

## COLUMELLA, LUCIUS JUNIUS MODERATUS

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### FORTUNA\*

The extant works of Columella (*fl. first century A.D.*), the most comprehensive and systematic of the Latin writers on farming, consist of the *De re rustica* in twelve books and the apparently incomplete *De arboribus*. Another treatise, *Adversus astrologos*, has

not survived, and a fourth work, dealing with religious ceremonies connected with agriculture, may have been projected by him (cf. *De re rustica* II. 21. 5-6) but never actually composed. For his material Columella drew on many predecessors and contemporaries, both Greek and Latin, who had treated a similar topic. Most of these sources are only names to us today, their writings having perished, but among those whose works we have are, in addition to Virgil, Marcus Porcius Cato (the Censor) and Marcus Terentius Varro. It appears too that Columella knew and used such poets as Propertius and Horace. Perhaps because they were written in prose and form a convenient and homogeneous group, the manuals of Cato, Varro, and Columella sometimes appear in the same manuscripts; from the fifteenth through the eighteenth centuries they are frequently printed together, along with the treatise of Palladius (see the article on pp.

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195-199 of this volume), in editions which designate their authors as 'Scriptores rei rusticae (rerum rusticarum)'. It also happened occasionally that a commentator approached them as a unit and annotated more than one of these 'Scriptores.'

There is no ancient commentary on Columella although he was certainly known to Silver Age and post-classical writers. His works seemed not to require or to inspire explication; they were appreciated for the information they furnished, and served as a quarry from which other authors extracted facts for their own treatises. A contemporary, Pliny the Elder, lists him among the authorities for books VIII, XI, XIV, XV, XVII-XIX of the *Historia naturalis* and cites him by name eight times. Gargilius Martialis who wrote on gardens, probably in the third century, depends on Columella, as does Eumelus of Thebes who composed a work on veterinary medicine possibly during that same period. In the fourth century, Vegetius, in his *Mulomedicina*, praises Columella's 'facultas dicendi' (*Praef.* 2), and the *Ars veterinaria* of Pelagonius contains seventeen quotations from the sixth book of the *De re rustica*. Palladius is also clearly indebted to Columella, for he cites him twenty-five times and may have written his *Carmen de insitione* after the example of Columella's book X which is in hexameters.

In the Middle Ages Palladius eclipsed the earlier agricultural authors, and evidence for the availability as well as the use of Columella is rather scanty. Although we have the evidence of humanists, particularly of Petrus Victorius, that there were others, only two medieval witnesses to the text have survived; both dating from the ninth century, they are Ambrosianus L. 85 sup. (A), copied at Fulda, and Leningrad F. v. Class. 1 (S), written at Corbie. Columella was, however, known to medieval schools long before these manuscripts were produced. Cassiodorus (*Institutiones* I. 28) describes him as a leading authority on the subject, alluding, curiously enough, to 'sixteen' books. This number may be owing merely to a scribal error. It has also been surmised that the 'sixteen' books included the entire *De re rustica* and an

earlier work consisting of four books, of which only the second, the *De arboribus*, has come down. In support of the latter hypothesis, scholars (e.g. J. M. Gesner, J. Häussner in *Bibliography* I. A, II. A) adduce a statement in the preface to the *De arboribus* indicating that it was preceded by another book. A third way out of the difficulty (see A. Kappelmacher in *Bibliography* III. B) is to suppose that Cassiodorus had in his library sixteen rolls of Columella's writings. But whatever the explanation for the problem, it should be noted that this numerical puzzle is peculiar to Cassiodorus, and he is cited in the *Catalogus de libris authenticis et apocryphis* of Boston of Bury (fl. early fifteenth century) for his assertion that Columella composed sixteen books.

The next medieval writer who seems to have known Columella is Isidore of Seville. His remark in the *Etymologiae* (XVII. 1) that Cato was the first to write about agriculture while Varro embellished and Columella encompassed the whole science is neatly turned, and it is repeated almost word for word in the twelfth century by Hugh of St. Victor in the *Didascalicon* III. 2. In the case of the *De cultura hortorum* of Walafrid Strabo (c. 808-849), some parts of the poem appear to have Columella as their model. An instance of direct quotation, however, does not occur until the twelfth century when Thierry of Chartres, in his *Heptateuchon* (Chartres 498, ff. 149-151v), cites *De re rustica* V. 1-3, a passage also found in a thirteenth-century work, namely Richard of Fournival's *Biblionomia*. Hugh of Fouilloy, another twelfth-century author, quotes *De re rustica* XII *praef.* 9 in his *De nuptiis* (Migne P. L. 176, 1206). Since Columella is hardly ever listed in catalogues of medieval libraries, it is interesting to find entries for him in two twelfth-century inventories of the Corbie holdings, further proof that he was circulating in France at this time. He may also have been known to the Arabo-Hispanic scholar Ibn-al-Awwam, whose twelfth-century treatise on agriculture contains frequent mention of a certain 'Junius.'

Among Trecento authors acquaintance with Columella's writings was none too

widespread. He is not mentioned, for instance, by Petrus de Crescentiis whose *Ruralium commodorum libri XII*, composed about the beginning of the fourteenth century, incorporated much of the material found in Cato, Varro, and Palladius. Nor does he seem to have been known to Petrarch, himself an enthusiastic gardener, despite the report of J. P. Thomasinus in his *Petrarcha redivivus* (cap. 7) that, according to Johannes Rhodius, there were at one time in the Vatican Library some notes of Petrarch on Columella. This reference is vague and difficult to trace. P. De Nolhac (see Bibliography III. C) has suggested that the manuscript in question is Vaticanus lat. 2193 which belonged to Petrarch and contains, on f. 156, observations written in his hand regarding the cultivation of his gardens at Parma, Milan, Padua, and Arquà. They cover the years 1348, 1349, 1350, 1353, 1357, 1359, 1369 and are helpful in fixing Petrarch's whereabouts, but they take no notice of Columella. However, it is plain that the *De re rustica* was known to Boccaccio, for, in the *Genealogiae deorum XI. 1*, he cites a passage from IX. 2. 3 where Columella refuses to take seriously myths concerning the origin of bees and the rearing of Jupiter in Crete. Coluccio Salutati too was familiar with the work; in a letter (X. 1) of uncertain date, but possibly written between 1395 and 1400, he quotes from *De re rustica I praef.* 17-18 in which Columella speaks of the esteem attached to rural life by the ancient Romans.

It was during the Quattrocento, in fact, that Columella emerged as an author who may be described as relatively popular. The manuscripts themselves tell the story: there are approximately forty fifteenth-century codices of the *De re rustica* and *De arboribus*, and excerpts are found in nearly twenty more. Studies on the textual tradition (see Bibliography II. A) show that the text of these *recentiores*, designated as the R group, was produced by conflating the readings of A with those of another manuscript, now lost, which belonged to another tradition and was in Italy before or shortly after A arrived there in the fifteenth century. Many of the R codices formed part of

illustrious libraries; among their owners were Piero de' Medici (Laurentianus Plut. 53. 32), the Aragonese kings of Naples (Valencia 651), Novello Malatesta (Cesena Plut. 24 sin. 2), Gaspar de Guzmán (Escorial R. I. 7), Cardinal Bessarion (Venice Z.I. 462), Marinus Tomacellus (London Additional ms. 19903), and Duke Giovanni Angelo Altaemps (Vatican Library, Ottobonianus lat. 1567, 2059). An interest in the state of the text was a natural accompaniment, and the manuscripts often exhibit a good deal of humanistic correction and large numbers of alternate readings. Some examples are Laurentianus Conv. soppr. 285 and Aedil. 168, London Harley 3556, Parisinus lat. 6830 C, Vaticanus lat. 1525 and 1527, and Vienna lat. 33, 81, and 3144. Laurentianus plut. 53. 27 belonged to Poggio and was perhaps corrected by him; it is not the manuscript which he, or one of his investigators, discovered in Germany during the period 1414-1418, a codex since lost and considered by some (e.g. H. B. Ash in Bibliography I. A) to be, with A, a joint parent of the R group.

Notwithstanding the renewed activity along palaeographical and textual lines, humanists took their time before attempting an *explication du texte*. Julius Pomponius Laetus was the first to compose a commentary on Columella or, for that matter, on any of the 'Scriptores rei rusticae.' He treated only the tenth book of the *De re rustica*, and his commentary survives in manuscripts and incunabula which differ slightly from each other as well as in sixteenth- and eighteenth-century editions that exhibit a fixed form. A colophon in Bologna 2654 (lat. 1395) indicates that the annotations had been composed by at least 1467. London Sloane 777, an unsigned and hitherto unidentified manuscript written in its entirety by Laetus, contains the text of book X and a small part of the commentary. With its careful calligraphy and elaborate illumination, this codex can hardly be a 'scholar's copy,' and it appears that Laetus' original draft has not yet come to light. The first printed text of the commentary was issued in Rome c. 1472 (HC 5497), but without the name of its author; two other anonymous

editions of the same text were published, also in Rome, c. 1485 (HC 5494) and c. 1490 (HC 5495). Only in an edition printed at Venice (?) c. 1480 (HC 5500) is the commentary assigned to Laetus. This version, which varies from the anonymous text, is the commentary that is found ascribed to Laetus in all succeeding editions. The anonymous commentary seems never to have been recognized as his work, and it was not reprinted after the fifteenth century.

In 1472 there appeared at Venice the *editio princeps* (HC 14564) of four of the agricultural writers. Georgius Merula, who edited the works of Cato, Varro, and Columella contained therein, drew up 'Enarrationes brevissimae priscarum vocum' consisting of short definitions of technical terms drawn from each author. The *De re rustica* of Palladius, also included in the volume, was edited by Franciscus Colucia. Other incunabula followed the same format and were published at Reggio Emilia in 1482 (HC 14565), 1496 (HC 14569), and 1499 (HC 14570) and at Bologna in 1494 (HC 14568). Laurentianus Plut. 53. 19 is a manuscript copy of the 1482 edition, and Naples V A 5 (copied by Gianrainaldo Mennio in 1488) is also derived from a printed edition.

The next commentary on Columella seems to be that of Curius Lancillottus Pasius who, like Laetus, annotated *De re rustica* X. Dedicated to Lorenzo de' Medici, the commentary is preserved in autograph Laurentianus Plut. 52. 22 and, according to a colophon in the manuscript, was composed by 1483. Because it was written in verse, book X occupies a special place in the *De re rustica* and attracted two more commentators who devoted their efforts solely to its elucidation, namely Johannes Baptista Valentinus Cantalicius and Johannes Baptista Pius. The commentary of the former is found in an incomplete codex now at Perugia. Pius' annotations were dedicated to Bernardus Rubeus and published in 1520 at Bologna. The notes of Aulus Janus Parrhasius on book X found in a copy of the 1482 Reggio edition (S. Q. IX. H. 13) in the Biblioteca Nazionale, Naples are best described as 'running titles,' and they do not constitute a commentary. Nor do the

'Notae in Columellam' of Johannes Passeratius which are contained in autograph manuscript Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale, Nouv. acq. lat. 3068 (ff. 5v-6) and comprise excerpts from the *De arboribus* and *De re rustica* VI, VII, X, and XII.

It is perhaps worth pointing out that the commentary of Pius is a further indication of the Bolognese interest in the 'Scriptores rei rusticae,' for, in 1504, Benedictus Hector had printed the commentary of Philippus Beroaldus on Columella which covered the whole of this author, including the *De arboribus*. Beroaldus had, in fact, some years earlier edited both texts as well as those of Cato, Varro, and Palladius. Since the manuscripts regard the *De arboribus* as book III of the *De re rustica*, Beroaldus also considers it to be such, and consequently his commentary deals with 'thirteen' books of the *De re rustica*. Fra Giovanni Giocondo, editor of the 1514 Aldine, was the first to detach the *De arboribus* and place it at the end of book XII of the longer treatise, an arrangement followed in all succeeding editions. Once this pattern had been established, printers were careful to separate Beroaldus' comments on the *De arboribus* from those on the *De re rustica* and to note that they applied to the former work.

After the appearance of Pius' notes on book X, a number of years passed before the publication of another commentary on Columella, but interest in him had by no means died down. His manuals, together with the commentaries on them by Laetus, Beroaldus, and Pius, were often reprinted, and there are signs that they were still of concern to humanists, albeit on a relatively modest scale. The name of Nicolaus Angelius may be mentioned in this regard. He was the editor of the 1515 and 1521 Juntine texts of Cato, Varro, Columella, and Palladius, and contributed 'Enarrationes super nonnullis dictionibus' that are an expanded version of Merula's 'Enarrationes' on which they are tacitly based. A second figure to be noted is the printer Jodocus Badius Ascensius who, according to Gesner (Bibliography I. A), inserted anonymous

comments into the commentary of Pius found in the *editio Ascensiana* of 1529. Gesner, however, cites only a few instances, and these have not been reckoned sufficient to constitute a commentary. The *editio Ascensiana* also exhibits, at *De re rustica* X. 178, a single comment by 'Jacobus Constantius Fanensis.'

In 1541 Petrus Victorius published his edition of Cato, Varro, and Columella. He likewise issued a companion volume containing his commentaries on the three authors. The annotations on Columella have to do almost exclusively with the *De re rustica*; the single comment on the *De arboribus* is given among those on book XII. Victorius' commentary is important in that it not only illustrates his method of textual criticism but also contains information on the manuscripts he consulted, some of which are seemingly no longer extant. Among these were an ancient manuscript of Columella written 'litteris Longobardis' and a *codex recentior* copied by Niccold Niccoli. A third lost codex is particularly intriguing since Victorius (in the preface to his commentary on Cato) describes it as a 'vetustissimum volumen' from the library of San Marco, Florence, with the text of Cato, Varro, Columella, and Gargilius Martialis. Politian had examined the same manuscript in 1482, entering its variant readings in his own copy of the *editio princeps* which later came into the possession of the Ricasoli family and is now Ré. S. 439 in the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris. A copy of Politian's collation was made by Girolamo Lagomarsini in 1737, and has the shelfmark 117 (Landi 4) at the Biblioteca Comunale, Piacenza. Unfortunately by the time Victorius consulted this ancient witness, the folios containing Columella and Gargilius Martialis had disappeared and the last part of Varro was missing. Although neither he nor Politian provides many details about the manuscript itself, the palaeographical errors reported by them suggest that it was copied from an exemplar in Caroline minuscules.

Since the notes of Fulvius Ursinus on Columella (published Rome, 1587) consist

merely of manuscript readings, the commentary of Victorius is apparently the last commentary before 1600. As in the post-classical era, Columella became an authority to be cited rather than expounded. An inkling of this development had already occurred in the late Quattrocento when Michelangelo Tanaglia referred to *De re rustica* VII. 5. 22 and IX. 4 in his *De agricultura* (composed after 1489). With the increase in the number of vernacular agricultural treatises written in the sixteenth century, it was a fairly standard procedure for an author of such a work to quote from, or at least allude to, Columella, and instances may easily be found in the *Trattato dell' agricoltura*, *Trattato della cultura degli orti e giardini*, and *Trattato degli arbori* of Giovanvettorio Soderini (1526-1597), the annotations of Robertus Titius (1551-1609) on *Le api* of Giovanni Rucellai, and in Victorius' own *Delle lodi e della coltivazione degli ulivi*. By this time Columella was also known in England, for in 1571 William Lambarde compiled a commonplace book of agricultural rules (now London Additional ms. 20709) which included precepts from the *De re rustica*.

In light of this practical use of Columella in the Cinquecento, vernacular renderings of his works were logical accompaniments, and they were translated into Italian (by Pietro Lauro), French (by Claude Cotereau), and German (by Michael Herr). An English version was slow in coming, and an anonymous one was finally printed in 1745.

Editions of the *De re rustica* and *De arboribus* continued to be produced throughout the seventeenth century, but did not contain any of the earlier commentaries. In the eighteenth century there appeared the monumental editions of Gesner and J. G. Schneider (Bibliography I. A). The latter's edition remained standard until the recent completion of the edition by V. Lundström who, together with other Swedish scholars, is responsible for the majority of modern studies on Columella. Professor Pierre-Paul Corsetti is presently preparing an edition for the Budé series.

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### COMPOSITE EDITIONS

The agricultural treatises of Cato, Varro, Columella, and Palladius were generally printed together until the nineteenth century when each work began to appear separately. A chronology and brief descrip-

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1504, Bononiae (Bologna) : Impensa Benedicti Hectoris (ed. Philippus Beroaldus). With the text of Cato, Varro, Columella, Palladius, *Enarrationes brevissimae priscarum vocum* of Georgius Merula on Cato, Varro, and Columella, and commentaries of Philippus Beroaldus on Columella, *De re rustica*, *De arboribus* and Julius Pomponius Laetus on Columella, *De re rustica* X. The *De arboribus* forms 'book III' of the *De re rustica*, thereby bringing to XIII the number of books in this work. *Ed. Bipont.* I cxxxiii ; Adams S-804, 2407. BM ; BN ; (MH ; NN).

1521, Florentiae (Florence) : Per heredes Philippi Juntae (ed. Nicolaus Angelius). With the text of Cato, Varro, Columella, Palladius, *Enarrationes super nonnullis dictiōnibus* of Nicolaus Angelius, and commentaries of Philippus Beroaldus and Julius Pomponius Laetus on Columella, *De re rustica* X. *Ed. Bipont.* I cxxxv ; Bandini, *Juntae* II 171-172 ; Adams S-807. BM ; BN ; (MH).

1529, [Paris] : I. Badius Ascensius. With the text of Cato, Varro, Columella, Palladius, *Enarrationes brevissimae priscarum vocum* of Georgius Merula, and commentaries of Philippus Beroaldus on Columella, *De re rustica*, *De arboribus*, Julius Pomponius Laetus and Johannes Baptista Pius on Columella, *De re rustica* X. Beroaldus' commentary (except for book X) has been put into alphabetical order. Ascensius inserted anonymously a few of his own notes into Pius' commentary (according to Gesner, Bibliography I. A), and only a small portion of Pius' commentary is given in this edition. One comment at X. 178 is attributed to Jacobus Constantius Fanensis. *Ed. Bipont.* I cxxxvi ; Renouard, *Badius* II

263-264 ; *Imprimeurs et libraires parisiens du XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle* II (Paris, 1969) 248. BM BN ; (MH).

*Reprint* : 1533, Parisiis (Paris) : Impensis I. Parui et G. a Prato. *Ed. Bipont.* I cxxxvi ; Adams S-810. BM ; BN ; (MH).

(\*) 1543, Parisiis (Paris) : Apud Michaelem de la Guierche. (Reported by Denis Brearley). With the text of Columella, *De re rustica* X, commentaries of Philippus Beroaldus, Julius Pomponius Laetus, and Johannes Baptista Pius on this book, one comment of Jacobus Constantius, and anonymous annotations of Jodocus Badius Ascensius. *Ed. Bipont.* I cxxxviii. BM.

1543, Parisiis (Paris) : Ex officina Roberti Stephani. With the text of Cato, Varro, Columella, Palladius, *Enarrationes brevissimae priscarum vocum* of Georgius Merula on Cato, Varro, and Columella, and commentaries of Philippus Beroaldus on Columella, *De re rustica*, *De arboribus* and Petrus Victorius on Cato, Varro, and Columella (*De re rustica*). *Ed. Bipont.* I cxxxviii ; Renouard, *Estienne* 55. BM ; BN ; (MH).

1735, Lipsiae (Leipzig) : Sumptibus Caspari Fritsch (ed. Johannes Matthias Gesner). With the text of Cato, Varro, Columella, Palladius, Vegetius, Gargilius Martialis, commentaries of Petrus Victorius, Fulvius Ursinus, Ausonius Popma, Johannes Meursius on Cato, Petrus Victorius, Joseph Scaliger, Fulvius Ursinus on Varro, Julius Pomponius Laetus, Philippus Beroaldus, Johannes Baptista Pius, Petrus Victorius on Columella, notes of Jacobus Constantius and Jodocus Badius Ascensius on Columella, *De re rustica* X. The commentaries on Columella are not given in their entirety, and Gesner has arranged them according to his own system. *Ed. Bipont.* I cxlii-iv. BM ; BN ; (MH ; CaOTU).

1773, Lipsiae (Leipzig) : Sumptibus Caspari Fritsch (ed. Johannes Matthias Gesner). This is the second edition ; for contents see the 1735 edition. According to the entry in the *editio Bipontina*, Johannes Augustus Ernesti revised and enlarged the second edition in several ways, most notably by contributing a preface, correcting typographical errors, and adding variant readings

to the text of Columella (from Leningrad F. v. Class. 1) and Palladius. *Ed. Bipont.* I cxliv. BM; BN; (MH).

### I. *De re rustica*

#### COMMENTARIES

##### 1. JULIUS POMPONIUS LAETUS

A colophon in Bologna 2654 (lat. 1395) demonstrates that his commentary, which treated only book X, was circulating by 1467. The commentary was very popular and survives, in different versions, in four other manuscripts, four incunabula (of which three are anonymous), and a number of later editions. One of the manuscripts, London Sloane 777, is a *de luxe* autograph of Laetus which contains a small portion of the commentary. Only the Bologna codex displays a dedicatory epistle; it is, unfortunately, incomplete, but enough remains to show that Johannes Antonius Campanus was partly responsible for the commentary's publication. The commentary attributed to Laetus in the edition printed c. 1480 is the version found in the post-incunabula period. Textual dissimilarities between the manuscripts and incunabula involve word corruption, phraseology, and completeness of lemmata and comment; however, their general agreement in subject matter, content, and form proves that they are derived from the same model. Laetus apparently did not edit the text, and the commentary is concerned with the explication of mythological, geographical, and botanical points. As he notes in the introduction of the c. 1480 edition, much of his material comes from Cato, Varro, and Pliny the Elder. He also quotes from, or refers to, Hyginus, Tibullus, Lucretius, Ovid, Herodotus, Apicius, Theocritus, Strabo, Statius, and Silius Italicus.

*Dedicatory epistle*: (Bologna 2654, f. 116) \*\*\*excitavit sollicitavitque ut ante Ianuarium, quando olitores operari esse incipiunt, mitterem, in quo etsi aliqua nimis alta repetita vetustate omissa fuerint et male interpretata, non mihi sed Campani stimulis et curae tuae hortensi imputabis. Verum Campanus ipse super nostrum in-

genium eruditissimus etsi ut unus ex amicis urgere potest. Iam praecipiendi vim in me liber obtinet, neque enim fas est ut tanto homini repugnem et, cum praecepisset tibi destinare, inhumanum et ferreum fuisse sapientissimo ac dignissimo iuveni meas ineptolas denegare. Habet causam qua hoc dignitati tuae sacraverim munuscum. Ergo cape quod ex officina Iulii numini tuo devoti manavit, non dignitatem ac eruditionem tuam impleturum sed aliquid delectationis in horto allaturum. Vale et me vigiliasque meas, munificentissime princeps, tibi iudicioque tuo non modo subicio sed etiam dedico.

*Introduction* [Inc.]: (Bologna 2654, f. 116<sup>r-v</sup>) De origine et laudibus hortorum. Memorabiles horti in fabulis narrantur fuisse Hesperidum, in quibus non poma quidem aurea sed tantum oleastri viruerunt. Adonis vero regis et Alcinoi Nausicae puellae patris fabulis celebrati sunt. Reges Persarum hortensi curae intenti fuere. Tarquinius Superbus quod horto delectatus sit, responsum excisis liliis ad folium (*sic*) indicat. In XII tabulis horti mentio, non villarum, habetur. Epicurus primus horti magister existimatus est. Quare his exemplis et principes et studiosi homines hortis incumbere non extimescant. Signa Saturnica in hortis olim posita, tutela vero eorum Veneri attributa est, cuius iucundo numine auxiliante ad interpretationem veniamus. Explicit prooemium.

*Commentary* : [Inc.] : (f. 117) In prooemio relictas a P. Virgilio georgici carminis partes expleturum se fatetur. Hoc frequens petitio P. Silvini exigebat urgebatque facile etiam laudis cupidum Virgilii permissio quae posteritati hortorum curam scribendam reliquit in haec verba [*Georg.* IV. 147-148] :

Verum haec ipse equidem spatiis exclusus inquis

Praetereo atque aliis post commemoranda relinquo.

Multum posteritati tribuit, quam adeo dignam putat ut agricolationi suae terminos ponat. Non ergo iniuria hoc sibi negotium exsequendum vetus rusticationis artifex consummato iam operi (*sic*) suo mandavit. Quod liberum affert testimonium quantum

colonis olitoribusque ac vinitoribus tradiderit. *Principio sedem.* Eligatur ab olitore non macilentum solum ac sterile, cui facile terga, id est caespites, in superficie resolvantur . . . / . . . [Expl.] : (f. 136) Ascria oppidum et vicus in Boeotia, patria Hesiodi poetae qui versus de rusticatione composuit. Et paucos Hesiodus Ascraeus dicit ut Virgilius idem de se ait 'Ascraeumque cano Romana per oppida carmen' [Georg. II. 176]. Telos. Per Ianum Albutium 1467 mensis Februarii die xviii hora iii.

*Manuscripts:*

Bologna, Bibl. Universitaria 2654, an. 1467, ff. 116-136. (L. Frati, 'Indice dei codici latini conservati nella R. Biblioteca Universitaria di Bologna,' *Studi italiani di filologia classica* 17 (1909) 82, no. 1395; J. Ruyschaert, 'A propos des trois premières grammairies latines de Pomponio Leto,' *Scriptorium* 15 (1961) 72, 75).

Florence, Bibl. Riccardiana 1202, s. XV, ff. 43<sup>v</sup>-56<sup>v</sup>. The manuscript does not contain the text of book X. The opening words of the introduction are underlined as if they constituted a lemma, and the commentary resembles, but is not identical with, the anonymous commentary of the incunabula.

*Introduction* [Inc.] : (f. 43<sup>v</sup>) Incipit commentum Columellae. Horti Hesperidum memorabiles habentur, in quibus non poma auri sed oleastri tantum viruerunt. Adonis vero regis et in Corcyra insula Alcinoi Phaeacum regis horti in fabulis celebrati sunt. Reges Persarum intenti curae hortensi fuerunt. Tarquinius Superbus quod horto delectaretur, responsum excisis liliis sive papaveribus incidat (*sic*). Romae vetustior hortorum usus quam villarum fuit, nam in XII tabulis horti, non villarum, mentio habetur. Signa olim Saturnica in hortis ponebantur. Tutela hortorum Veneri attributa est, quam alii sub deae Florae nomine notaverunt.

*Commentary* : [Inc.] : (f. 43<sup>v</sup>) *Caelestia mel-la.* Iuppiter mulierem specie pulcherrimam nomine Melissam in apem convertit. Homerus ait ex c<r> abronibus natas apes quas nymphae Phrixonides educaverunt et mox nutrices fuisse Iovis . . . / . . . [Expl.] : (f. 56<sup>v</sup>) *Bunius* (*sic*). Est fons in agro Amiternino unde ficus Bunias, et est patronymicum pro pos-

sessivo. Laus Deo. Finis commenti super Columella de agri cultura.

(S. Morpurgo, *I manoscritti della R. Biblioteca Riccardiana* I [Rome, 1900] 271).

London, British Museum Sloane 777, s. XV, ff. 4-9. Laetus, who wrote the entire manuscript, began at line 173 to add the commentary in the margins beside the text of book X (ff. 1-9); space was lacking for the whole commentary, and only a small part of his annotations is found in this codex. The opening comment appears to be incomplete since the quotation from Pliny (*Historia naturalis* XII. 35. 68 or XIII. 2. 17?) was never inserted.

[Inc.] : (f. 4) Stacte genus est muriae ut apud Plinium . . . / . . . [Expl.] : (f. 9) Ascria oppidum Boeotiae, patria Hesiodi, sterile habet solum ut ipse dicit 'Ascria rus miserum' [*Works and Days* 639-640]. Virgilius ait 'Ascraeumque cano Romana per oppida carmen' [Georg. II. 176].

(*Catalogus librorum manuscriptorum Bibliothecae Sloaniana* (1837-40) 144; E. J. L. Scott, *Index to the Sloane Manuscripts in the British Museum* (London, 1904) 118).

Vatican Library, Vaticanus lat. 11532, s. XV, ff. 115-123<sup>v</sup>. These folios contain the commentary, but not the text of book X. The Introduction has supplementary material found in no other commentary of this group.

*Introduction* [Inc.] : (f. 115) Columella dicitur quasi 'Columella' a corporis proceritate. Nam eius familia a Gadibus Romanum venit; floruit tempore Virgilii. Tres fuerunt qui de hortorum cultu scripserunt: Columella, Gargilius Martialis, et Rutilius, et omnes in carmine scripserunt, Columella tempore Augusti et Tiberii, Gargilius tempore Alexandri imperatoris, Rutilius tempore Theodosii. Carmina Gargilii Martialis ego non vidi. In fabulis Cretorum narrantur horti Hesperidum sub Atlante Africae et Alcinoi regis, in quibus non poma auri sed oleastri tantum viruerunt. Adonis vero regis et Corcyra insula Alcinoi Phaeacum regis horti in fabulis celebrati sunt. Reges Persarum hortensi curae intenti fuerunt. Tarquinius Superbus quod horto delectatus sit, responsum excisis liliis sive papaveribus indicat. <Dictum> est Epicureum philo-

sophum Athenis primum coluisse hortum, cuius delectatio Romae postea adeo viguit ut quasi *<spatio>* deficiente ad id opus pensiles habuerunt Romam (*sic*) hortos in fenestris. Et vetustior memoria hortorum est quam villarum. Scribit nunc Columella ad Publum Silvi *<n>* um.

*Commentary* : [Inc.] : (f. 115) *Inquis spatii*. Virgilius in principio *Georgicorum* [*Georg.* I. 1-4] quattuor spatia tantummodo fecit operis sui. In quarto professus est scribere de melle et, cum nimis longus esset tractatus si miscisset materia hortorum, ideo dicit se relinquere posteritati declarandam . . . / . . . [Expl.] : (f. 123v) *Ascras*. Est oppidum Boeotiae, unde fuit Ascreus poeta qui primus de agri cultura apud Graecos scripsit. Quem Virgilius imitatus est cum *Georgicorum* libros ad Maecenatem scripsit, ut ipse in eodem opere dicit ‘Ascreumque cano Romana per oppida carmen’ [*Georg.* II 176]. Finis.

(J. Ruysschaert, *Codices Vaticani latini. Codices 11414-11709* [Vatican City, 1959] 265-266 ; *idem*, ‘Les manuels de grammaire latine composés par Pomponio Leto,’ *Scriptorium* 8 (1954) 98 n. 2 and ‘A propos des trois premières grammaires latines de Pomponio Leto,’ *Scriptorium* 15 (1961) 72).

Vatican Library, Vaticanus lat. 11532, s. XV, ff. 101-110v. The commentary, which is not complete, is written in the margins ; the text of book X is heavily glossed. There is no introduction.

[Inc.] : (f. 101) Silvinus Publius dicebatur, cui praesens opus dicavit . . . / . . . [Expl.] : (f. 110v) *Ascreum*. Apud Italos Ascrea vallis est Boeotiae in aspero loco sita, patria Hesiodi poetae qui agri culturam scripsit, unde et ipse Hesiodus ait ‘Ascrea rus miserum’ [Works and Days 639-640].

(J. Ruysschaert, *Codices Vaticani latini. Codices 11414-11709* [Vatican City, 1959] 265-266).

#### *Editions* :

[c. 1472, Rome : Adam Rot]. No author is assigned to the commentary. In comparison with the text of the c. 1480 edition (see below), the introduction in this edition has been considerably shortened, and part of the first lemma and comment is omitted. GW 7187 ; HC 5497 ; J. C. T.

Oates, *A Catalogue of the Fifteenth Century Printed Books in the University Library Cambridge* (Cambridge, 1954) 1387. Rome, Bibl. Corsiniana.

*Introduction* [Inc.] : I. Moderati Columellae hortuli commentarium incipit feliciter. Horti Hesperides (*sic*) memorabiles habentur, in quibus non poma aurea sed oleastri tantum viruerunt. Adonis vero regis et in Corcyra insula Alcinous (*sic*) Phaeacum regis horti in fabulis celebrati sunt. Reges Persarum hortorum curae intenti fuere. Tarquinius Superbus quo *<d>* horto delectatus sit, responsum excisis liliis vel papaveribus indicat. Romae vetustior usus hortorum quam villarum fuit, nam in XII tabulis horti mentio, non villarum, habetur. Signa olim Saturnica in hortis ponebantur. Tuta hortorum Veneri attributa est, nam aliqui sub deae Florae nomine fetavere.

*Commentary* : [Inc.] : <*Caelestia mella*>. Iuppiter mulierem specie pulcherrimam nomine Melissam in apem convertit. Homerus ait ex c*<r>* abronibus natas apes quas nymphae Phrixonides educaverunt . . . / . . . [Expl.] : *Ascreum*. Ascrea vallis est Boeotiae in aspero loco sita, patria Hesiodi poetae qui agri culturam scripsit, unde Hesiodus ait ‘Ascrea rus anserum’ (*sic*) [Works and Days 639-640]. Finis.

*Reprint* : [c. 1485, Rome : Bartholomaeus Guldinbeck]. GW 7188 ; HC 5494 ; BMC IV. 73 ; Goff C-765. Vatican Library.

*Reprint* : [c. 1490, Rome : Stephan Plannck]. GW 7189 ; HC 5495 ; BMC IV. 93 ; Goff C-766. (MH).

[c. 1480, Venice : D. S.]. This is the only incunabulum in which the commentary is assigned to Laetus. The introduction is very close to that in Bologna 2654. Lemmata and comments are generally fuller than their counterparts in other versions. GW 7186 ; HC 5500 ; BMC VII. 1145 ; Goff C-764. (MH).

*Introduction* [Inc.] : Iulii Pomponii Fortunati interpretatio in carminibus Columellae. Memorabiles horti in fabulis narrantur fuisse Hesperidum, in quibus non poma quidem aurea sed tantum oleastri viruerunt. Ante omnes (*sic*) vero regis et Alcinoi Nausicae puelae patris fabulis celebrati sunt. Reges Persarum hortensi curae intenti fuere. Tar-

quinius Superbus quod horto delectatus sit, responsum excisis liliis ad filium indicat. In XII tabulis horti mentio, non villarum, habetur. Epicurus primus horti magister existimatus est. Quare his exemplis principes et studiosi homines hortis incumbere non extimescant. Signa Saturnica in hortis olim posita, tutela vero eorum Veneri attributa est, cuius iucundo numine auxiliante ad interpretationem veniamus, quam ex Plinio, Varrone, Catone summa diligentia, tituli honore non deraso, excerptsimus. In prooemio relictas a P. Virgilio georgici carminis partes expleturum se fatetur. Hoc frequens petitio P. Silvinus (*sic*) exigebat urgebatque etiam facile laudis cupidum. Virgilius tamen assumendam posteris curam reliquit in haec verba [*Georg.* IV. 147-148] :

Verum haec ipse equidem spatiis exclusus iniquis

Praetereo atque aliis post memoranda relinquo.

Multum posteritati tribuit, quam adeo dignam puto (*sic*) ut agricolationis suae terminos ponat. Non ergo iniuria hoc negotium exsequendum vetus rusticationis artifex consummato iam operi (*sic*) suo mandavit. Quod liberum affert testimonium quantum colonis olitoribusque ac vinitoribus tradiderit.

#### *Commentary :*

[*Inc.*] : *Caelestia mella*. Multum Hyginus affert de origine apum poetice magis decora fabulis quam rusticorum observationi aut diligentiae. Nos tamen pro interpretatione dicemus. Aiunt mulierem specie pulcherriam nomine Melissam Iovem in apem convertisse . . . / . . . [Expl.] : Ascra oppidum et vicus in Boeotia, patria Hesiodi poetae qui versus de rusticatione composuit. Et paucos Hesiodus Ascraeus dicit ut Virgilius idem de se ait ‘Ascraeumque cano Romana per oppida carmen’ [*Georg.* II. 176].

#### *Other editions :*

1494, Bononiae (Bologna) : Impensis Benedicti Hectoris (ed. Philippus Beroaldus). With the text of Cato, Varro, Columella, Palladius, *Enarrationes brevissimae priscarum vocum* of Georgius Merula, *Exscriptiones* of Philippus Beroaldus. Ed. Bipont. I cxxxii ; HC 14568 ; BMC VI. 841-842 ; Goff S-348. BN ; (MH).

1496, Regii (Reggio Emilia) : Impensis Dionysii Bertochi. With the text of Cato, Varro, Columella, Palladius, *Enarrationes brevissimae priscarum vocum* of Georgius Merula, *Exscriptiones* of Philippus Beroaldus. Ed. Bipont. I cxxxiii ; HC 14569 ; BMC VII. 1090-1091 ; Goff S-349. BN ; (MH).

1499, Regii (Reggio Emilia) : Impensis Francisci Mazali. With the text of Cato, Varro, Columella, Palladius, *Enarrationes brevissimae priscarum vocum* of Georgius Merula, *Exscriptiones* of Philippus Beroaldus. Ed. Bipont. I cxxxiii ; HC (+ Add) 14570 ; BMC VII. 1089 ; Goff S-350. BN ; (MH).

1504. See above, Composite Editions.

1521. See above, Composite Editions.

1528, Tiguri (Zurich) : Per I. Mazochium. With the text of Cato, Varro, Columella, Palladius. Laetus' commentary has been abridged ; the notice at the beginning of book X reads : “Chalcographus lectori. Scripsit in hunc Columellae de hortis libellum Iulius Pomponius, sed est ad taedium usque longus. Proinde ne quid esset quod vel mediocris eruditionis iuvenem posset remorari, in facile coegimus compendium quae Pomponius, quae Plinius, quae denique alii haberent, quae quidem lucis quippiam possent rei addere, ne etiam in tam amoenis hortis lector tamquam veribus implicitus distraheretur. Vale.’ Adams S-809. BM ; (MH).

1529. See above, Composite Editions.

1533. See above, Composite Editions.

1543. See above, Composite Editions.

1735. See above, Composite Editions.

1773. See above, Composite Editions.

#### *Doubtful Edition :*

[Louvain : Johann von Paderborn]. GW 7186 B ; HC 5496.

#### *Biography :*

See pp. 379-83.

## 2. CURIUS LANCILLOTTUS PASIUS

This commentary, dedicated to Lorenzo de' Medici, deals only with book X. It survives in one manuscript, now in the Biblioteca Laurenziana, Florence, and, according to the colophon, was made public

in 1483. A comparison of the script with that of Modena, Biblioteca Estense Camp. lat. 415 (Gamma T. 6. 8), an autograph of Pasius (*De liberalitate*), shows that the Florence codex is also autograph. The Medici arms are found on f. 1, but these may have been added later. For his annotations Pasius depends often, but not always, on Pliny. A number of references to other books of the *De re rustica* demonstrate that he was familiar with the entire treatise. In addition to comments on mythological and botanical questions, there is some attention paid to astronomical phenomena and agricultural procedures. A poem, composed by Pasius and addressed to Lorenzo, follows the preface.

*Praefatio* : (Florence Plut. 52. 22, ff. 1-2<sup>v</sup>) Ad clarissimum Florentiae lumen Laurentium Medicen C. Lancillotti Pasii Ferrar. in hortos Columellae praefatio. [Inc.] : Credo nonnullos hoc non parum miraturos opusculum, cum in tanta virorum eruditissimorum copia, qui nostro aevo praeclarissima ingenii sui monumenta posteris tradidere, temerario quodam ac paene sacrilego conatu depromere talia ausus fuerim. Sane Laurenti, vir clarissime, diu me ac multum dubitasse fateor an haec pro *Georgicis*, Silio quoque Italico dimitterem. At post multas necnon varias curas, cum quid in hac re faciundum tandem esset mecum ipse reputarem, subit nos iampridem Maronia-nun *Culicem* legisse, *Batrachomyomachiam* pariter saepius evolvisse, nec nos inde plurimos illustrium virorum aevo suo, quamquam disciplinarum omnium florentissimo, non aliquid operibus suis humiliore materia praelusisse cognovimus. Nostra igitur praeludia, etsi nonnulli ex criticis atque malevolis haud sane doctis minimi apud te fore existiment, quem longe doctissimorum virorum corona praeclarissimis operibus inserit infinitisque celebrat et ad sidera tollit, nihilominus, qualiacumque sint, tibi, Lau(renti) virtutum splendor iucundissime, quandoquidem sit haec tui praefatio et verissima, dum maximo consenescit in patre, dicare consti-tui. Ab ineunte etenim aetate splendidissima nominis tui fama ad tuam benevolentiam captandam ita me compulit ut cunctis me potius honoris tui studiosum ostendere hoc

aevo malim quam in decorum meum retice-re . . . / . . . [Expl.] : Accipere igitur non dedigneris nostra haec praeludia, virtutum splendor. Vale.

*Introduction* [Inc.] : (f. 3) <C>olumella-rum familiam plerique urbe Roma oriundam fuisse arbitri sunt. Doctiores vero Gadi-tano municipio traxisse originem contendunt et ita esse sentimus. Quod praecepue Co-lumella nono sui operis volumine probat . . . / . . . [Expl.] : (f. 4) Haec sunt quae nobis commemoranda visa sunt priusquam opus ipsum aggrederemur eiusque expositionem.

*Commentary* : [Inc.] : (f. 4) <H>ortorum. Significatione ut Plinius decimo nono testatur volumine [*Historia naturalis* XIX. 19. 50-52] : In XII tabulis Romanarum legum villa nusquam sed hortus semper nominabatur, in horti vero heredium. Cum iam hortorum nomine in ipsa urbe delicias villasque Romani possiderent, Romae quidem hortus ager pauperis erat ; ex horto plebei macel-lum. Hortos primus Athenis Epicurus Neo-clis Atheniensis filius instituit ; usque ad eum namque moris non fuerat in oppidis habita fuisse rura . . . / . . . [Expl.] : (f. 42<sup>v</sup>) *Lenaeus*. Bacchus ; a torculari ut Diodorus [*Bibliotheca historica* III. 63. 4, IV. 5. 1] scribit. Scribit Dionysius [*Orbis descriptio* 700-703] Camaritas, qui Bacchum ab Indis revertentem suscepere, Baccho choreas circa torcularia agitare quoad spument musto, cingebanturque singuli corio induiti ex dammarum pellibus. Plures Dionysios tes-tatur Cicero [*De natura deorum* III. 23. 58]. Telos. Editum per Lancillottum Pasium Ferr. X Kalendas Octobres Mcccclxxxiii Regii.

#### *Manuscript* :

Florence, Bibl. Laurenziana Plut. 52. 22, s. XV, ff. 1-42<sup>v</sup>. (A. M. Bandinius, *Catalogus codicum latinorum Bibliothecae Mediceae Laurentianae* II [Florence, 1775] cols. 563-564 ; Fabricius, *BL* II 73).

#### *Doubtful Edition* :

X Kalendas Octobres, 1493, Regii (Reg-gio). H 12434. Copinger and Reichling give no further information on this alleged edition which has yet to be located. There are two possible explanations : either the manuscript is a copy of the printed edition and an 'X' in the date of the edition's

colophon has been omitted, or the Hain entry is based on the colophon of the Florence manuscript and '1493' is a mistake for '1483.' The colophon seems to mean that Pasius 'published,' but not necessarily 'printed' (otherwise 'impressum' would be expected) the commentary at Reggio in 1483.

*Biography :*

The exact dates of Curius Lancillottus Pasius (Curio Lancellotto Pasi) are not known, but his literary activity indicates that he was a humanist and poet laureate of the late fifteenth and early sixteenth century. He was from Ferrara and lived in Parma and also in Reggio where he had a school. Besides his commentary on the tenth book of the *De re rustica*, he commented on Persius (see below, p. 280) and wrote a number of poems. Other works include the *De veritate* (Modena Est. lat. 219 = Alpha W. 6. 3), *De liberalitate* (Modena Camp. lat. 415 = T. 6. 8), *Dactylotheca Iovis* (Vatican Library, Ottob. lat. 1957), and *De litteratura non vulgari* which was dedicated to the senate and people of Reggio and printed there in 1504.

*Bibl. :* M. E. Cosenza, *Biographical and Bibliographical Dictionary of the Italian Humanists and of the World of Classical Scholarship in Italy, 1300-1800* III (Boston, 1962) 2619; F. A. Eckstein, *Nomenclator philologorum* (Leipzig, 1871) 424; C. G. Jöcher, *Allgemeines Gelehrten-Lexicon* III (reprint, 1961) 1284 and Ergänzungsb. V (reprint, 1961) 1627; G. Tiraboschi, *Storia della letteratura italiana* VII. 4 (Milan, 1824) 2070; P. O. Kristeller, *Iter italicum* I (Leiden, 1963) 55, 371, 375, 388; R. Sabbadini, *Le scoperte dei codici latini e greci ne' secoli XIV e XV* I (Florence, 1905) 168-169; L. Thorndike, 'Some Unpublished Minor Works Bordering on Science Written in the Late Fifteenth Century' *Speculum* 39 (1964) 90-92, 93; L. Ughi, *Dizionario storico degli uomini illustri ferraresi* II (Ferrara, 1804) 100.

### 3. PHILIPPUS BEROALDUS

Beroaldus' commentary on the entire treatise was published in 1504 and was

dedicated to one of his students, Robert Fisher († 1511). According to the Dedicatory epistle, the commentary is based on his public lectures on Columella. Beroaldus' interest in the agricultural authors was of long standing, for in 1494 there had appeared at Bologna his edition of Cato, Varro, Columella, and Palladius. This edition, together with its reprints at Reggio in 1496 and 1499, contained *exscriptions* by Beroaldus; these, however, are not annotations but rather running titles placed in the margin. The 1494 edition had also promised *commentarii quae in aliis impressionibus non exstant*, a statement qualified by the reprints which assign to Beroaldus *exscriptions et commentarii*. Such claims are misleading since the only commentaries in all three incunabula are those of Julius Pomponius Laetus on book X of Columella and Antonius Codrus on the *De insitione* of Palladius, both of which had previously been printed (see p. 184 for Laetus and p. 198 in the 'Palladius' article for Codrus). Consequently only the 1504 edition is justified in asserting on its title page that it contains a hitherto unpublished commentary.

The fact that the commentary deals with the whole work indicates, on the part of its author, an attitude and approach different from that of the commentators who treat just book X. Beroaldus is principally concerned with the explication of technical terms and agricultural procedures, and the noticeably few annotations on book X are of the same nature as the rest of the commentary. His range of *auctoritates* is wide, including both classical and post-classical (e.g. Palladius, Ambrose, Jerome, Flavius Vopiscus) authors; he also refers to his earlier annotations on Pliny the Elder and Servius (see *Biography* and *Works*). Some comments attempt to resolve textual problems in the *De re rustica*.

*Dedicatory epistle :* (ed. 1504, Bononiae (Bologna) : Impensa Benedicti Hectoris) Ad clarissimum Robertum Fisherum scholasticum Britannum sive Anglicum Philippi Beroaldi Bononiensis epistula. [Inc.] : Conditores celeberrimi haud parum multi multa cum laude de rebus rusticis praecepta posteritati tradiderunt, inter quos instar sideris lucidissimi

splendicat Columella, quem velut totius rusticationis parentem maxime venerari debeamus. Nam nec elegantius nec eruditius nec copiosius quicquam de re rustica dici potest quam a Columella iam dictum est, qui totum corpus huiusce professionis adeo scite coagmentavit, adeo examussim consummavit ut nullo velut membro reciso vel tantillum mutilata consiperetur. Ego cum hoc anno memorabilia Columellae volumina publico auditorio eoque frequentissimo proferer, existimavi me facturum operae pretium si subsicvis horis quas perire non patior annotationes quasdam compendiarias in loca huius scriptoris luculenti partim obscuriora partim corruptiora componerem, quas sub tuo nomine invulgare tibique nuncupatim, mi Roberte, hac epistula dedicare constitui, nec immerito. Nam cum Britannia insularum clarissima, quam vulgo Angliam nominitant, complusculos scholasticos et splendidos et nobiles et probos ad hoc gymnasium litteratorium fere quotannis mittere consueverit, iampridem nemo te uno splendidior probior elegantior ad capiendum ingenii cultum linguamque comendam illinc hoc commigravit. Tu vitae probitate, morum honestamento, doctrinarum cupiditate agis consummatum omni ex parte scholasticum, et cum sacerdotio amplissimo praeditus sis, das operam et quidem impensam ut non minus sacerdotium tibi quam tu sacerdotio debere videaris, facisque id quod oppido quam pauci ordinis tui homines facere consueverunt cum in plerisque omnibus nihil praeter habitum sacerdotale conspiatur, cum sint indocti inculti prorsusque steriles litterarum sine quarum nitoribus squalidus sordidus tenebriscosus est sacerdos. Tu vero ornamenta doctrinarum existimans vera esse hominis ornamenta dies noctesque impendis politiori litteraturae, contubernio studiosorum delectaris. Pliniana lectio tibi pro quotidiano pabulo est, cuius adippe mens saturata pinguescit. Divi Augustini spiritualis doctrina te refovet... Itaque nobilitati familiae Fisherae, quae apud Britannos incluta est, nobilitate virtutis morumque abunde respondes, et cum summus honor sit notum tantummodo esse summis principibus, tu maximae sacratissimaeque Bri-

tannorum Reginae prope peculiariter es carus.../[Expl.]: Cape ergo, mi Roberte, hilario vultu hoc quicquid est munusculi et desideranter gusta haec nostra condimenta quae, nisi mihi amor imponit, ad tuum stomachum mire facient, quibus homo interior iucunde nec minus salubriter ali poterit. Di faxint hoc sit perpetuum mei erga te amoris monumentum, et cum fueris in genitali solo apud Lares patrios, aurem interdum vellicet commoneatque ut Beroaldi tui sis memor. Vale et dilige docorem.

*Commentary*: (ed. 1504, Bononiae (Bologna): Impensa Benedicti Hectoris) Philippus Beroaldus, *Annotationes in Columellam rusticationis conditorem luculentum*. [Inc.]: *Velut carnifici noxae dedimus*. Verbum est iurisconsultorum. Quod significat tradere servum nocentem ob noxam, id est delictum, actori iniuriarum; nam quando servus deliquerat, licebat domino deditione ipsius corporis quod deliquisset evitare litis aestimationem.../[Expl.]: *Nec canis naturam*. Videtur legendum 'canis natam' ut sit intellectus in canis hominibus et senioribus, qui longa aetate et experientia prudentiores doctioresque esse consueverunt, non tamen 'innatam' esse rerum cunctarum prudentiam quoniam nemo unus omnia potest scire. Nec cani nec rugae nec senium praestant homini absolutam ex omni parte prudentiam encyclopaediamque, hoc est orbem doctrinarum, ut dici possit vir doctissimus undecumque canus.

*Editions*:

- 1504. See above, Composite Editions.
- 1521. See above, Composite Editions.
- 1529. See above, Composite Editions.
- 1533. See above, Composite Editions.
- (\*) 1535, Lugduni (Lyons): Apud Seb. Gryphium. With the text of Cato, Varro, Columella, Palladius, *Enarrationes brevissimae priscarum vocum* of Georgius Merula. Ed. Bipont. I cxxxvi-cxxxvii; Baudrier VIII 84; Adams S-814. Cambridge University Library.
- 1536, Coloniae (Cologne): Johannes Gymnicus excud. With the text of Cato, Varro, Columella, Palladius, *Enarrationes brevissimae priscarum vocum* of Georgius Merula. Beroaldus' commentary has been put into

alphabetical order. *Ed. Bipont.* I cxxxvii ; Adams S-815. BM ; (MH ; CaOTU).

1537, Lugduni (Lyons) : Apud Seb. Gryphium. With the *Enarrationes brevissimae priscarum vocum*. Beroaldus' commentary has been put into alphabetical order. Baudrier VIII 107 ; Adams S-816. (MH).

1541, Lugduni (Lyons) : Apud Seb. Gryphium. With the *Enarrationes brevissimae priscarum vocum* of Georgius Merula. Beroaldus' commentary has been put into alphabetical order. *Ed. Bipont.* I cxxxvii-cxxxviii ; Baudrier VIII 146. (MH).

1543. See above, Composite Editions.

1543. See above, Composite Editions.

(\*) 1548, Lugduni (Lyons) : Apud Seb. Gryphium. With the *Enarrationes brevissimae priscarum vocum* of Georgius Merula. Baudrier VIII 222.

1549. Lugduni (Lyons) : Apud Seb. Gryphium. With the *Enarrationes brevissimae priscarum vocum* of Georgius Merula. *Ed. Bipont.* I cxxxix ; Baudrier VIII 231. Vatican Library.

1735. See above, Composite Editions.

1773. See above, Composite Editions.

#### *Biography :*

Philippus Beroaldus (Filippo Beroaldo), sometimes called the Elder so as to distinguish him from his nephew of the same name, was born in Bologna 7 November 1453 and died there 17 July 1505.

Of a noble family, Beroaldus studied first with local teachers and then learned Greek and Latin from Francesco Puteolano of Parma. His mother, Giovanna Casto, made the arrangements for her son's education as his father had died when Beroaldus was four years old. He progressed rapidly in his studies and in 1472 began to teach rhetoric and poetry in Bologna. Three years later he went to Parma to teach, and there he edited, with brief notes, the first book of Pliny's *Historia naturalis*. After a short stay in Milan he went to the University of Paris in 1476, attracted by its fame and reputation. He remained in Paris for approximately a year and enjoyed considerable success as a teacher. During this period he made many friends, one of whom was Robert Gaguin. Jean du Pins, the future bishop of Toulouse, was one of Beroaldus'

students and later wrote a biography of his teacher. Beroaldus' scholarly achievements prompted his native city to recall him in 1477, and his return to Italy was celebrated in a poem by Battista Spagnuoli. He taught at Bologna until his death, editing and commenting upon numerous authors and apparently enjoying life to the fullest. He counted among his friends Marcantonio Sabellico, Ermolao Barbaro, Guarino Guarini, Antonio Codro, Giovanni Pico della Mirandola, and Angelo Poliziano. Students came from all over Europe to study with him, and many of his works are dedicated to them. Towards the end of his life Beroaldus took an active role in the political life of the city and was on intimate terms with the powerful Bentivoglio family. In 1498 he married Camilla Paleotti, daughter of the famous lawyer Vincenzo Paleotti. They had four children, only one of whom, Vincenzo, survived his father.

*Works :* A chronological list of the printed works is given by K. Krautter (pp. 188-192 ; see *Bibl.*). Beroaldus wrote a number of poems and orations, and many of these were addressed to contemporaries. Among the Greek authors he edited and annotated were Aelian (Bologna, 1495/1496), Claudio Ptolemaeus (Bologna, 1477), and Philostratus (Bologna, 1501). With respect to Latin authors, he produced editions and commentaries on Apuleius (Bologna, 1500), Aulus Gellius (Bologna, 1503), Caesar (Bologna, 1503), Cicero (Paris, c. 1478), Florus (Parma, c. 1473), Frontinus (Bologna, 1495/1496), Justinus (Bologna, 1505), Lucan (Paris, 1514), Plautus (Bologna, 1500), Pliny the Elder (Parma, 1476), Pliny the Younger (Bologna, 1504), Propertius (Bologna, 1487), Sallust (Paris, c. 1478), Servius (Bologna, 1482), Solinus (Bologna, 1500), Suetonius (Bologna, 1493), Vegetius (Bologna, 1495/1496), and Virgil (Paris, 1478). Other works include the *Declamatio philosophi, medici, oratoris de excellentia disceptantium, Et libellus de optimo statu et principe* (Bologna, 1497), *Heptalogos sive septem sapientes* (Bologna, 1498), *Declamatio lepidissima ebriosi, scortatoris, aleatoris de vitijsitate disceptantium* (Bologna, 1499), *Opusculum de symbolis Pythagorae* (Bologna, 1503), and

*Opusculum de terrae motu et pestilentia* (Bologna, 1505).

Bibl.: Cosenza I 541-550; *Dizionario biografico degli Italiani* IX (Rome, 1967) 382-384 (M. Gilmore); Eckstein 43; G. Fantuzzi, *Notizie degli scrittori bolognesi* II (Bologna, 1782) 111-135; F. Hoefer, *Nouvelle biographie générale* V (Paris, 1855) 654; Jöcher I (reprint, 1961) 1028-1029; G. Mazzuchelli, *Gli scrittori d'Italia* II. 2 (Brescia, 1760) 1003-1017; M. Michaud, *Biographie universelle ancienne et moderne*, 2nd ed., IV (Paris, 1854) 97-98; J. P. Nicéron, *Mémoires pour servir à l'histoire des hommes illustres* XXV (Paris, 1734) 374-394; W. Pökel, *Philologisches Schriftstellerlexicon* (Leipzig, 1882) 22; Tiraboschi VI. 3 (Milan, 1824) 1622-1626.

Jean du Pins, *Divae Catharinae Senensis simul et clarissimi viri Philippi Beroaldi Bononiensis vita* (Bologna, 1505); Bartolomeo Bianchini, 'Vita Beroaldi,' *Commentationes conditae a Philippo Beroaldo in Suetonium Tranquillum* (Bologna, 1506); J. Paquier, *De Philippi Beroaldi Junioris vita et scriptis* (1472-1518) (Paris, 1900) 3-11, 93-96; L. Frati, 'I due Beroaldi,' *Studi e memorie per la storia dell' Università di Bologna* II (1911) 210-280; K. Krautter, *Philologische Methode und humanistische Existenz. Filippo Beroaldo und sein Kommentar zum Goldenen Esel des Apuleius* (Munich, 1971).

#### 4. JOHANNES BAPTISTA VALENTINUS CANTALICIUS

Dealing with book X, the commentary is found in ms. G. 16 in the Biblioteca Comunale Augusta, Perugia. Since the codex is not dated, the *terminus ante quem* for the composition of the Columella commentary is c. 1514, the year of Cantalicius' death. Though the annotations concern only approximately one fourth of the book, the commentary ending at line 126, they are extensive. In some instances the comments amount to no more than a few words, and consist of synonyms or brief explanations. Quite frequently, however, Cantalicius expounds at length on lemmata that involve botanical and mytho-

logical issues. His commentary is not conspicuous for quotations or allusions to other authors. Virgil and Pliny the Elder are cited several times each, and there are scattered references to Ovid, Tibullus, Persius, Hyginus, Ulpian, Claudian, and Servius. Unaware that in the manuscripts the *De arboribus* constituted book III of the *De re rustica*, Cantalicius believed that he was annotating book XI of the latter work.

*Introduction:* (Perugia G. 16, f. 95v) Cantalicii in hortulum Columellae interpretatio. [Inc.]: Columellarum familia ex municipio Gubitano (*sic*) progenita est, quod ipse testatur cum de lactuca Tartessiaca ait 'Et mea, quam generant Tartesi in litore Gades' [*De re rustica* X. 185]. Nam Tartessus urbs est in litore Hispano pro insulam (*sic*) Gades, patria ut iam diximus Columellarum, dicta a Tartaro, hoc est cavernis profundissimis quas habet. Gades autem insula est prope continentem ultra columnas Herculis, ab omni antiquitate celebrata. Iunius itaque Moderatus Columella de re rustica libros XIII scripsit prosa oratione praeter hunc undecimum quem hortatu atque rogatu Pubpii Silvini de cultu hortorum metrice composuit, cum iam decimum absolvisset, atque adeo scite adeoque copiose horti dotes numeris absolvit ut divinus poeta [*sc.* Vergilius] de Columella divinasse dici possit cum post se aliis haec memoranda relinquaret [*Georg.* IV. 148]. Cultus autem hortorum, ut ipse ad Silvinum ait, 'segnis atque neglectus quandam veteribus agricultis fuit, nunc vero vel celeberrimus' [*De re rustica* X. *praef.* 1]. [Hortorum] autem horti Hesperidum maxime celebrantur, sed in eis, ut finxere poetae, <non> poma aurea sed oleastri tantummodo viruerunt. Fabulose item horti Alcinoi regis Phaeacum in Corcyra insula celebrantur. Vetustioribus quoque Romanis maior hortorum quam villarum usus fuit, cum in XII tabulis non villarum sed hortorum mentio fiat, quorum tutelam Veneri antiquitas tribuit, quam nonnulli sub nomine Florae deae denotaverunt.

*Commentary:* [Inc.]: (f. 95v) *Hortorum quoque te cultus.* Sicut alia quae iam X libris de re rustica scripsit . . . / . . . [Expl.]: (f. 119) *nomine Graio.* Quia lepid*<i>* um

vocatur a nomine seu Graeco vocabulo 'lepis, -dos,' quod squamam, ut diximus, sive lepram sign*<i>ficat*.

*Manuscript:*

(micro.) Perugia, Bibl. Comunale Augusta G. 16, s. XVI, ff. 95v-119. (G. Mazzatinti-A. Sorbelli, *Inventari dei manoscritti delle biblioteche d'Italia* V (Forlì, 1895) 129; Kristeller, *Iter II* 56).

*Biography:*

See CTC I 227.

### 5. JOHANNES BAPTISTA PIUS

Pius dedicated his lengthy commentary on book X to his patron Bernardus Rubeus (Bernardo Rossi, † 1527), Bishop of Treviso. It was first published in 1520 at Bologna in an edition that also contained the text of book X. Unlike other commentators who treat only this book, Pius begins his annotations with the opening prose passage. The commentary is generally designed to display his erudition, for the number of quotations from both Latin and Greek authors is very large, a striking feature being the frequent occurrence of citations in Greek to illustrate or develop a point. Pius occasionally refers to his own comments on Plautus. In addition to the usual mythological and botanical explanations, some comments are of a textual and philosophical character, and there is evidence that he consulted manuscripts for disputed readings. Three poems in elegiacs, composed by Pius and addressed to Rubeus, are found at the end of the commentary.

*Dedicatory epistle:* (ed. 1520, Bononiae (Bologna): Hieronymus de Benedictis) R. in Christo Patri Domino Bernardo Rubeo Comiti Berceti, Episcopo Tarvisino, Romandiola et exarchatus Ravennae ac Bononiae etc. Vicelegato, Gubernatori et Praesidi Pius Bononiensis cliens. [Inc.]: Cum essem in Syracusano diversoriolo, maxime ac sapientissime Princeps, cuius frequenti secessu non sine Musarum comitatu uti soleo, in hortuli nostri areola Columellae libellum prope aureolum de cultu hortorum lectitabam, ut me vates elegansissimus admoneret si quid quadrus compitis herbarum deesset, quas ille describeret,

ego forte non sevissem. Inter legendum occurrere non parum multa in Iunio nostro nec satis aperta nec plana ad quae animum aliud agentem incurrire ac offendere necesse sit. Commodum cognominis admonitus mei pium laborem aggressus sum, auctorem videlicet interpretandi non satis obvium, in quo nescio quantum profecerim, num Amatheam, ut aiunt, exorientem aspexerim. Id tamen quantulumcumque tibi imprimis dicandum curavi, quem in paradiiso Palatino conspexi post curas serias et Reipublicae Bononiensis feliciter tractata gubernacula, post stata mysteria, de vivariis, perglulis, arbusculis, herbulis et reliquo hortensi mundo cogitantem, exemplo quidem Ciceronis et Diocletiani sapientissimi invictissimique imperatoris, qui, pacatis omnibus, imperii ruina umeris Atlantis sustentata, hostibus Romanis nominis sub iugum missis, reliquum aevi inter hortulos et arbusculas manu sua satas pacatissime transegit. Perinde tu Diocletiano et cunctis priscis heroibus augustior, Pater amplissime, languenti, obrutae, iacenti reipublicae Petri (ausu temerario ac prope tragico praeside Togatae Galliae trucidato, passim bacchantibus monstros horrendis, fame, sica, gladiorum licentia ac impunitate, seditionibus, furiis ac malis intestinis) umeros Herculeos obiecisti, ac fulminis instar cuncta domuisti, venisti, vidisti, vicisti. Illuxisti mox nobis sole salubri ac felici sidere patriae nostrae Prolegatus, quam moribus censoriis atque politicis, hoc est tuis, ornasti, viisque publice stratis, ex lutosa ac inaccessa, cultissimam reddisti. Inducto insuper illimi et argenteo fonte, quo et summa iucunditas et aeterna est urbi salubritas inventa . . . / . . . [Expl.]: Interim tu, generosissime ac magnificentissime Praeses, tantum cordis ac animi liberator, munusculum nostrum hilari fronte suscipito, in quo censendum nil nisi dantis amor, Piumque clientulum Rubeae familiae Italorum praeclarissimae potentissimaeque dedicatissimum pio sinu complectere. Vale.

*Introduction:* Interpretatio Johannis Baptista Pii Bononiensis in hortum poema Columellae pergraphicum. [Inc.]: Operae pretium visum est commentarios hortorum aggredientem summatim praelibare quae Pliniana maiestas super ea re disseruit,

cuius haec verba sunt posita libro undevigesimo naturalis historiae [*Historia naturalis* XIX. 19. 49-52] . . . / . . . [Expl.] : Non desit hortis et voluptas maxima multisque commixta modis iucunditas, et id genus reliqua quae sequuntur. Nunc ad institutum nostrum repedemus.

*Commentary* : [Inc.] : *Faenoris tui Silvine*. Alloquitur Silvinum Iunius, cui opus agriculturae suae dedicat et peculiariter hoc metricum hortorum poema, referens se persolvere ei quod spopondit ostenditque id non segni et sine pulvere labore esse tractandum tentandumque hoc imprimis cum nunc cibariis legibus contemptis gula dominetur, cui hortus maxime vectigalis est . . . / . . . [Expl.] : *Per oppida*. Per omnem diccionem Romanam vel proprie per Italianam. Nam auctore Servio [*In Georg. I praef.*] ad situm Romanum usque ad Venetiam Maronis praecepta pertinent, quoniam non terrae omnes omnia poscunt. Finis.

*Editions* :

(micro.) 1520, Bononiae (Bologna) : Hieronymus de Benedictis. BM ; BN ; (ICJ).

- 1529. See above, Composite Editions.
- 1533. See above, Composite Editions.
- 1543. See above, Composite Editions.
- 1735. See above, Composite Editions.
- 1773. See above, Composite Editions.

*Biography* :

See CTC II 358.

## 6. PETRUS VICTORIUS

The Roman agricultural writers were of considerable interest to Victorius, and his edition of Cato, Varro, and Columella was published at Lyons in 1541. His chief concern, however, seems to have been with the text of the first two authors. The title page of the 1541 edition specifies that Victorius devoted his efforts only to Cato and Varro (*ad veterum exemplarium fidem suae integritati restituti*), and the Dedicatory epistle to Cardinal Marcellus Cervinus emphasizes his work on them. Referring only in passing to Columella, he notes that his treatment of the *De re rustica* is summary because of the lack of manuscripts and the satisfactory state of the text. The *castigationes* to which he refers in the epistle are found in a companion

volume and constitute commentaries on all three authors ; these indicate as well that his attention was centered principally on Cato and Varro. His remarks on Columella, which cover books I, II, V, VI, VIII-X, XII, are noticeably briefer, and they deal, for the most part, with textual problems. One comment on the *De arboribus* (XXVIII. 4 *aridum si dabis, exiguius dato*) is included in the annotations on book XII.

The Dedicatory epistle given below has been taken from Victorius' 1541 edition of Cato, Varro, and Columella, and the Introduction and Commentary are from the 1542 edition of the commentaries.

*Dedicatory epistle* : (ed. 1541, Lugduni (Lyons) : Apud Seb. Gryphium) Petrus Victorius Marcello Cervino Cardinali s. [Inc.] : Post longum temporis spatium, Marcelle amplissime, reliquum tibi mei promissi persolvo. Neque tamen hoc ignavia aut negligentia feci, sed molestis occupationibus impeditus, rem plus quam voluisse differre coactus sum. Nam animum meum incredibileque satis tibi faciendi desiderium primis illis meis laboribus perspicere potuisti. Paucis enim diebus toto animo in onus a te mihi impositum incumbens, ea confeci, quae me non inertem neque immemorem mandatorum tuorum ostendere potuerunt. Secuta postea sunt tempora quae me in negotio illo, quod declinare non potui, novum atque inexercitatum ita perturbarunt ut non dico rerum tuarum oblitus sim, sed veniam mihi te daturum sperarim, si meo illi tempori inserviens curam aliquantulum distulissesem. Idem etiam me hoc facilius a te impetraturum confisus sum quod videbam te eodem tempore in publicis maximis rebus occupatum, ut si haec studia ex animo non abiecisses, necessario te remissius illis navare operam putarem. Nam subito fortuna auctus es et in eum dignitatis gradum pro multis tuis meritis elatus, quo paucis aspirare licet et quo altius ascendi nunc recte factis vix potest. Quae autem artes in tam illustri excelsoque loco collocarunt, eaedem te in honestissimis negotiis semper occupatum postea tenuerunt, ut a nobis etiam diu absfueris, ad Carolum Caesarem missus, et apud eum personam maximi pontificis gesseris . . . / . . . [Expl.] : Accesserunt tamen,

tamquam cumulus quidam, nonnulla quae in Columella emendavi, nam eum quoque scriptorem non neglexi. Quod si aut meliora ipsius exemplaria nactus essem aut ille fortasse magis emendatoris opera eguisset, plura etiam in eo restituturus fui. Totam huius mei negotii rationem in castigationibus meis explicatam invenies, nam nonnulla etiam quae aut a Graecis optimis auctoriis Terentius Varro acceperat, aut declaratione aliqua indigere videbantur, adnotavi; non pauca etiam vulnera quae sanare non potui, aperui, in quibus nunc purgandis studiosi litterarum operam ponere debebunt. Hoc ut illi facere in animum inducant et hos meos labores, qualescumque sunt, hilari vultu aspiciant, vehementer precor, nec aliam ullam mihi tantarum molestiarum mercedem posco. Nam si iudicio tuo probatus discessero, optime et ornatissime Marcellae, ab omnibus me magnifice laudatum esse non sine causa existimabo. Dat. XII Kal. Quintiles MDXLI Florentiae.

*Introduction:* (ed. 1542, Lugduni (Lyons) : Apud Seb. Gryphium) Petri Victorii in Columellae de re rustica libros castigationes. [Inc.] : Nec nulla nec multa in Columella emendavi, neque enim tantum studium in eo restituendo quantum in superioribus duobus auctoribus posui, neque tamen non conatus sum aliquid ei opis diligentia mea afferre. Quae variaverim maioris momenti hic adnotata erunt, quorum autem codicum auxilio id fecerim, nunc declarabo. Duos enim habui, quorum alter in Divi Marci bibliotheca servatur, alter ab Augustinianae familiae sodalibus, qui Divi Galli appellantur, possidetur. Priorem illum Nicolaus Nicolus, doctus et accuratus vir, sua manu exaravit, et quemadmodum suspicor e bono et vetusto exemplari exscriptis; habuit enim ille magnam librorum copiam et non paucos etiam veteres auctores suo labore et opera descriptis. Hae enim erant deliciae ipsius et in iis se rebus oblectabat. Ut copiosus autem homo et locuples, summa in hoc studio cura posita, magnam supellectilem librorum sibi comparavit, quos postea omnes Marcianae sodalitati testamento legavit. Omnibus igitur quot potuit modis studiosis litterarum prodesse voluit, nam dum vixit totum paene in libris emendis

patrimonium effudit, et moriens, ut eorumdem usibus paterent, in publico loco ipsos collocavit curaeque honestissimorum ac diligentissimorum hominum mandavit. Posterior liber in ampla quondam et ipse bibliotheca servabatur, quam aedificarat et plurimis antiquis monumentis referserat Laurentius Medices, splendidus et illustris vir, extra portam quam Divi Galli vulgo appellant, unde etiam sodales, qui sacellum ab eodem ibi magnifice erectum procurabant, vocati erant. Aedes autem sacra et praeclera illa sedes librorum superiore bello eversa est, quod saluti civium (valde enim moenibus urbis propinqua erat) officere posse videbatur. Multitudo tamen librorum ab iisdem intra urbem receptis custoditur; non tamen ut antea explicati sunt, sed in arcis quibusdam servantur. Inde igitur deprompsi antiquissimum Columellae volumen litteris, quas Longobardas appellant, exaratum. Quaecumque autem in hoc scriptore menda correxi, auxilio horum duorum exemplariorum correxi, quae fortasse si accuratius pertractarentur, possent etiam aliis maculis delendis auxilio esse. Non tamen illa adeo fidelia inveni ut sine aliis confirmationibus auctoritatem eorum sequitum esse iudicarim.

*Commentary :*

[Inc.] : οὐδ' ἀν βοῦς ἀπόλοιτ' εἰ μὴ γείτων κακὸς εἴη. Heraclides Ponticus, disertus vir magnusque philosophus, Περὶ πολιτεῶν scripsit, nam hoc etiam significavit Cicero, cum in epistula ad Quintum fratrem [III. 6. 1] de iudicio Sallustii loquens, quod de suis de republica libris faciebat, inquit ‘Praesertim cum essem, non Heraclides Ponticus, sed consularis’; ille enim quamvis de republica administranda accurate scripsisset, in publicis rebus versatus numquam fuerat . . . / . . . [Expl.] : *Orbiculata Caesiana*. In excusis olim ‘Sestiana.’ ‘Caesiana’ in vetustis inveni, nam ita quoque in titulo scriptum erat. Hic enim aliud capituli principium est, ita inscriptum ‘De malis Caesianis, orbiculatis, melimelis, Matianis.’ Unde etiam facilius credi potest hanc veram esse lectionem.

*Manuscript :*

Vatican Library, Reginensis lat. 1502, s. XVI, ff. 248v-256. (Kristeller, Iter II 403).

*Editions :*

(\*) 1541, Lugduni (Lyons) : Apud Seb. Gryphium. Baudrier VIII 153.

1542, Lugduni (Lyons) : Apud Seb. Gryphium. *Ed. Bipont.* I cxxxviii ; Baudrier VIII 169. BM.

1543, See above, Composite Editions.

1735. See above, Composite Editions.

1773. See above, Composite Editions.

*Biography :*

See CTC II 35-36.

II. *De arboribus*

## COMMENTARY

## 1. PHILIPPUS BEROALDUS

In the manuscripts the *De arboribus* appears as the third book of the *De re rustica* and is accordingly treated as such by Beroaldus, whose commentary was first published in 1504. It was not until the 1514 Aldine edition of Columella that the *De arboribus* was recognized to be a separate work. As in the case of the annotations on the *De re rustica* (see p. 000), his aim is the explication of technical terms and agricultural methods. Both commentaries are generally found in later editions.

*Dedicatory epistle* : see p. 000.

*Commentary* : ed. 1504, Bononiae (Bologna) : Impensa Benedicti Hectoris) [Inc.] : *Qui vineam vel arbustum.* Veteres rei rusticæ scriptores arbustum peculiariter appellant arbores vitibus maritatas, unde et arbustum vinum dictum quod in arbusto progignitur. Plinianum verbum [*Historia naturalis* XVII. 35. 201] est arbustare agros, quod significat arbustum in agris facere et arbores idoneas vitibus maritare. Aevo teste iudicatur nobilia vina in arbustis gigni, et laudatiora in summis, uberiora in imis. Vites enim maxime gaudent arboribus quia naturaliter in sublime procedunt. Sicut territorium nostrum paene totum arbustis consitum mira pulchritudine nec minori uvarum largitate spectatur . . . / . . . [Expl.] : *Plantas hornotinas.* Ab horno hornotinus fit, ut a prisco pristinus auctore Prisciano [*Institut. gramm.* II. 10. 60], et pro re annua sive ipsius anni accipitur. Dixit Horatius [*Carmina* III. 23. 3-4] 'Si ture placaris et horna fruge Lares,' Cato [*De re rustica* XVII. 2] 'Hornotinae nuces virides sunt.'

*Edition :*

With the exception of the 1521 and a 1543 (Apud Michaelem de la Guierche) edition, the editions listed pp. 187-88 contain Beroaldus' commentary on the *De arboribus* as well as his commentary on the *De re rustica*.

*Biography :*

See pp. 188-89.