

27. Leontius to Theodosius III (695-717).

Leontius (695-698).

Constantinople; 20 nummi.

MIB 33 (695-698). No obverse legend.

Bust facing, bearded, wearing crown with cross and loros and holding globus cruciger; cross in left field.

K, A to right and beneath.

27.1
Regnal year 1 (A;
695/6).
Officina A.
D. O. - .
3.94 gms. 000.
1382.08.¹



Syracuse; 40 nummi.

MIB 36 (695-698). No obverse legend.

Bust facing, bearded, wearing crown with cross and loros and holding akakia and globus cruciger. M, monogram above, SCL below.

27.2.*
D. O. (17).
3.54 gms. 180.
1632.12.²

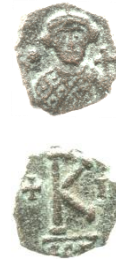


Syracuse; 20 nummi.

MIB - (695-698). No obverse legend.

Bust facing, bearded, wearing crown with cross and loros and holding akakia and globus cruciger. K between † and I, SCL below.

27.3.
D. O. - .
2.43 gms. 180.
634.99.



Syracuse; 10 nummi.

MIB - (695-698). No obverse legend.

Bust facing wearing crown and robe (possibly a loros) and holding akakia in right hand.

I between † and I; mint mark below.

27.4.*
D. O. - .
4.46 gms. 180.
1427.08.³



Tiberius III Apsimar (698-705).

Constantinople; 40 nummi.

MIB 73 (698-701). (DCIBER) IUSPEA (blundered).

Armoured bust facing wearing crown with cross and holding spear across body.

M, regnal year to right, officina letter beneath, CON below.

27.5.
Regnal year 1 (698/9).
Officina B.
D. O. 8b.
6.33 gms. 030.
951.04.



Tiberius III Apsimar (698-705); Constantinople.

MIB 74 (701-702). Obverse legend illegible.

Standing figure wearing military uniform and holding globus cruciger and long cross.

M, regnal year 4 (Δ ; 701/2) to right, officina letter beneath, **CON** below.



27.6.
Officina Γ .
D. O. 11c.
3.50 gms. 180.
1982.13.⁴



Constantinople; 20 nummi.

MIB 76 (701-702). Obverse legend illegible.

Standing figure wearing military uniform and holding globus cruciger and long cross.

K, regnal year 4 (Δ ; 701/2) to right, officina letter beneath.



27.7.*
Officina Γ .
D. O. - .
3.40 gms. 030.
1450.09.⁵

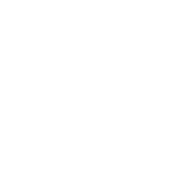


Syracuse; 40 nummi.

MIB 79 (698-700). No obverse legend.

Armoured bust facing wearing crown with cross and holding spear across body; star in right field.

M between palms, monogram above, **SCL** below.



27.10.
Officina **B**.
D. O. 126.
2.86 gms. 180.
191.87.



27.8.
D. O. 32.
5.78 gms. 180.
359d.90.



MIB 80 (700-705). No obverse legend.

Standing figure wearing military uniform and holding globus cruciger and long cross.

M between \dagger and \dagger , monogram above, star beneath, [**SCL**] below.



27.9.
D. O. 83.
3.26 gms. 180.
1942.13.



Justinian II; second reign (705-711).

Constantinople; 40 nummi.

MIB 43 (705-706).
 Θ NIUSTINIANVSETTIBERIVSP (fragmentary).

Facing busts of Justinian and Tiberius each wearing crown with cross and chlamys; patriarchal cross on globe, inscribed **PAX**, between them.

M, regnal year 21 ($X/X/I$; 705/6) to right, officina letter beneath, **CON** below.



Justinian II; second reign (705-711).

Syracuse; 40 nummi.

MIB 49, var. (706-707). No obverse inscription.

Standing figure wearing crown with cross and chlamys and holding long cross and globus cruciger.

M, monogram above, **€** beneath, **SCL** below.



27.11.*

D. O. 59, var.

6.33 gms. 180.

471.95.



Philippicus Bardanes (711-713).

Syracuse; 40 nummi.

MIB 24 (711-713). No obverse legend.

Standing figure wearing crown with cross and patterned robe and holding trident and globus cruciger.

M between stars, monogram above, **SCL** below.



27.12.

D. O. - .

3.06 gms. 180.

464.94.



Anastasius II Artemius (713-715).

Constantinople; 20 nummi.

MIB 29 (713-715). Obverse legend illegible.

Facing bust wearing crown with cross and chlamys and holding globus cruciger.

K; regnal year to right, officina letter beneath.

27.13.

Regnal year 1 (713/4).

Officina **B**.

D. O. - .

2.13 gms. 180.

1381.08.⁶



Theodosius III of Adramytium (715-717).

Syracuse; 40 nummi.

MIB 16 (715-716). No obverse legend.

Facing bust in three-quarter profile wearing crown and loros, holding spear behind head and globus cruciger.

M between palms, monogram above, **Θ** beneath, **SCL** below.



27.14.

D. O. (9).

2.76 gms. 180.

1633.12.⁷

REFERENCES AND GENERAL NOTES

The dating of issues of the Syracusan coins of Leontius (27.2-4).

During this reign the Constantinople mint used Greek letters to identify the regnal year. Syracusan folles are not dated and before the publication of 27.3 (see Mansfield, S. J., A new coin of the Byzantine Emperor Leontius, Numismatic Circular, November 1999) no fractions were known for the mint. (A second half follis specimen has now been identified.) The article, following the pattern of minting at Constantinople, took the date arrangement I to be regnal year one (695/6) on the assumption that Syracuse might be less likely to use Greek letters. The possibility that it represents indictional year 10 (696/7) is, to some extent, reinforced by the new dekanummium at 27.4. The latter coin was described in the sale catalogue as a dekanummium of Constantine IV although the flan makes this unlikely. Its attribution to Leontius is speculative. There is no

sign of the transverse spear characteristic of the coinage of Constantine; rather, the Emperor seems to be holding an insignium raised in his right hand and may be wearing a loros. The symbol to the right of the denominational mark seems to be the small digit I rather than a K. The mint mark is mostly off flan and the attribution to Syracuse rests mainly on the iconographical similarities to the half follis (27.3). Its high weight is a problem. The case for regnal or indictional years is well balanced. It would be surprising if the coinage of the new reign was, for unknown reasons, postponed until 696/7. On the other hand, the use of Greek letters by the Syracuse mint to represent the indictional year occurred towards the end of the first reign of Justinian II (685-695). Until this uncertainty can be resolved, it seems preferable not to attach a specific date of striking to either of the specimens in this catalogue.

Each of the Syracusan coins catalogued here bears on its reverse a monogram. In all cases, these are the personal monograms of the Emperor and it has not been thought necessary to reproduce their form.

27.7. The reading of the third officina is probably correct. The officina is not listed in MIB (76) but a specimen was sold as part of the Hunt collection (Sotheby's, New York, 21 June 1991, ex lot 216).
27.11. D. O. gives this coin to the first reign of Justinian II. Hahn (in MIB) suggests that the € represents indictional year 5 (706/7), falling during the second reign. Lacking the stars normally flanking the denominational mark M, this coin appears to be a variant of MIB 49.

¹ Morton and Eden, 11-12 June 2008, lot 1287; Carroll F. Wales collection.

² Baldwins, September 2012.

³ Morton and Eden, London, 11 December 2008, ex lot 469; Carroll F. Wales collection.

⁴ Baldwins, November 2013.

⁵ Baldwins, July 2009.

⁶ Herbert Grun sale no. 46, Heidelberg, November 2006, ex lot 260; Dennewald-Pescatore collection.

⁷ Baldwins, September 2012.