

solidus, for 1 sextarius *olei cibarii*, whereas the papyri from Oxyrhynchus from the middle of the 4th century give a little higher values of 1/40 and 1/41 solidus. Generally speaking, in the 4th century, the price of oil was close to 1/41 solidus, i.e., about 0,11 g of gold²⁰.

The prices of beef meat are mentioned only in two documents from the early 4th century. *Diocletian's edict*, like the theological treatise of *Tanhume* from Palestine, takes 8 denarii (about 0,04 g of gold) for 1 pound of beef²¹.

The richer sources refer to pork meat²². Papyrus documents from the 4th century quote the cost of 1 pound of pork amounting to 1/86, 1/58 and 1/43 solidus whereas the Palestinian sources quote 1/100, 1/86 and 1/75 solidus for a pound of pork. The above-mentioned prices do not differ much from the data of *Diocletian's edict* which assumes for *caro porcina* 12 denarii as well as 1/80 solidus resulting from the decree of the prefect Cynegius at the turn of the year 387/388²³.

A few documents concerning the prices of slaves are limited almost only to papyrus sources which are supplemented with *Diocletian's edict* and with the imperial legislative decrees²⁴. The *Diocletian's* and *Maximian's* constitutions from the year 294 imposed the duty of chasing the fugitive slaves on the governor of the province. Moreover, the governor had to sentence the persons hiding the refugees to a fine of 20 solidi, i.e., about 90 g gold. All later constitutions regarding the escape of slaves were passed in the years 296–371 and later entered *Justinian's Code*. It is worth

²⁰ *Ed. Diocl.* 3,3; P.O. 1753 (from the year 390) — 0,6 cerat. per sext.; P.O. 1753 — 2 sol. per 80 sext.

²¹ *Ed. Diocl.* 4,2; *Tanhume* L. ed. Buber, p. 245. See Sperber, *o.c.* VIII 1965, p. 253.

²² See Mickwitz, *Goldwertindex*, p. 100; West, Johnson, *Byz. Egypt*, p. 185; Mazzarino, *o.c.* p. 213; Ruggini, *o.c.* p. 363, 392–397; Sperber, *o.c.* p. 248–249, 253, 256, 262, 271; Jones, *LRE*, I, p. 845; Balil, *o.c.* p. 53; Mrozek, *Preisverhältnisse*, p. 23, 28. They do not fulfil the demands of representativeness: 240 pounds per solidus (Nov. Val. XXXII 2); 105 myriades den. per 1/2 pound (P.O. 1753); 1/270 sol. per pound (Nov. Val. XIII 4); 1/240 sol. per pound? (Nov. Val. XXXVI 2); 28000 den. per 9 pounds (P.Ryl. 629,44); 900 den. per 1000 pounds (PSI 202).

²³ 10 folles (Gen. Rabba 49,4); *Ed. Diocl.* 4,1a; *Cod. Theod.* XIV 4,17; 50 maneh per pound-1/86 sol. per pound (J. Berachot 2,8). See Sperber, *o.c.* p. 247. Compare *Cod. Theod.* XIV 4,3 (6 folles per pound).

²⁴ On the slave prices see Segré, *o.c.* p. 124–125; West, Johnson, *Byz. Egypt*, p. 134–135; H. Kalex, *Zu einigen Problemen der Sklaverei im ptolemäisch-römischen Ägypten*, Leipzig 1959; Jones, *LRE*, I, p. 852; Sperber, *o.c.* p. 251, 254; Bernardi, *o.c.* p. 71, 75; J. Strauss, *Le prix des esclaves dans les papyrus d'époque romaine trouvés en Egypte*, ZPE XI 1973, p. 289 f.; Balil, *o.c.* p. 54–56; Mrozek, *Preisverhältnisse*, p. 29–30. Compare F. Vittinghof, *Die Bedeutung der Sklaven für den Übergang von der Antike ins Abendländische Mittelalter*, Hist. Zeitschr. CXCI 1961, p. 267. A little representative price 100 den. for a small boy was omitted (Baba Batra 127 B). See also Aug. *Serm.* 21,7, 21,13; Oros. VII 37.