The expansion of agricultural production in late Iron Age and Roman Britain.

Authors: Van der Veen, Marijke O'Connor, Terry

First Published: 15-Jan-1998

Publisher: English Heritage

Citation: Science in archaeology : an agenda for the future / edited by Justine Bayley, pp. 127-143.

Abstract: The late Iron Age and Roman period saw the creation of settlements not primarily involved in agricultural production, and this development is linked to an expansion of agriculture. We identify several different types of expansion, each leaving a distinct archaeological imprint. Both the process of adoption or rejection of new strategies and the choice of strategy are directly influenced by factors such as availability of land and labour and the social position of the farmer. The growing regionalisation of the country during the period concerned reflects variations in these factors across the country. We suggest that the identification and analysis of this regional diversity should be a key area for research during the next ten years, and that environmental archaeology needs to apply an analytical and explanatory approach to this problem while, at the same time, becoming more embedded within explanatory frameworks for social change.

ISBN: 1850746931

http://hdl.handle.net/2381/9560

Type: Book chapter

Rights: © English Heritage and the individual authors.

Description: Metadata only entry

Appears in Collections: Books & Book Chapters, School of Archaeology and Ancient History

Files in This Item:

There are no files associated with this item.
were a key export from Britain around this time. From around 100 BC, people in south-eastern England began to practise new funerary rites, similar to those of north-western France. In Britain and Ireland the Iron Age lasted from about the 7th century BC until the Roman conquest and until the 5th century in non-Romanised parts such as Scotland and Ireland. This period is also called the era of "Celtic Britain" as opposed to Roman Britain or the later Anglo-Saxon England.

Attempts to understand the human behaviour of the period have traditionally focused on the geographic position of the islands and their landscape, a