

Dating the Works of Epicurus

Post by “Eikadistes” of October 26, 2024 at 11:01 PM

While we can't date the more popular publications, Philodemus provides an **unusually-well-documented** list of Epistles, dated per each Archon. [Clay preserves this list \(51-54\)](#):

(forgive the formatting errors)

YEAR/S - **Archon Name**

- **Epistle No.** Common name (reference).

307/6 - **Anaxikrates**

The date of Epicurus' move to Athens, Diogenes Laertius, X.2.)

300/299 - **Hegemachos**

- **No. 1.** Peri phuseos Book XV (Arrighetti, p. 292).

296/5 - **Nikias**

- **No. 2. Peri phuseos** Book XXVIII (Arrighetti, p. 321).

- **No. 3.** A letter written eri Nikíov, Philodemus, On Epicurus II, fr. 1.7 (Vogliano, p. 59).

294/3 - **Olympiodoros**

- **No. 4.** A letter to a person unknown, from Philodemus, Πραγμα XIV.11

292/1 - **Philippos**

- **No. 5.** A letter to Polyainos and Leonteus of Lampsakos on the Stoics in Athens, Pap.Herc. 176, fr. 5, XXIV. 14-15 (Vogliano, p. 50; Arrighetti, [67]).

- **No. 6.** To Themista of Lampsakos reporting on the young Pythokles, Philodemus, Πρα MOTEiaL IV.8-10 (Arrighetti, [501]).

- **No. 7.** To friends in Lampsakos on poverty, Philodemus, On Wealth XXXV.38 (Tepedino Guerra, p. 67; Arrighetti, [96]).

291/0 - **Charinos**

- **No. 8.** Letters sent to Polyainos, Charino magistratu, Seneca, Epistulae 18.9 (Arrighetti, [831]).

- **No. 9.** A letter to Polyainos, Philodemus, On Epicurus, fr. 5.1 (Vogliano, p. 65; Arrighetti [841]).

- **No. 10.** A letter to a person unknown, Philodemus, On Piety, Pap. Herc. 1098, X. 12 (Gomperz, p. 125; Arrighetti, [106] [lines 938-939 Obbink]).

- **No. 11.** To a person unknown, Philodemus, On Piety, Pap. Herc. 1077, X.1 (Gomperz, p. 105; Arrighetti, [107] [lines 840-841 Obbink]).

- **No. 26.** To Mithres, Philodemos, Maya XXIX. 17 (Diano, p. 15; Arrighetti, [75]).

274/3 **Euboulos**

- **No. 27.** To Idomeneus of Lampsakos, Philodemos, Πραυζατ XXVI.14 (Diano, p.12; Arrighetti, [601]).

- **No. 28.** To Mithres on frugality, Philodemos. Πραυατῖα XXX.16-17 (Diano, p. 16; Arrighetti, [76]).

- **No. 29.** To a person unknown, asking for somebooks of Demokritos, Philodemos, adv. [Sophistas], fr. 13 (Sbordone 1947, p. 75; Arrighetti, [113]).

271/0 **Pytharatos**

- **No. 30.** To Mithres on his approaching death, Philodemos, Πραυατῖα XXXI.3-4 (Diano, p. 17; Arrighetti, [77])

I note that Epicurus maintained a correspondence with Mithres for over two decades.