

A GROUP OF DEPAS AMPHIKYPELLON FROM SEYİTÖMER MOUND

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Keywords: Western Anatolia • Early Bronze Age • Seyitömer Höyük • Depas Amphikypellon

Abstract: Depata are among the important changes in the traditional cultural structure that emerged during the Early Bronze Age III. Depata were discovered in the Aegean islands, the Balkan Peninsula, Central and South-eastern Anatolia and Northern Syria. In Seyitömer Mound located in Midwestern Anatolia, the Early Bronze Age, which represents the 5th cultural layer, is studied in three phases. Various depata, classified among different forms and wares, were discovered in the mentioned phases. The specifications and finding contexts of the depata are given along with typological considerations.

SEYİTÖMER HÖYÜK'TEN BİR GRUP DEPAS AMPHIKYPELLON

Anahtar Kelimeler: Batı Anadolu • Erken Tunç Çağrı • Seyitömer Höyük • Depas

Özet: Erken Tunç Çağrı III'de geleneksel kültürde gerçekleşen yeniliklerin başında depaslar gelmektedir. Depasların Ege Adaları'nda, Balkan Yarımadası'nda, Orta ve Güneydoğu Anadolu'da ve Kuzey Suriye'de ele geçtiği görülmektedir. İç Batı Anadolu'da yer alan Seyitömer Höyük'te V. Tabakayı oluşturan Erken Tunç Çağ III, üç evreye ayrılmaktadır. Söz konusu evrelerde çeşitli form ve mal grupları ile sınıflandırılan depaslar ele geçmiştir. Bu depasların form özellikleri ve buluntu kontekstleri verilerek, tipolojik ayırmalar gidilmiştir.

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“*Depas amphikypellon*” means two-handled drinking vessel¹. The depata were discovered in the Aegean islands, the Balkan Peninsula, Central and South-eastern Anatolia and Northern Syria². The mentioned cup was first unearthed in Troia IIc³. It is also known that the depas was among the major changes that took place in traditional culture in Early Bronze Age III⁴. Both the increasing number of finds and the location of the cups suggest that this Western Anatolian cup was not only used as a libation but for everyday use, as well.

The depata were discovered in Seyitömer Mound located in Seyitömer Lignite Company’s reserve zone in the province of Kütahya within the borders of the old town of Seyitömer. In 1989 the director and staff of the Eskişehir Museum were the first to excavate the site, which was followed in 1990, by the director and staff of the Afyon Museum⁵. The present rescue excavations that started in 2006 were initiated by Dumlupınar University, Archaeology Department under the direction of Professor A. Nejat Bilgen. It is considered that settlement at the mound ranges from Early Bronze to Roman periods⁶.

The Seyitömer Mound Early Bronze Age III layer has three phases. The depata discovered from the mentioned phases were analysed with particular em-

phasis on their typological differences. This study, which investigates 13 depata discovered between 2009 and 2012, highlights the place and influence of Seyitömer Mound depata in Western Anatolia.

Spanos typologically divided the depata into certain groups⁷. It was determined that the depata from Seyitömer Mound have some differences in terms of both form and surface procedures. Considering the properties of the earthenware, the pottery can be classified as grey, orange-red, tile-brown and buff wares. Considering their forms they can be classified into seven groups.

Type 1 (Depas 1, 2, 3)

These depata have a thin cylindrical form and a flat base. The handles have circular cross section. Depata 1 and 2 have grooves. Depata 1 and 3 have a band of slip on the inner side of the rim.

DEPAS 1 (Drawing 1, Figure 1)

Inventory Nr: S.Ö.10 4093

Dimensions: Height: 20.3 cm., rim diameter: 8cm., base diameter: 1,4 cm.

Description

It has a flaring rim over a thin cylindrical body and twin handles extending from the lower neck to just above the base. It has seven rows of grooves starting from the neck. The paste is light brown (7,5 YR 7/4), with a dark brick-brown slip (2,5 YR 5/6). The depas is burnished over the slip. The inner rim is washed in a band. The paste is grit and mica tempered. It is wheel-made.

¹ Schliemann 1884, 155-165.

² Akdeniz 2001, 20.

³ Blegen et al. 1951, Fig. 59a.

⁴ Efe 2004, 22.

⁵ Aydin 1991, 191-204; Topbaş 1992, 11-34; Topbaş 1993, 1-30; Topbaş 1994, 297-310; İlash 1996, 1-20.

⁶ Bilgen et al. 2010, 348-349; Bilgen et al. 2011a, 368; Bilgen et al. 2011b, 373-571.

⁷ For the form typology of depata see Spanos 1972.

Parallels (Table 1)

The depas resembles the depas discovered at Troia IIg⁸ phase with regards to its thin-cylindrical and grooved body. Moreover, since it is closer to Pisidian type depata due to its grooved body⁹, it is also comparable to depata discovered at Küllioba¹⁰, Harmanören-Göndürle¹¹ and Kaklık Mevkii¹².

DEPAS 2 (Drawing 2, Figure 2)

Inventory Nr.: S.Ö. 12 1950

Dimensions: Height: 13.8 cm., base diameter: 2.3 cm.

Description

It has a long cylindrical body narrowing towards the flat base. There are three rows of chamfer decorations around the body and the neck and four rows near the base. The paste is buff coloured (2,5 YR 7/6), with a reddish brown slip (2,5 YR 5/8) and burnished. The paste is sand, grit, mica and chamotte tempered. It is wheel-made.

Parallels (Table 1)

It resembles a depas discovered at Bözük because of its cylindrical body and decoration elements¹³.

DEPAS 3 (Drawing 3, Figure 3)

Inventory Nr.: S.Ö.11 2999

Dimensions: Height: 18.3 cm., rim diameter: 6.8 cm., base diameter: 0.7 cm.

Description

This sample has a flaring direct rim, a thin-long conical body narrowing towards the flat base. It has vertical twin handles with circular cross-section extending from the body to just above the base. The paste is light brick-brown (2,5 YR 6/6), with orange-red slip (10R 6/8). The inner side of the rim has a band of slip. The paste is mica, sand, and limestone tempered. It was shaped over a wheel.

Parallels (Table 1)

It resembles depata from Troia layers IIId¹⁴, IIg¹⁵ and IIIf¹⁶, Karaağaçtepe¹⁷, Aphrodisias¹⁸, a depas purchased by Uşak Museum¹⁹ and depata discovered at Syros-Kastri²⁰ and Baklatepe²¹ in view of its slightly out-turned rim and long cylindrical form. It can also be compared to a depas at Küllioba²² and Kültepe²³. It is also similar to a depas included in the Sadberk Hanım Museum collection²⁴.

Type 2 (Depas 4, 5, 6)

These depata have short cylindrical and conical bodies. Depata 5 and 6 have a base, and all three depata are distinguishingly grooved.

⁸ Blegen et al. 1950, Pl. 381, 35.580.

⁹ Yılmaz 2010, 47; Akdeniz 2001, 19-25.

¹⁰ Efe – Türkteki 2011, Kat. 373.

¹¹ Özsait 2000, Res.5.

¹² Topbaş et al. 1998, Fig.64, 196.

¹³ Efe 1988, 164, Taf. 64/1.

¹⁴ Blegen et al. 1950, Pl .381/36.857; Podzuweit 1979, Lev.9.

¹⁵ Blegen et al. 1950, 230, Pl. 381/35.579, 381.35.599.

¹⁶ Blegen et al. 1951, Pl. 67:35.416.

¹⁷ Demangel 1926, Fig. 76/2 No.152.

¹⁸ Kadish 1969, Pl. 25, Fig.18.

¹⁹ Hüryılmaz 1995, 180, Şek. 2.

²⁰ Bossert 1967, Şek.4.6.

²¹ Özkan – Erkanal 1999, 18, Res.17; Şahoglu 2005, Fig.4.

²² Efe 1999, 174, Çiz.4/3.

²³ Özgüç 1957, Res. 28.

²⁴ Üstün-Türkteki – Hürmüzlü 2007, Kat. 1.

DEPAS 4 (Drawing 4, Figure 4)

Inventory Nr: S.Ö.09 1506

Dimensions: Height: 12,8 cm., rim diameter: 7,8 cm., base diameter: 0,6 cm.

Description

It has a flaring rim, a cylindrical body towards the base, and twin handles extending from the lower neck to just above the base. There are three rows of grooves on lower neck, three rows in lower body and two rows over the base. The paste is cream coloured (2,5 YR 6/6), and buff washed (10 YR 8/3). Small traces of burnish are observed on the wash. The paste is sand, limestone, and mica tempered. It is handmade.

Parallels (Table 1)

It resembles a depas from Troia, layer IIg²⁵ in terms of form but it has a base. It also resembles a depas purchased by İzmir Archaeological Museum²⁶ and a depas purchased by Uşak Museum²⁷ considering its grooved body.

DEPAS 5 (Drawing 5, Figure 5)

Inventory Nr.: S.Ö.12 1134

Dimensions: Height: 9.9 cm., rim diameter: 7.9 cm., base diameter: 3 cm.

Description

It has a slightly flaring rim over a thin cylindrical body and base. Both ends of the handles are ornamented with three rows of incised horizontal grooves surrounding the body. The paste is cream coloured (10 YR 7/3), with a light brown surface (10 YR 7/4), and the depas is

burnished. The paste is sand, chamotte, mica and grit tempered. It is wheel-made.

Parallels (Table 1)

It resembles three forms discovered at Kültepe that were classified as goblets²⁸ in view of its conical body. However, it is considered that the form discovered at Seyitömer Mound should be classified as a depas.

DEPAS 6 (Drawing 6, Figure 6)

Inventory Nr.: S.Ö.12 1133

Dimensions: Height: 11.6 cm., rim diameter: 6,9 cm., base diameter: 2.4 cm.

Description

It has a slightly flaring rim over a thin cylindrical body and base. It has vertical twin handles with circular cross-section extending from the body to just above the base. The body is ornamented with three sets of ornaments comprising three rows of shallow horizontal grooves surrounding the body made with incision technique. The paste is cream (10 Y R 7/3), with a light brown surface (10 YR 7/4), and the depas is burnished. The paste is sand, limestone, chamotte, mica and grit tempered. It is wheel-made.

Parallels (Table 1)

It resembles a depas discovered at Beycesultan considering its slightly out-turned from and the grooves on its body²⁹.

Type 3 (Depas 7, 8, 9)

This type of depata slightly narrows toward the base. Depas 7, which was classified among flat based depata, has a

²⁵ Blegen et al. 1950, Pl. 382, 35.841.

²⁶ Aykurt – Kaya 2005, Res.1, Çiz.1.

²⁷ Hüryilmaz 1995, 182, Şek.4.

²⁸ Özgürç 1986, Fig 3.28, Fig 3.29, Fig 3.30.

²⁹ Lloyd – Mellaart 1962, Fig. P.52.21.

decorative band of slip on the inner side of the rim.

DEPAS 7 (Drawing 7, Figure 7)

Inventory Nr: S.Ö.10 2189

Dimensions: Height: 10, 5cm., rim diameter: 6.3 cm., base diameter: 2 cm.

Description

It has a flaring rim, a cylindrical body slightly narrowing towards the base, two vertical handles extending from the body to just above the base. The paste is brick coloured (5 YR 7/8); with orange-red slip (2.5 YR 6/8). The inner rim is washed in a band. The paste is tempered with grit, sand and mica. It is handmade.

Parallels (Table 2)

In view of its short body, it resembles the depata discovered at Troia IIg phase³⁰, Aphrodisias³¹, Titriş Höyük³² and Baklatepe³³.

DEPAS 8 (Drawing 8, Figure 8)

Inventory Nr: S.Ö.10 2312

Dimensions: Height: 14,6 cm., rim diameter: 7,2 cm., base diameter: 1,2 cm.

Description

It has a flaring rim over a cylindrical body narrowing towards the flat base. The paste is dark grey (2,5 Y 3/1), washed with the same (2,5 Y 3/1). The paste is limestone, mica and grit tempered. It is wheel-made.

Parallels (Table 2)

This depas which has a thin-cylindrical body resembles a depas purchased by İzmir Archaeological Mu-

³⁰ Blegen et al. 1950, Pl. 382/35.841; Lev. 382/35.602.

³¹ Kadish 1969, Pl. 27, Fig. 28.

³² Algaze – Mısır 1993, 163, Fig. 15.

³³ Şahoglu 2005, Fig.5.

seum³⁴ and depata from Poliochni³⁵, Syros-Kastri³⁶ and Keos-Ayia Irini³⁷. Moreover, it is also comparable to a depas included in the Sadberk Hanım Museum collection³⁸.

DEPAS 9 (Drawing 9, Figure 9)

Inventory Nr: S.Ö.12 775

Dimensions: Height: 14.1cm., rim diameter: 6.3 cm., base diameter: 2 cm.

Description

It has a flaring rim over a conical body slightly narrowing towards the flat base. It has vertical handles extending from the body to just above the base. The paste is brown-brick (10 YR 6/2), with brown (10 YR 5/3) slip. The surface is slightly burnished. The paste is tempered with sand, limestone and grit. The handles and rim were missing and restored using gypsum plaster. It is wheel-made.

Parallels (Table 2)

Considering its form properties it is comparable to depata from Troia IIg³⁹ and Troia III⁴⁰. Moreover, its slightly rounded base resembles depata from Aharköy⁴¹ and Burdur Museum⁴².

Type 4 (Depas 10)

This flute formed type is represented by a single item. This depas has a strangled body and a flat base.

³⁴ Aykurt – Kaya 2005, 3, 4, Çiz.2.

³⁵ Bernabo-Brea 1976, 58, 251-252, Taf. CXCI/c.

³⁶ Bossert 1967, 69, Abb. 4/4.

³⁷ Wilson 1999, 127, Pl. 33 III-340, Pl. 87 III-340.

³⁸ Üstün-Türkteki – Hürmüzlü 2007, Kat.3.

³⁹ Blegen et al. 1950, Pl. 381, 36.856.

⁴⁰ Blegen et al. 1951, Pl. 67, 34.277.

⁴¹ Efe 1988, 164, Taf. 64, No.5.

⁴² Hüryilmaz 2001, 346, 347, Şek. 3.

DEPAS 10 (Drawing 10, Figure 10)

Inventory Nr: S.Ö.09 2135

Dimensions: Height: 10.1 cm., base diameter: 2.4 cm.

Description

It has a cylindrical flute form with a strangled body, a narrow plane base and has vertical handle knobs on both sides. It is made of a greyish brown paste (5 YR 6/3), with a glossy grey (2.5 YR 4/1) burnished surface. The paste is sand tempered. The part of the body that continues towards the rim and almost all of the handles are missing. The body was formed using coiling method and then smoothed on a wheel.

Parallels (Table 2)

Its cylindrical flute form is comparable to depata from Troia IIg⁴³ and IVb⁴⁴ phases. It is also comparable to a depas fragment from Küllioba IIIB⁴⁵ phase in terms of the coiling method used for shaping the depas.

Type 5 (Depas 11)

This type represents the form with the largest body. This round based depas has a decorative band of slip on the inner side of the rim.

DEPAS 11 (Drawing 11, Figure 11)

Inventory Nr: S.Ö.11 66

Dimensions: Height: 26.6 cm., rim diameter: 12.1 cm., base diameter: 1.1 cm.

Description

It has vertical direct rim with a cylindrical body slightly narrowing towards

the round base, has two vertical handles with circular cross section which extend from the body to just above the base. The paste is light brown-brick (5 YR 7/6); with orange red slip (2.5 YR 6/8). The inner rim is washed in a band. The paste is grit, mica, sand and chamotte tempered. It is handmade.

Parallels (Table 2)

Although the sample from Seyitömer has a wider body it is comparable to some of the depata from Küllioba⁴⁶. Moreover, it is very similar to depata from Troia IIg⁴⁷ layer and Nevşehir Museum⁴⁸ due to its simple rim and size.

Type 6 (Depas 12)

This squat depas has a carinated body. It has a decorative band of slip on the inner side of the rim.

DEPAS 12 (Drawing 12, Figure 12)

Inventory Nr: S.Ö.11 2226

Dimensions: Height: 10.5 cm., rim diameter: 6.5 cm., base diameter: 1cm.

Description

It has a direct rim, squat body, and pointed base. The handles, which have a circular cross-section, extend from the body to just above the base. The paste is light brown-brick, (2.5 YR 6/6), with brown-brick slip (10 R 5/6), and burnished over the wash. The inner rim is washed in a band. The paste is mica, grit and sand tempered. It is wheel-made.

⁴³ Blegen et al. 1950, Pl. 382/35.600.

⁴⁴ Podzuweit 1979, Taf. 9.

⁴⁵ Türkteki 2010, 162, Res. 85, Lev.9/1.

⁴⁶ Efe-Ay 2001, Res. 23; Efe 2004, Fig.5; Türkteki 2004, Lev.17, Çiz.3.

⁴⁷ Blegen et al. 1950, Pl. 382, 35.425.

⁴⁸ Schachner – Schachner 1995, 309, Res.4.

Parallels (Table 2)

Given that squat depata are rare, it is comparable to depata from Troia III⁴⁹ and Gözlükule⁵⁰ in terms of its body.

Type 7 (Depas 13)

The body of this cylindrical depas is slightly carinated. The bottom part is concave.

DEPAS 13 (Drawing 13, Figure 13)

Inventory Nr.: S.Ö.12 2294

Dimensions: Height: 14.1 cm., rim diameter: 6.4 cm., base diameter: 2.5 cm.

Description

It has a flaring rim over a cylindrical body and an elevated slightly concave base. It has chamfer decorations over the body. The paste is light brown (10 YR 6/3), with orange slip (7.5 YR 6/6), and the depas is burnished. The paste is sand and grit tempered. There is a potter marker below the rim with wash. It is wheel-made.

Parallels (Table 2)

The mentioned form is comparable to a depas from Beycesultan in view of its out-turned rim and grooves⁵¹.

Evaluation

It can be asserted that both a well-organized social life was possible within the settlements and trade relations started to increase among different settlements with the developing metallurgical technology during the Early Bronze Age. The repertory of vessels widened especially with the increasing and extensive use of wheels during the Early Bronze Age III.

The distribution of discovered vessels point at similar cups dispersed over a wide geography. This supports the notion that trade activities were realised on a systematic basis.

As an important centre in Inner Western Anatolia, Seyitömer Mound is located on the trade road marked by T. Efe as a caravan route⁵². The depata from Seyitömer Mound which signal the existence of trade are observed in different wares of orange-red, orange, grey, buff, brown, brown, light brown, reddish brown, brown-brick colours.

The depata from Seyitömer Mound might also be classified according to the diversity of the paste used. The paste used in depata 8 and 10 is grey, 4, 5, 6 is cream, 7 is brick, 1, 13 is light brown, 3, 9, 11 and 12 is brown-brick, 2 is buff coloured.

Considering the context of the depata discovered; the depata 4, 7, 10 were discovered in the embankment of their respective phases while depata 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13 were discovered *in situ*. The depata discovered nearby the daily used ware were discovered inside living spaces. Depas 11, the largest depas found, was discovered in the storage room of the palace complex located in the western part of the mound, in Phase B. This palace, which probably belonged to an elder living at the Mound, contains many rooms where important finds such as cylinder seals from Mesopotamia were discovered⁵³.

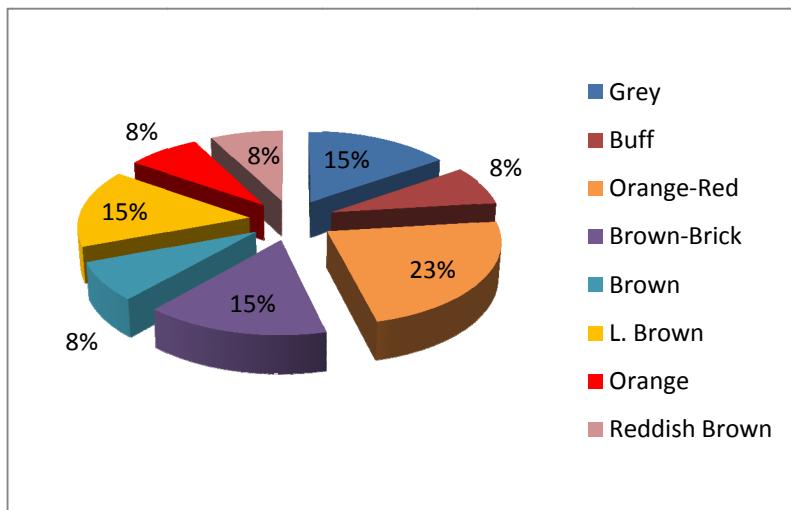
⁴⁹ Podzuweit 1979, Taf. 9.

⁵⁰ Goldman 1956, Fig.266, 494.

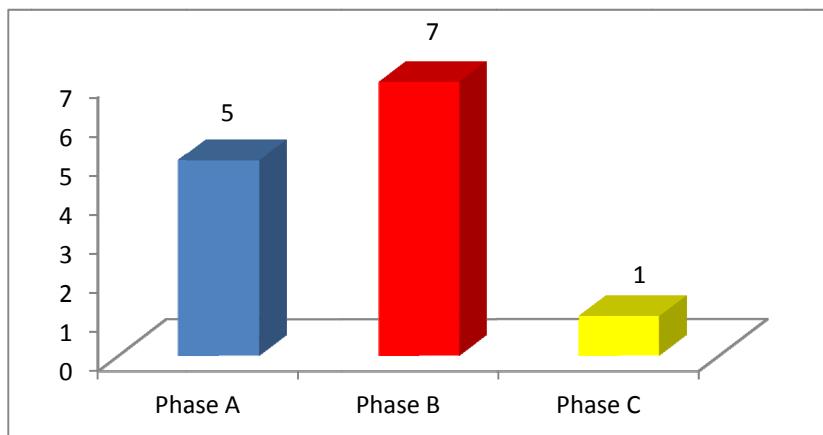
⁵¹ Lloyd – Mellaart 1962, Fig. P.52,17.

⁵² Efe 2004, 22.

⁵³ Bilgen et al. 2013, 111.



Graph 1: Ware of the depata from Seyitömer Mound



Graph 2 (Distribution of depas from Seyitömer Mound by phases)

When we consider the distribution of the depas at Seyitömer Mound Early Bronze Age III by three phases, it is observed that more depas were discovered in the phase B. However, the excavation Phase C still continues and the number of depas discovered at this phase might increase.

Considering the parallels of depata discovered at Seyitömer Mound it can be stated that; Depas 1, which has a thin-

cylindrical body and grooves belongs to the Pisidian group. The short, cylindrical bodied Depas 2 was produced in Inner Central Anatolia. Depas 3, which has a thin-long body is the most commonly used depata especially observed in Western Anatolia. It was discovered that the grooved Depas 4 is observed both in Western Anatolia and Inner Western Anatolia. Depas 5, which has a base and a grooved conical body exhibits Central

Anatolian characteristics. Depas 6 which has a grooved base has Inner Central Anatolian characteristics. Depas 7 which has a short body originates from Western Anatolia but it is dispersed in Southern and South-eastern Anatolia. Depas 8 which has a thin, cylindrical body was mostly used in Western Anatolia and Aegean islands. The thin-short bodied Depas 9 was produced in Western Anatolia. Depas 10 which has a cylindrical flute shaped body was dispersed mainly in Western Anatolia. Depas 11 which has a wide-long body was produced in Western and Central Anatolia. The squat Depas 12 is a rare sample which has parallels only in Troia and Gözlükule. Depas 13, the other cylindrical bodied concave based depas, carries Inner Western Anatolian characteristics.

The external wash applied to the inner side of the rim at depata 1, 3, 7, 11 and 12 indicate that these were produced in line with the Troas region style. However, considering the wash and paste properties of the mentioned depata they clearly exhibit local characteristics of Seyitömer Mound wares just like depata 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 7 and 13. Having observed that depata 5, 8 and 10 depata from Seyitömer Mound EB III pottery characteristics; it was considered that these might have arrived at Seyitömer through trade.

Considering all the mentioned characteristics, it might be asserted that the depata from Seyitömer Mound exhibit characteristics of Western Anatolia in accordance with the location of the mound. Moreover, the resemblances with samples from Troia support the commercial and social proximity with Troia. Moving from this point, it would be possible to assert

that Seyitömer Mound played an important role in the dispersion of the depas form in Central, Southern and South-eastern Anatolia.

It is considered that a clearer understanding of the relationships among the finds could be achieved after the completion of the Early Bronze Age excavations at the mound.

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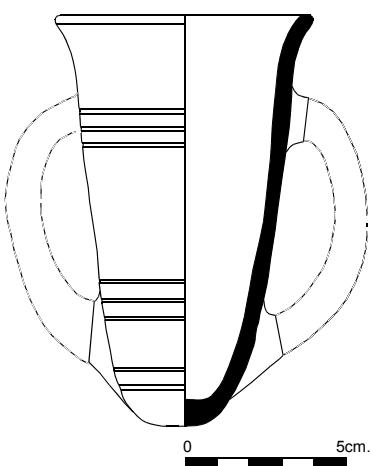
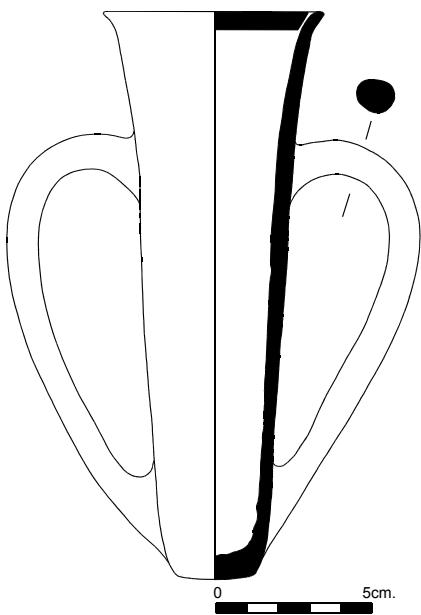
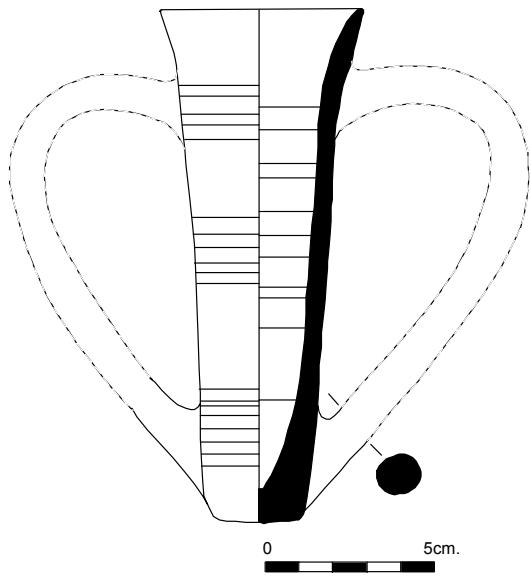
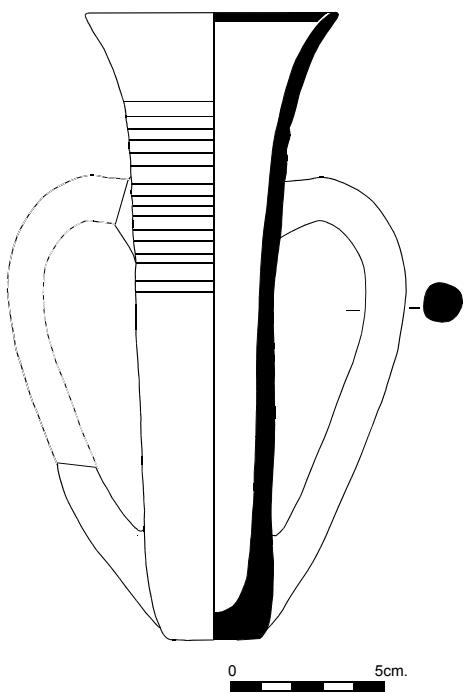
A Group of Depas Amphikypallon from Seyitömer Mound

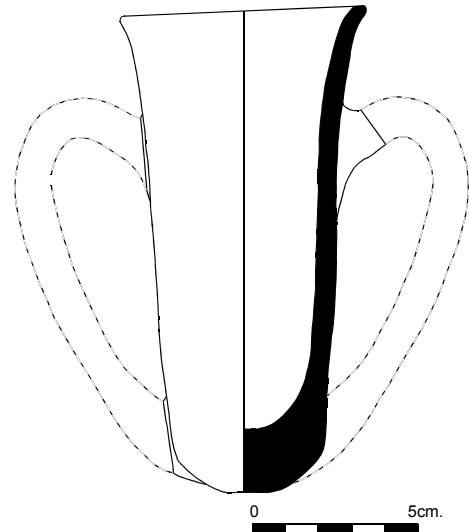
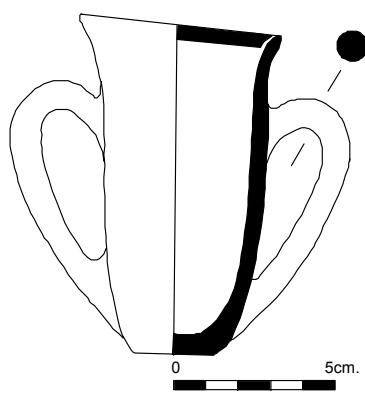
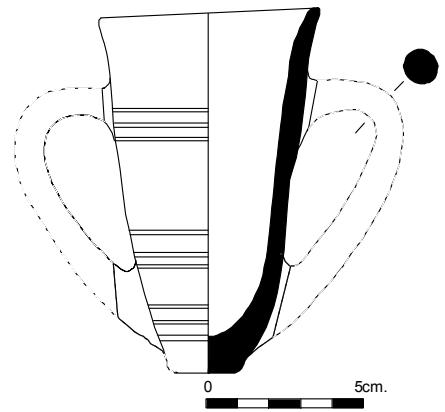
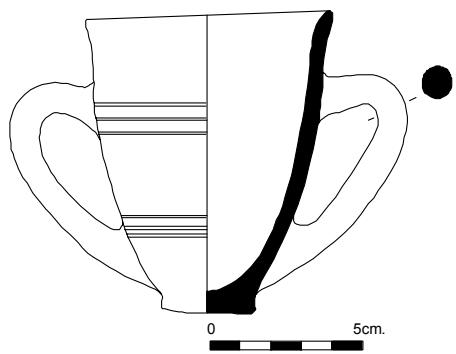
Types	Seyitömer Depas 7	Troia	Kallicoba	Kültepe	Bergsvennen	Baldkape	Bozınlık	Ahlatköy	Aphrodisias	Gözüköle	Tütüş	Kara Abatçeve	Harmancık	Kahlik Mevka	Siros Kestri	Polioclini
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Type	Sarıçamıç	Troya	Külümba	Kültepe	Bergama Sultan	Baklafer	Bozınyık	Altıkköy	Aphrodisias	Gözükale	Titus	Kara Ağıztepe	Harmadaen	Kaldaik	Syrus Kasıti	Policlitha
Type 3	Depas 7															
	Depas 8															
	Depas 9															
Type 4	Depas 10															
Type 5	Depas 11															
Type 6	Depas 12															
Type 7	Depas 13															

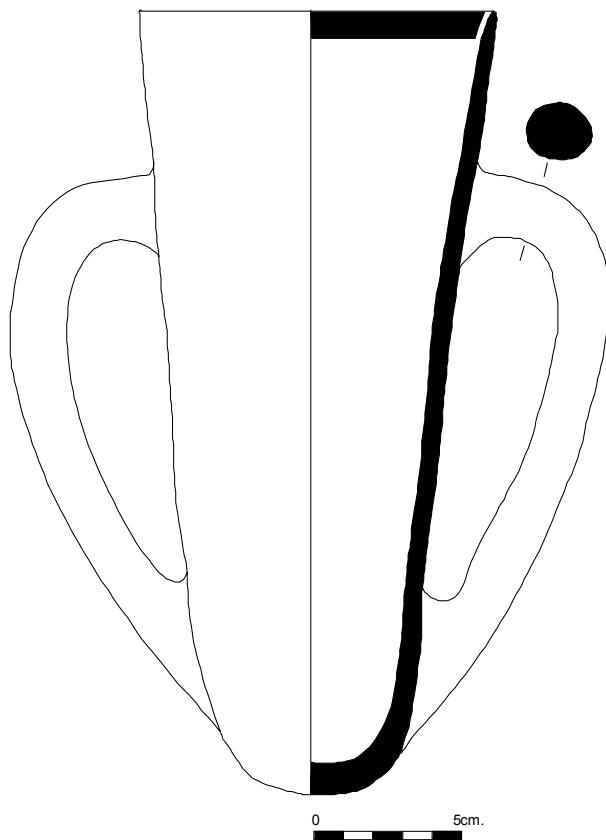
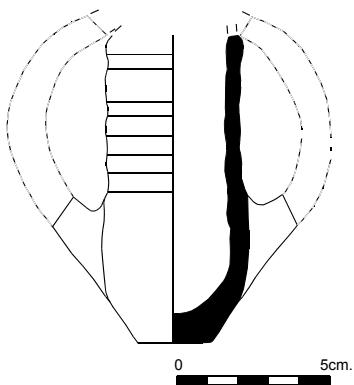
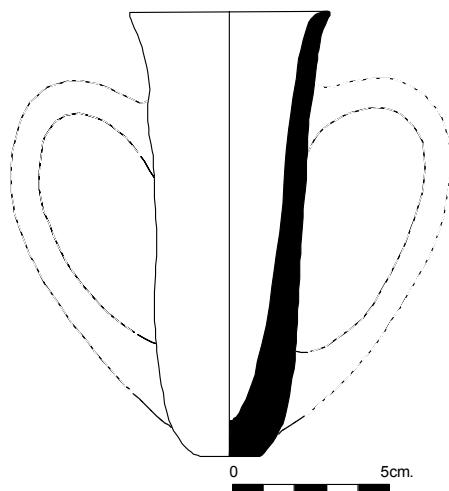
Table 2. The distribution of depata in other settlements similar to depata from Seyitömer Mound

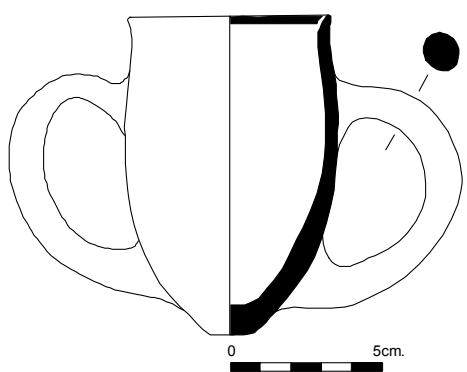
A Group of Depas Amphikypellon from Seyitömer Mound



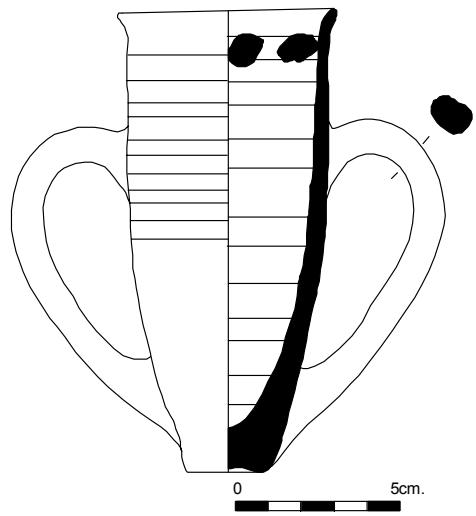


A Group of Depas Amphikypellon from Seyitömer Mound





Drawing 12



Drawing 13

A Group of Depas Amphikypellon from Seyitömer Mound



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8

A Group of Depas Amphikypellon from Seyitömer Mound



Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11



Figure 12

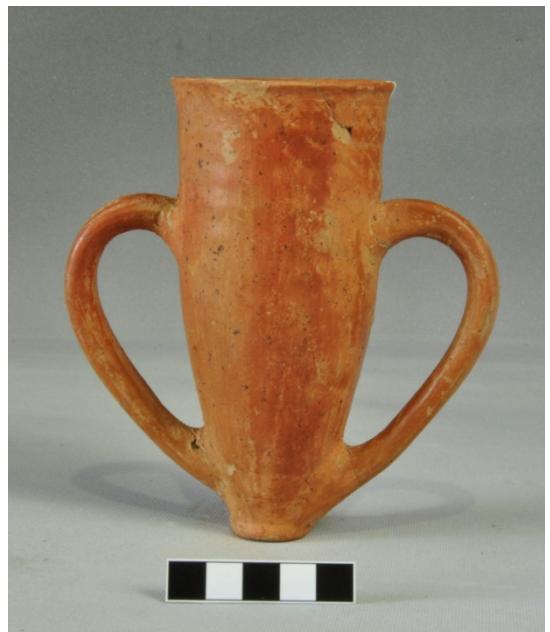


Figure 13