

The aim of the work is to attempt a new approach towards ones of the phenomena of the prehistoric archaeology: the late La Tène fortified agglomerations – the oppida. Their economical potential was formerly tested only on the industrial or commerce base but not from the ecological point of view. Their agricultural potential has been challenged in many publications both for specific locations, that were not directly in the primary agricultural settlement zone (the fertile lowlands), and for the material collection which usually lacks the tools used for ploughing. However, the urban structure of the sites reveals the evidence of the traditional agricultural household units and together with the evidence of breeding the livestock the subsistence requirements should presuppose at least minimal human factor dedicated to agricultural work. Also the potential of the landscape possibly allows for cultivating of crops in the vicinity of sites. This work is aimed to analyze the agricultural potential of the oppida and by archaeological modelling to test both the hypotheses concerning the oppida subsistence strategies: if they were independent producers of their own foodstuff or if they were dependent on the supplying from their sites in their subordinate hinterland. The main object for this analysis is one particular site in eastern Bohemia – the oppidum of České Lhotice, systematically excavated in the past. Analysis of this site is completed in some part by the oppidum of Staré Hradisko in Moravia.

Two main goals of my work have been specified and outlined in three main chapters: First goal comprises the practical part concerning the both standard settlement and chronological analyses of the oppidum of České Lhotice including the processing and evaluation (typo-chronological) of the collected material and settlement structure; second goal focuses on the economic behaviour of the late La Tène society within the oppidum-hinterland relation.