf), Ur.a – *Ursus arctos* (bear), Ca.v – *Canis vulpes* (fox), Me.m – *Meles meles* (badger), Lu.l – *Lutra lutra* (otter), Fe.s – *Felis sylvestris* (wild cat), Ca.f – *Castor fiber* (beaver), Mu.n – *Mustela nivalis* (least weasel), Ci.c – *Citellus citellus* (spotted souslik), Al.a – *Alces alces* (elk), Ma.sp. – *Martes sp.* (marten), De.sp. – *Delphinus sp.* (dolphin), NR – number of remains.

From the ecological point of view, the list of hunted mammals suggests the exploitation of a certain biotope. Analysing the frequency of the species in table 3 we can see that the forest ones (*Cervus elaphus* and *Sus scrofa*) are predominant as well as the skirt species (*Capreolus capreolus*, *Lepus europaeus*); others are aquatic species (*Castor fiber* and *Lutra lutra*) and eurytope species (*Canis vulpes*, *Canis lupus*, *Meles meles*).

Two species now extinct, *Bos primigenius* and *Castor fiber* were archaeozoologically identified. *Cervus elaphus* and *Ursus arctos* considered as present day Carpathian, appear in this period with a large distribution and a high frequency on the Romania's territory.

The single archaeozoological record of *Alces alces* in the Dinogetia site represents an animal probably arrived here during its hibernal migration, from the north-east.

### CONCLUSION

The frequencies of wild mammal remains, calculated from the total number of the identified mammals remains varies from one site to another, according to the importance of the huntig in the settlements.

Sixteen wild mammal species (including the dolphin) were archaeozoologically identified, among which the wild boar and the red deer were the most frequently hunted species.

The relatively large list of game species indicates a rich environmental resource used by hunting. In all of the assemblages, forest species are predominant and archaeozoological identifications indicate the existence of large forests.



Figure 4 – Eye-tooth of *Sus scrofa*, identified in the sample at Isaccea



Figure 5 – Horn of *Bos primigenius*, identified in the sample at Isaccea



Figure 6 - Mandible of *Castor fiber*, identified in the sample at Piatra Frecatei

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