

Cow-calf type Greek-Illyrian Drachms from Apollonia and Dyrrhachium: Chronological questions

Guyla Petryne

Apollonia and Dyrrhachium produced a long series of similar silver drachms around 3.3 g; with cow and calf on the obverse and a double stellate pattern on the reverse. According to the tentative chronology based on the 'compact model' hypothesis (yearly new emissions in an uninterrupted series) the drachms were minted during the Roman protectorate of these towns; and the Second Civil War in 49/48 BCE terminated this Production. Dyrrhachium started minting in or earlier than 208 BCE; while most probably all Apolloniate drachms were struck after the Third Illyrian War (168 BCE). The majority of the late coins are found in numerous hoards in the north-east Balkan area. They were exported there to replace the role of the Roman republican denarii which were not produced in sufficient quantities 70–50 BCE.