

Report 1753

Report sent
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Feltwell, Norfolk

The following marine shells, all probably human food debris, were identified from this Roman villa.

Lab. no.

620952	<u>Ostrea edulis</u> Linne', Oyster	1 valve
620953	<u>Ostrea edulis</u> Linne'	1 valve
645201	<u>Ostrea edulis</u> Linne'	2 valves
645202	<u>Mytilus edulis</u> Linne', Mussel	1 valve

The species of oyster, Ostrea edulis, is the 'Common European Oyster' which, as far as is known, is the only oyster to have lived around the British shores or to have been imported into Britain in Roman times. It is virtually impossible to define the source since the shells vary enormously according to their habitat conditions.

J.G. Evans