**Title:** The velocity of ovis in prehistoric times: the sheep bones from Early Neolithic Lameiras, Sintra, Portugal

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**Abstract:** Excavations at Early Neolithic and Late Neolithic Lameiras near Sintra in Portugal have uncovered numerous caprine bones. Many, including milk teeth, humeri, metapodials, calcanea, astragali and terminal phalanges, can be securely identified using well established morphological criteria and osteometrical differences on metacarpal condyles and astragali. Radiocarbon dates on some of these sheep bones indicate their presence in southern Portugal around 5,450 cal BC which is the beginning of the Early Neolithic in this region. It is possible that the change from hunting to husbanding occurred rapidly. Current evidence from the Near East, the region whence our domesticated sheep came, indicates a date of domestication there that is some three thousand years earlier. In other words sheep coming overland must have travelled quite rapidly – perhaps too rapidly – and so it seems likely that livestock were being shipped already in the Neolithic.

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The early management of cattle (Bos taurus) in Neolithic central Anatolia. Antiquity, Vol. 83, Issue. 321, p. 669. Aşıklı Hüyük, a large Aceramic Neolithic mound in the Melendizsuyu valley, some 25 km. SE of Aksaray (prov. The obsidian industry suggested a date earlier than Çatal Hüyük East, and this was confirmed by a series of five 14C dates between 7008±130 bc and 6661±108 bc (using the 5568±30 yr half-life) (Todd 1968, Stuckenrath and Lawn 1969). The site is therefore of great interest, being one of the earliest mound sites in Turkey. Its size (c. 250 m. across and 8 m. in height) suggests a lengthy permanent settlement; its location is well-suited for agriculture and animal husbandry (Todd 1980). Export citation Request permission. These Neolithic megalithic tombs are concentrated along the Atlantic coastal areas, stretching from the Mediterranean to Scandinavia, including the British Isles and regions in the northern European plain (28), but also in southern France, northern Italy, and on the Islands of Corsica and Sardinia (Fig. Map of Europe with megalithic burial sites (red squares) and nonmegalithic sites (red circles) from this study, and comparative published data from megalithic sites (black squares) sequenced to date in Europe (Dataset S1.3). The date range represents the 95% CI of available samples from these sites, except for La Mina in Spain. Blue shading represents the estimated distribution of early megalithic burials.