

## **Abstract**

This work summarizes results of a comprehensive analyses of the archaeozoological material on the settlement in Vlíněves dating to the Unetice culture (the early Bronze Age, Central Bohemia). The total of 5325 bones and teeth has been analysed within this analysis, 903 of them was determined and used for further analyses. The taxonomic structure of the material with a clear prevalence of domestic mammals was assessed, the proportion of other groups was low (7 species of wild animals).

The application of stable isotopes and dental microwear analyses of faunal assemblage, first used in Bohemia in the context of the Bronze Age period, has specified the nature of a dietary base livestock as grassland habitats, and has ruled out a significant ratio of C4 plants and an application of forest pasture. The combined use of domestic animals with an increase emphasis on so-called secondary products (milk and wool) prove a bimodality in kill-off patterns of sheep and goats, height at withers of sheep, which corresponds to the breeds of sheep extended during the bronze age period and to the high mortality profile of cattle. The proposed results of our work are important in this context because they suggest these facts for the early Bronze Age already.

In accordance with circumstances at other sits of Unetice culture, the results of our work show that livestock provided most of the animal product consumed and that hunting was a marginal activity. The pastoral farming of cattle and small stock (sheep and goats) with obviously combined exploitation of primary and secondary products, especially milk and wool, was an important part of the food base. Breeding of domestic swine is applied in a lesser extent – compared to the further prehistory period it was apparently extensive and it represented rather an ancillary part of pastoral farming.