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A VINTAGE ACCOUNT


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The papyrus is dark brown with upper, left, and right margins preserved (although see note to line 13). At the bottom the text breaks off. It contains an account of the vintage from 2 estates in the lower toparchy. Although the exact find-spot is unknown, internal evidence suggests an origin in the Oxyrhynchite nome (see note to line 4). The entries for each estate are separated by a large amount of blank space. A third section mentions a total of sold wine from these (measures from the second estate?) and then adds it to the amount sold from the first estate. A fourth section lists amounts of wine expended for libations, the priests of the god Horus, and other unclear expenses until the text breaks off. Still helpful for accounts of this type is L. Bandi, "I conti privati nei papiri dell’Egitto greco-romano", Aegyptus 17 (1937) 349-451. The handwriting is similar to that of P. Col. X 262, of the late second century. It may, in fact, belong to the early 3rd century, which would alleviate the problem of the name in line 3 being unattested before the 3rd century. The writing is with the fibers and the back is blank.

P.Mich.inv. 1884 8.4 x 19 cm. Oxyrhynchos (?), II AD

"Account of vintage of the estates of the lower toparchy:
of the estate of Kapiton, (son of?) Euleo (1) tetrachoa of wine 244; of these
sold according to the same measure tetrachoa of wine 122."

"Of the estate of Orseous, from the first
wine-making installation tetrachoa of wine 122.5,
from the second wine-making installation tetrachoa 250,
total tetrachoa of wine 372.5."

"Of these (measures) belong to those sold
according to the same measure tetrachoa of wine 186.5,
the total is tetrachoa of wine 308.5."

"Account of vintage of the estates of the lower toparchy:
of the estate of Kapiton, (son of?) Euleo (1) tetrachoa of wine 244; of these
sold according to the same measure tetrachoa of wine 122."

"Of the estate of Orseous, from the first
wine-making installation tetrachoa of wine 122.5,
from the second wine-making installation tetrachoa 250,
total tetrachoa of wine 372.5."

"Of these (measures) belong to those sold
according to the same measure tetrachoa of wine 186.5,
the total is tetrachoa of wine 308.5."
"and spent for libations . . .
for priests of the god Horus tetrachoa of wine 1 (?)
for . . . 21, tetrachoa of wine . . .
tetrachoa of wine . . .

3: A property of Kapiton is referred to in Calderini-Daris, *Dizionario dei nomi geografici* (Milan 1937-84) as some place in the Fayum, using the phrase ἐν τῷ Καπίτηονος or ἐν τῷ Κωπίτονοι. But the property mentioned in the present papyrus is located in Oxyrhynchus (see on line 4), and the cognomen Capito was commonly used as a proper name.

Εὐλογης (: η rather than γ, then τι or ( ). We expect the name of Capito's father, although the owner of the next estate does not have this detail supplied, possibly Eulogios, written here in the genitive as Εὐλογης(γι)ου or perhaps Εὐλογης(ου), or, less likely, Eulogitos, written here in the genitive: Εὐλογης(γι)ου or Εὐλογης(ου). For the omission of γ before i see Gignac, *Grammar* 1.71f. Both names are attested from the 3rd cent. on, although Εὐλογης(ου) only once (*P. Gen.* I 14; for a slave).


6: An estate (χωριον) of Orseous is not attested. However, an Ὄρσεος κλήρος is found in *P. Mich.* V 259; and an Ὄρσεος κλήρος is found in *P. Mich.* II 121 r. II ii.4. Both are located in Tebtunis.

7: For the numbered ληνοὶ as distinguishing the wine making installation of an estate by its number, not the vats in which the fermenting took place, see P. Mayerson, *ZPE* 131 (2000) 161-165. 10 ἐπιβάλλει παλαιομένον: for a similar intransitive use of ἐπιβάλλει see *P. Köln* V 221.20-21. The reading παλαιομένον was suggested by P. Heilporn. One would expect the article here, since the measures sold have been mentioned previously. The writer of our account adds lines 5 and 11 to get the total in line 12. The amounts sold from each estate are thus cleared from the inventory.

12 (γίνεται) τῷ ὄξα(ον): the ink is badly abraded here but the reading seems clear under the microscope. The phrase is found, e.g., in *P. Iand.* VII 135.11.

13-4: Given the content of line 14, its uncertain relationship with line 13 notwithstanding, I take σπονδαίς to refer to actual libations or gifts, rather than the libation tax, which was paid in money, not in kind. According to Wallace, *Taxation in Egypt from Augustus to Diocletian* (Princeton 1938) 62-65, in private contracts it frequently represents a libation to seal the bargain between tenant and landlord. At the end of the line there are traces of two letters which extend further to the right than any other line (although this could be a deception since the extant papyrus sheet is slightly twisted). The writing may have continued into the margin, now broken-off. The traces do not admit a secure reading. The second descends below the line. The traces do not suit καὶ, connecting lines 13 and 14. Perhaps of[νο(υ) χάδ], or line 13 is a header as in the other blocks. But the second explanation does not explain the traces at the end.

15 καὶ: the number 21 would best apply to a date, but the context to guide us is lost. The number at the end may be β or η.
P. Mich. inv. 1884