

Impressions of plant material on fired clay from a Roman kiln at Lakenheath,Suffolk (LKH 061)

The fired clay samples received for examination are thin irregular plates up to about 1.5 cm. thick. The flat surfaces of these plates are covered with impressions of plant material, but very few impressions are visible on fractured surfaces. Latex casts were made of impressions on the outer surfaces only.

Impressions of grass or cereal culm (c. 4mm. diameter) and leaf fragments are common. The remaining impressions are of cereal and grass spikelet fragments. No impressions of caryopses are visible. Unfortunately only a small proportion of these impressions could be identified since few show distinctive diagnostic features. The following identifications were made:

<u>Triticum spelta</u>	glumes	} Spelt wheat
<u>Triticum</u> cf. <u>spelta</u>	spikelet	
<u>Triticum</u> cf. <u>dicoccum</u>	glumes	Emmer wheat?
c.f. <u>Avena</u> sp.	floret	Oats?

No attempt has been made to quantify the results but 'glume wheat' spikelet fragments apparently predominate.