

IDENTIFICATION CRITERIA FOR BARLEY RACHIS: DISTINGUISHING TWO- FROM SIX-ROW AND NAKED FROM HULLED BARLEY

Michael CHARLES¹, Dragana FILIPOVIC², Amy BOGAARD²

Key words: Barley, Rachis, identification, Çatalhöyük, Neolithic, Chalcolithic

In this poster, to be accompanied by 'demonstration' and discussion in the laboratory session, we summarize criteria for distinguishing the rachis of two- and six-row barley (*Hordeum vulgare* L. ssp. *distichum* and ssp. *vulgare*) deriving from both hulled and naked varieties based on morphological observations in modern accessions. Previous work on the differentiation of rachis from hulled and naked barley varieties in the archaeobotanical literature has focused on central European remains of six-row barley. Furthermore, existing criteria for distinguishing two- and six-row barley refer primarily to hulled barley. It remains to determine whether the rachis of two-row naked barley can be distinguished from two-row hulled barley, on the one hand, and how both types differ from six-row hulled and naked varieties, on the other. This poster assesses previously suggested criteria for distinguishing two- versus six-row and naked versus hulled varieties of six-row barley together with new observations in order to develop a system for distinguishing all four major types of domesticated barley (two-row hulled, two-row naked, six-row hulled and six-row naked). We also present application of these criteria to material from Neolithic-Chalcolithic Çatalhöyük, central Anatolia, Turkey.

¹ Department of Archaeology, University of Sheffield, UK, e-mail: m.p.charles@sheffield.ac.uk

² School of Archaeology, University of Oxford, UK, e-mail: dragana.filipovic@arch.ox.ac.uk; amy.bogaard@arch.ox.ac.uk