

Proc Soc Antiq Scot, 123 (1993)

FICHE 1: CONTENTS

G J Barclay & C Russell-White

Excavations in the ceremonial complex of the fourth
to second millennium BC at Balfarg/Balbirnie, Fife 1:A4-D4

S Carter

Tulloch Wood, Forres, Moray: the survey and dating
of a fragment of prehistoric landscape 1:E1-5

G J Barclay

The excavation of pit circles at Romancamp Gate,
Fochabers, Moray, 1990 1:F1-4

I M Rogers

Dalginross and Dun: excavations at two Roman camps 1:G1-3

ROGERS

DALGINROSS AND DUN

CONTENTS

Charred plant remains from
the bulk soil samples Sheila Boardman 1:G2-3

CHARRED PLANT REMAINS RETRIEVED FROM THE BULK SOIL SAMPLES FROM DALGINROSS AND DUN ROMAN CAMPS

Shella Boardman

TREATMENT OF THE SAMPLES

Bulk samples, usually 7-14 litres, were collected from all soil contexts and processed using a standard water separation machine (Kenward *et al* 1980). The light fraction (flots) were collected in sieves with mesh sizes of 1 mm and 300 microns, and the heavy residue (retent), in a 1 mm mesh. The flots and retents from the 1 mm meshes were completely sorted, by eye or using a low power light microscope. The quantity of remains did not warrant sorting of the flots from the 300 micron mesh. Macrofossil identifications were carried out using a low power, light microscope and a modern seed reference collection held by Historic Scotland, Edinburgh.

RESULTS

DALGINROSS

Upper fill of ditch Area B (see text): Carex sp. (trigonous) (sedge) x 1.
This context could be modern.

Primary ditch fill Area C (see text): Spargula arvensis L. (corn spurrey) x 1.
This may have been present in the soil when the ditch was dug.

DUN

From the pre-modern ploughsoil, Area 1 (see text):

- Hordeum* sp. (barley) - hulled asymmetric grains¹ x 4
 - hulled symmetric grains x 1
 - hulled grains x 1
 - asymmetric grains x 1
 - cf. asymmetric grains x 1

Triticum dicoccum Schubl. (emmer wheat) x 1

Cereal Indet. x 1

Chenopodium album type (fat hen) x 1

From the lower ditch fills Area 1 (see text):

- Hordeum* sp. (barley) - hulled asymmetric grains² x 4
 - hulled symmetric grains x 1
 - asymmetric grains x 1
 - Indet. grains x 1

Both seeds recovered from the Dun ditch fills are common in archaeological crop assemblages. They are not found in association in economic crops here, however, and may have been present in the soils before the ditches were dug.

The two small deposits of cereal grains from Dalginross were not accompanied by cereal chaff and straw, or weed species which might suggest their local cultivation and/or processing. It is unlikely that either deposit provides an accurate reflection of Roman or Medieval crop agriculture.

¹ Syn *H. vulgare* L. (hulled six row barley)

² syn. *H. vulgare* L. (hulled six row barley)