

Addendum/Errata 04/07
ANCIENT SCALE
WEIGHTS
and Pre-Coinage Currency
of the Near East
By David Hendin

This document appends and corrects the first edition of this book. The principal problem requiring this release was the inadvertent omission of Appendix C and the incorrect naming of the subsequent indices. These and other typographical errors are noted and corrected herein in a page-by-page order. This document will be revised and updated from time to time, and it will appear at my website at

www.amphoracoins.com



(Special thanks to the following after-the-fact proofreaders who have been kind enough to let me know about these errors and/or omissions: Isadore Goldstein, Oliver Hoover, Petr Vesely.)

Page 70, paragraph 4, line 5, should read (13.6 x 50=680).

Page 77, table correcting lines for Talent, $\frac{3}{4}$ shekel, and $\frac{2}{3}$ shekel.

Babylonian Weight System, 2nd Millennium BC (adapted after Powell 1979: 106)

<u>Denomination</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Per Mina</u>	<u>Per Shekel</u>	<u>Barleycorns</u>
Talent	30.24 kg	1/60	<u>1/3600</u>	640,000
Mina	504 grams	1	1/60	10,800
Shekel	8.4 grams	60	1	180
$\frac{3}{4}$ shekel	6.3 grams	80	<u>1 1/3</u>	135
$\frac{2}{3}$ shekel	5.6 grams	90	<u>1 1/2</u>	120
$\frac{1}{2}$ shekel	4.2 grams	120	2	90
$\frac{1}{3}$ shekel	2.8 grams	180	3	60
$\frac{1}{4}$ shekel	2.1 grams	240	4	45
$\frac{1}{5}$ shekel	1.68 grams	300	5	36
$\frac{1}{6}$ shekel	1.4 grams	360	6	30
$\frac{1}{8}$ shekel	1.05 grams	480	8	22 1/2
$\frac{1}{10}$ shekel	0.84 grams	600	10	18
$\frac{1}{12}$ shekel	0.7 grams	720	12	15
$\frac{1}{24}$ shekel	0.35 grams	1,114	24	7.5
1 barleycorn	0.046 grams	18,000	180	1

Page 86, table correcting Nezefer and Pym per shekel.

Judean Weight Table

<u>Denomination</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Per Talent</u>	<u>Per Mina</u>	<u>Per Shekel</u>
Talent	34.2 kg	1		
Mina	570 g	60	1	
Shekel	11.40	3000	50	1
Nezefer	9.12 g	3750	62.5	<u>1 1/4</u>
Pym	7.60 g	4500	75	<u>1 1/2</u>
Beqa	5.70 g	6000	100	2
Gerah (20)	0.57 g	60000	1000	20
Gerah (24)	0.48 g	71250	1187.5	24

Page 99, chart two corrected.

Roman Provincial Weight System (based on Schilbach 1970)

Mina	570 g	1						
Libra	285 g	2	1					
<u>Uncia</u>	<u>23.75 g</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>1</u>					
<u>Sicilicus</u>	<u>5.93 g</u>		<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>				
<u>Numisma</u>	<u>3.95 g</u>		<u>6</u>	<u>1.5</u>	<u>1</u>			
<u>Drachma</u>	<u>2.96 g</u>		<u>8</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1 1/3</u>	<u>1</u>		
<u>Scripulum</u>	<u>0.98 g</u>		<u>24</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>Obol</u>	<u>0.49 g</u>		<u>48</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

Page 106, Appendix C should be Appendix D.

Page 107, Appendix D should be Appendix E.

Appendix C was inadvertently omitted during a production stage. It can be found on page 4 of this Addendum/Errata.

Page 139, 20 should read: (11.63 g = 1 1/2 shekels of 7.74 g).

Page 155, 112 should read: (5.59 g = shekel of 8.4 g).

Page 172, Line 5, "includean" should be "including."

Page 174, 191 should be (91 g = 8 shekels of 11.38 g or 10 qedet of 9.1 g).

Page 175, 193 should be (55.8 g = 5 shekels of 11.43 g or 6 qedet of 9.30 g).

Page 181, 217 should be (76.6 g = 7 shekels of 10.94 g).

Page 195, 287 is a weight of Tyre or Berytus.

Page 196, revised description for 289:

289. 1/16 mina (?) Laodicia ad Mare (86.8 g = mina of 1389 g, since that mass is 3 times the usual range for a mina, this could also possibly equal 4 uncia of 21.7 g although the 1/16 remains unexplained); lead triangle with raised edge and tabs at apex and center of base, **E/ KK/ ΔE/ KATON** (1/16), and around central raised circle containing **AI** (year 11 of the city's Caesarean era beginning 38/7 B.C.E. thus 27/6 B.C.E.), reverse: irregular pentagon with star of 7 rays: 69.5 x 54.9 x 8.4 mm; Haj Jabbar, Jerusalem Old City 1990. cf. Qedar 1983: 27 for light standard of 1st century C.E.

Page 202, 302 is a weight of Tyre or Tripolis.

Page 213, Coin is Valentinian III (425-455 CE), not Theodosius I.

Appendix C—Hematite Sphendonoid Weights

This is a list of weights, in grams, of a group of 147 weights purchased together in 1980 in London. It seems likely that they were all found in the same general area. Only a representative group has been shown in the catalog, the remainder are quite similar, and are all listed here (including those from the catalog, with catalog number in parenthesis.)

41.48 (10)	8.19	4.22	2.12
41.14	8.13	4.20	2.11
40.63	8.12	4.18 (34)	2.09
40.24 (11)	8.12	4.16	2.09
25.44 (14)	8.04	4.14	1.87
24.88 (15)	7.96	4.13 (35)	1.80 (47)
24.82	6.74 (26)	4.11	1.78
17.07	6.44	4.03	1.68
16.91	5.98	4.03	1.67
16.26 (18)	5.92	4.01	1.63
13.55 (19)	5.72	3.98 (37)	1.58 (48)
11.63 (20)	5.71	3.32	1.52
10.09	5.71	3.28	1.51
9.36	5.62	3.15	1.49
9.02	5.61 (30)	3.14 (38)	1.46
8.89	5.57	3.07 (39)	1.45
8.86	5.57	3.06	1.43
8.74	5.55	3.02	1.42
8.57	5.52	2.99	1.38 (49)
8.54	5.51	2.98	1.36
8.51	5.50	2.93	1.35
8.48	5.49	2.91	1.34
8.45	5.47	2.89	1.17
8.44	5.45	2.89	1.15
8.42	5.40	2.86	1.06
8.40	5.37	2.84	1.00 (50)
8.38 (22)	5.37	2.74	0.93 (51)
8.37	5.27	2.71	0.86
8.36 (23)	4.98	2.68	0.86
8.33	4.66	2.67	0.75
8.33	4.48	2.40 (42)	0.63
8.32	4.43 (31)	2.40 (43)	0.59
8.27	4.25	2.34 (44)	0.56 (52)
8.27	4.25	2.29	0.56
8.27	4.25	2.20	0.55
8.20	4.24	2.15	0.51
8.19 (24)	4.23	2.15	