

Natural Wealth and Natural Goods in Epicureanism

Post by “Kalosyni” of August 14, 2022 at 8:13 AM

Here is an interesting excerpt from the above article that [Don](#) posted, which says that Epicureanism appealed to all walks of life:

Quote

Unlike the Stoics, moreover, whose philosophical ideal was extreme enough to elicit playful sarcasm from Horace (cf. Ep. 1.1.106-108), Epicurus' universal invitation to philosophy (Arr. 4.122.1-11) **effectively attracted Romans from all walks of life**, including, as Cicero notes, respectable but uneducated rustics like Ofellus. As a matter of fact, Epicurus even states that, like Ofellus, the sage will be 'fond of the countryside' (φιλαγρήσειν, Arr. 1.120a.2) and will closely associate the practice of philosophy with economic matters (Γεῖν ἅμα δεῖ καὶ φιλοσοφεῖν καὶ οἰκονομεῖν, 'One must laugh and philosophize and manage one's economic affairs', Arr. 6.41). One may reasonably wonder, therefore, whether this connection influenced Horace's choice to portray his sage as a country-dwelling local whose advice is economic in nature...