

## ARCHAEOBOTANICAL INVESTIGATION AT AN EARLY IRON AGE (7<sup>TH</sup> – 6<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BC) BYLANY CULTURE SETTLEMENT, PRAGUE – ČERNÝ MOST, CENTRAL BOHEMIA

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*Key words: Hallstatt Period, Agricultural settlement site, Macro-remains, Crop structure, Anthracology*

Identification of Bylany Culture settlement sites is very exceptional in Czech prehistoric archaeology and their archaeobotanical content is almost unknown. The settlement site area of Černý Most is located at the eastern periphery of Prague in a small stream valley. It is a multiperiod site with features belonging to the early Iron Age, the Roman Iron Age and the high Medieval period, which was rescue excavated in 2008. Eight houses and two pits were dated archaeologically to the early Iron Age (Bylany Culture, 7<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> century BC). It is the largest still known settlement site of this culture in the Czech Republic. Plant macroremains came from infills of houses, pits and from fireplaces. The most common species were *Panicum miliaceum* and *Hordeum vulgare*. Other cereals (*Triticum spelta*, *T. dicoccum*, *T. monococcum* and naked wheat) were found exceptionally. Pulses were mainly *Lens culinaris*, with some *Pisum sativum*. The final crop was *Papaver somniferum*. This structure agrees with other macroremain spectra from the early Iron Age of Bohemia. Weeds were found (*Chenopodium album*, *C. ficifolium*...) and grassland or wetland plants that allow thinking of mowing. Anthracological taxa spectra reflect surrounding macrovegetation, the use of fuel and constructional woods. All archaeobotanical data are useful contributions for the study of the Hallstatt period in the Bohemian lowland. Material from Černý Most includes data about the prehistoric period that reflects some climatic deterioration, and reaction of the people and agricultural system.

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