DENNIS P. KEHOE

The Economics of Agriculture on Roman Imperial Estates in North Africa

VANDENHOECK & RUPRECHT IN GÖTTINGEN

Contents

Preface	ix
List of Abbreviations	xiii
Мар	xvii
I. INTRODUCTION: IMPERIAL ESTATES AND PRODUCTION FOR THE	
ROMAN MARKET	1
a) Geography and History of the Bagradas Valley	7
b) Imperial Estates and a Market Economy	12
c) Previous Analyses of the Coloni	20
II. THE EVIDENCE FOR LAND TENURE IN THE BAGRADAS VALLEY	28
a) The Henchir-Mettich Inscription	29
b) The Aïn-el-Djemala and Aïn-Wassel Inscriptions	55
c) The Souk-el-Khmis Inscription and the Petitions to Commodus	64
d) Conclusion	69
III. INVESTMENT BY COLONI	71
a) Resources of the Coloni	71
b) The Cultivation of Vines	100
c) The Cultivation of Subseciva	103
d) Economic Goals of the Coloni	105
e) The Economic Leverage of the Coloni	112
IV. THE CONDUCTORES AND MANAGEMENT	117
a) Management of Estates in Italy	117
b) The Conductores as Managers	123
c) The Incentives of the Conductores	127
d) Leverage against the Coloni	140
e) Conflicts between the Coloni and the Conductores	146
V. SHARE RENT, RISK AND MANAGEMENT	154
a) Tenancy and Production	154
b) The Economics of Sharecropping	155
c) Sharecropping on the Imperial Estates in the Bagradas Valley	163
d) Sharecropping and Productivity	177
e) The Conductores and Sharecropping	182

viii Contents

/I. COMMUNAL STRUCTURES AND THE ECONOMY OF THE IMPERIAL ESTATES	188
b) Civic Centers on Estates	202
c) Imperial Domains in Mauretania Caesariensis	205
d) Estates and Markets	215
e) Communal Structure and the Exploitation of an Estate	220
VII. THE EXPLOITATION OF A PROVINCE APPENDIX. THE SIZES OF FARMS OCCUPIED BY THE COLONI	224
	229
BIBLIOGRAPHY	235
Index of Ancient Sources	253
Canaral Inday	266