

Happy Twentieth!

Post by "Don" of January 20, 2024 at 9:43 AM

I always like to go back to Philodemus's epigram inviting Piso to the 20th celebration in Herculaneum on this day:

αὔριον εἰς λιτὴν σε καλιάδα, φίλτατε Πείσων,
ἔξ ἑνάτης ἔλκει μουσοφιλῆς ἔταρος,
εἰκάδα δειπνίζων ἐνιαύσιον: εἰ δ' ἀπολείψεις
οὔθατα καὶ Βρομίου χιογενῆ πρόποσιν,
ἄλλ' ἑτάρους ὄψει παναληθέας, ἄλλ' ἑπακούση
Φαιήκων γαίης πουλὺ μελιχρότερα:
ἦν δέ ποτε στρέψης καὶ ἐς ἡμέας ὄμματα, Πείσων,
ἄξομεν ἐκ λιτῆς εἰκάδα πιστότερην.

And, yes, it is udders οὔθατα and wine from the island of Chios Βρομίου χιογενῆ:

"During the Hellenistic period, the island also had become the largest exporter of Greek wine, which was noted for being of relatively high quality (see "Chian wine"). Chian amphoras, with a characteristic sphinx emblem and bunches of grapes, have been found in nearly every country with whom the ancient Greeks traded. These countries included Gaul, Upper Egypt, and Southern Russia" (Wikipedia)

You can find ancient recipes online for udders if y'all would like to try those.