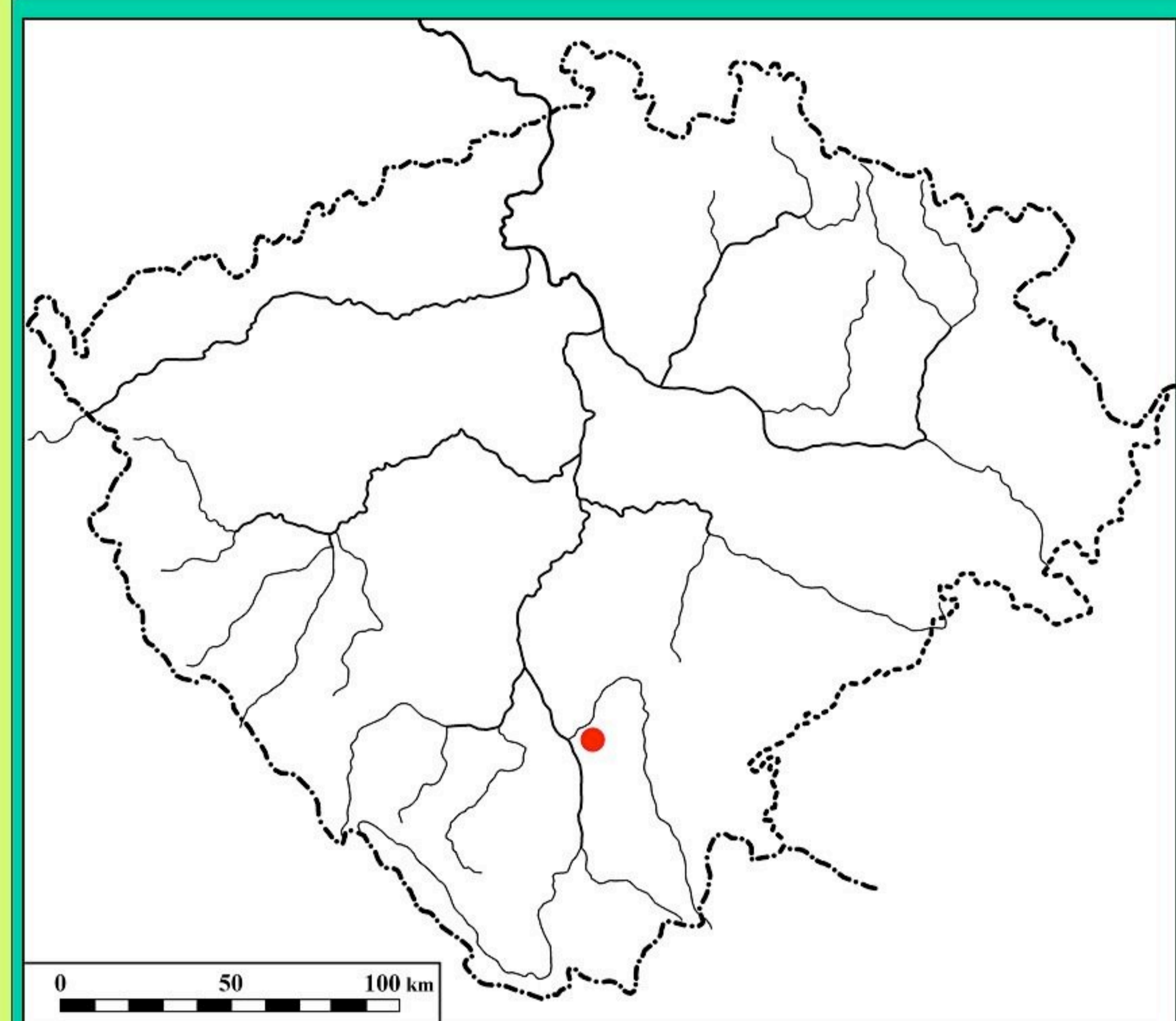


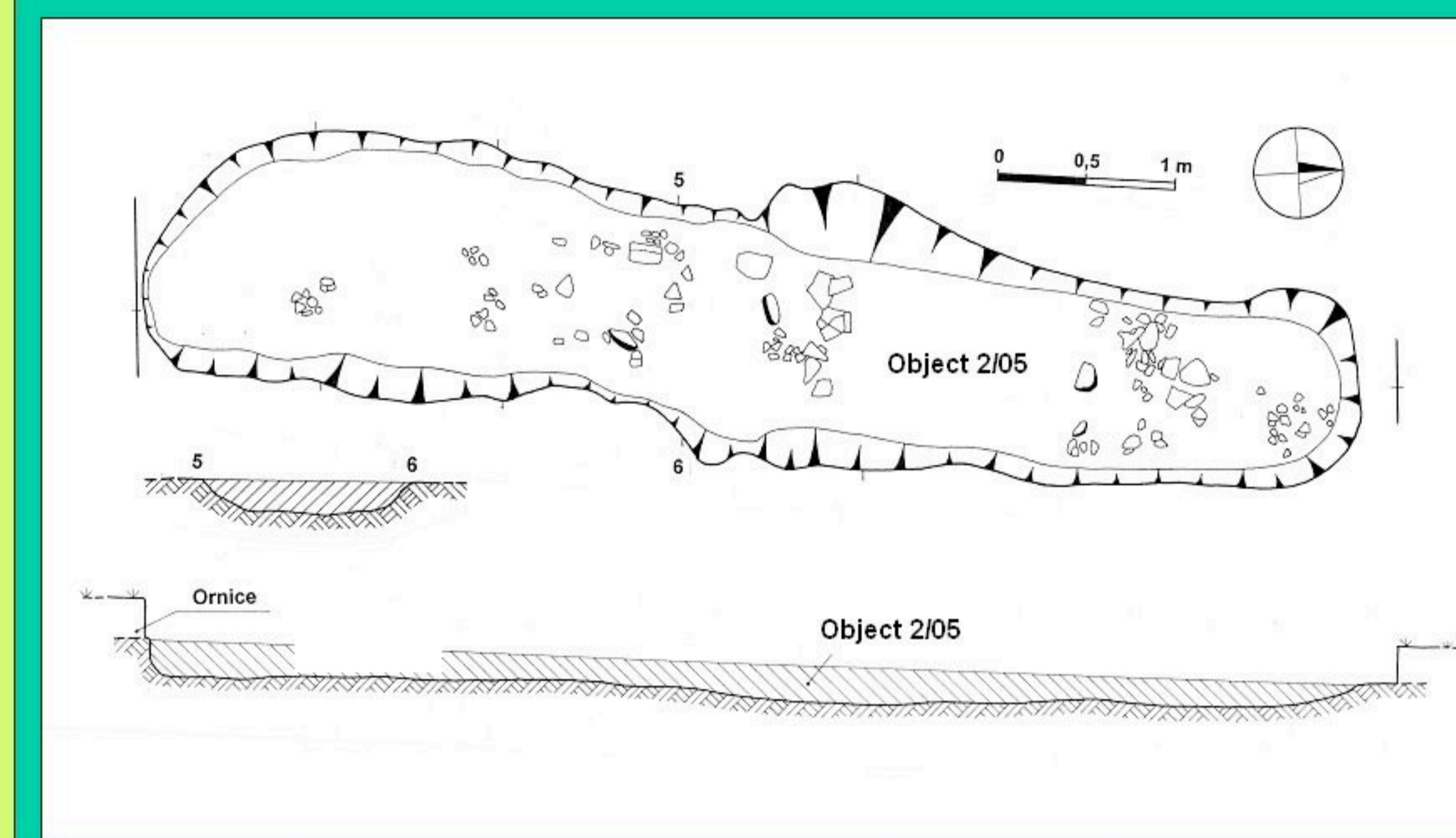
MACRO-REMAIN ANALYSIS OF THE LATE BRONZE AGE DITCHES IN BŘEZNICE U BECHYNĚ, CZECH REPUBLIC (PRELIMINARY RESULTS)

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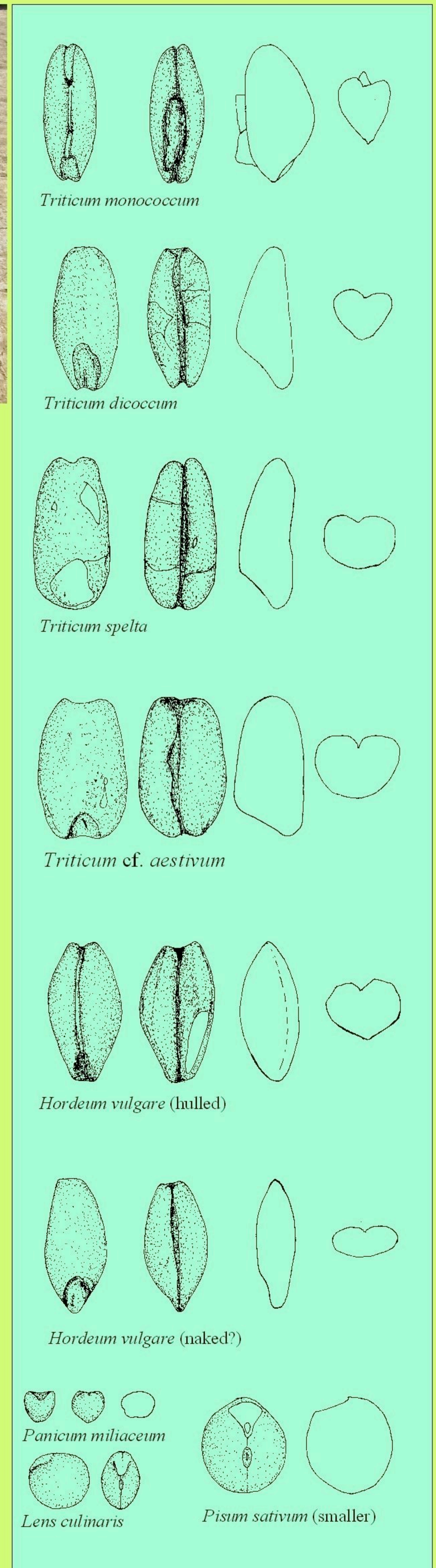
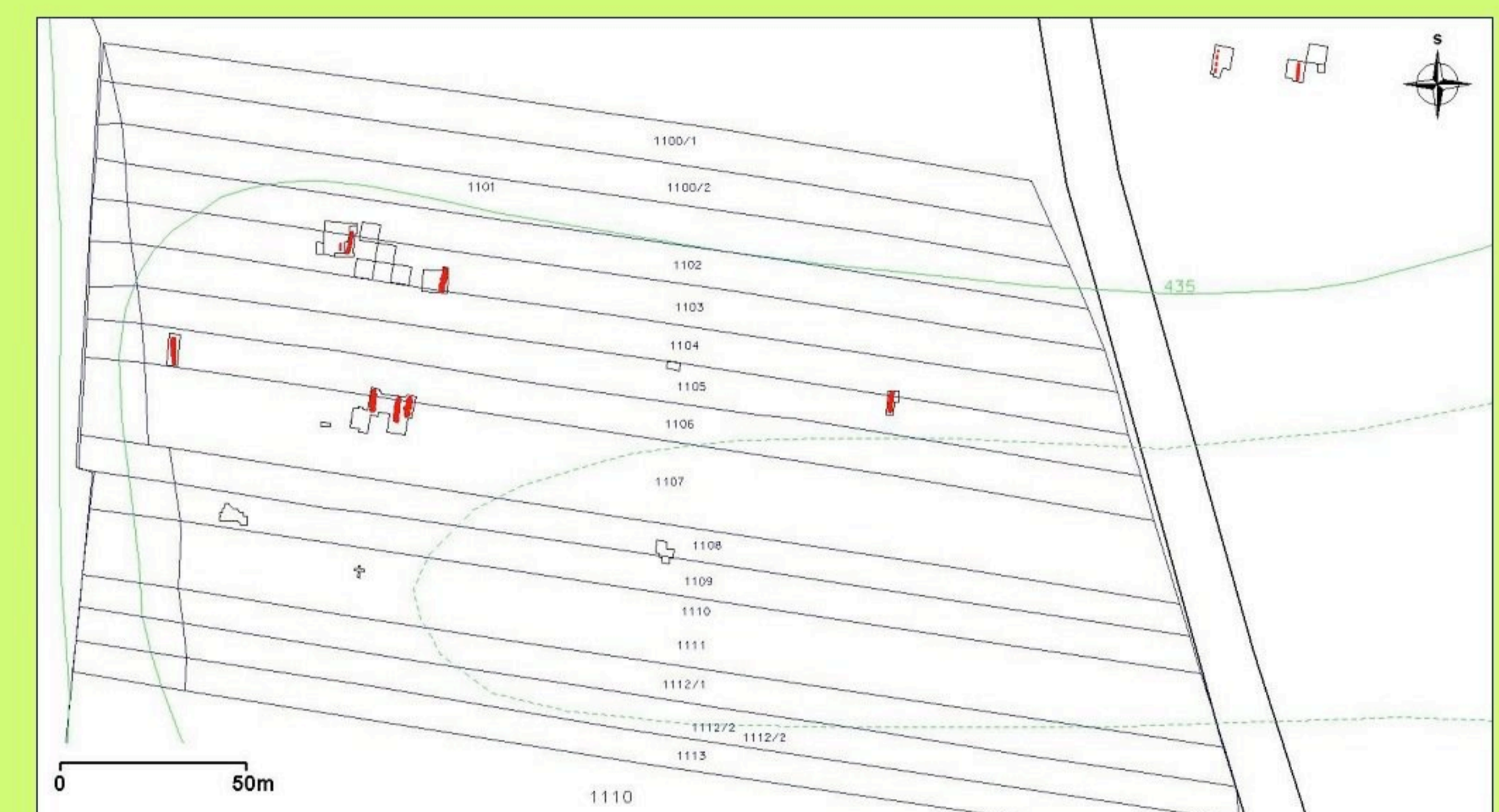
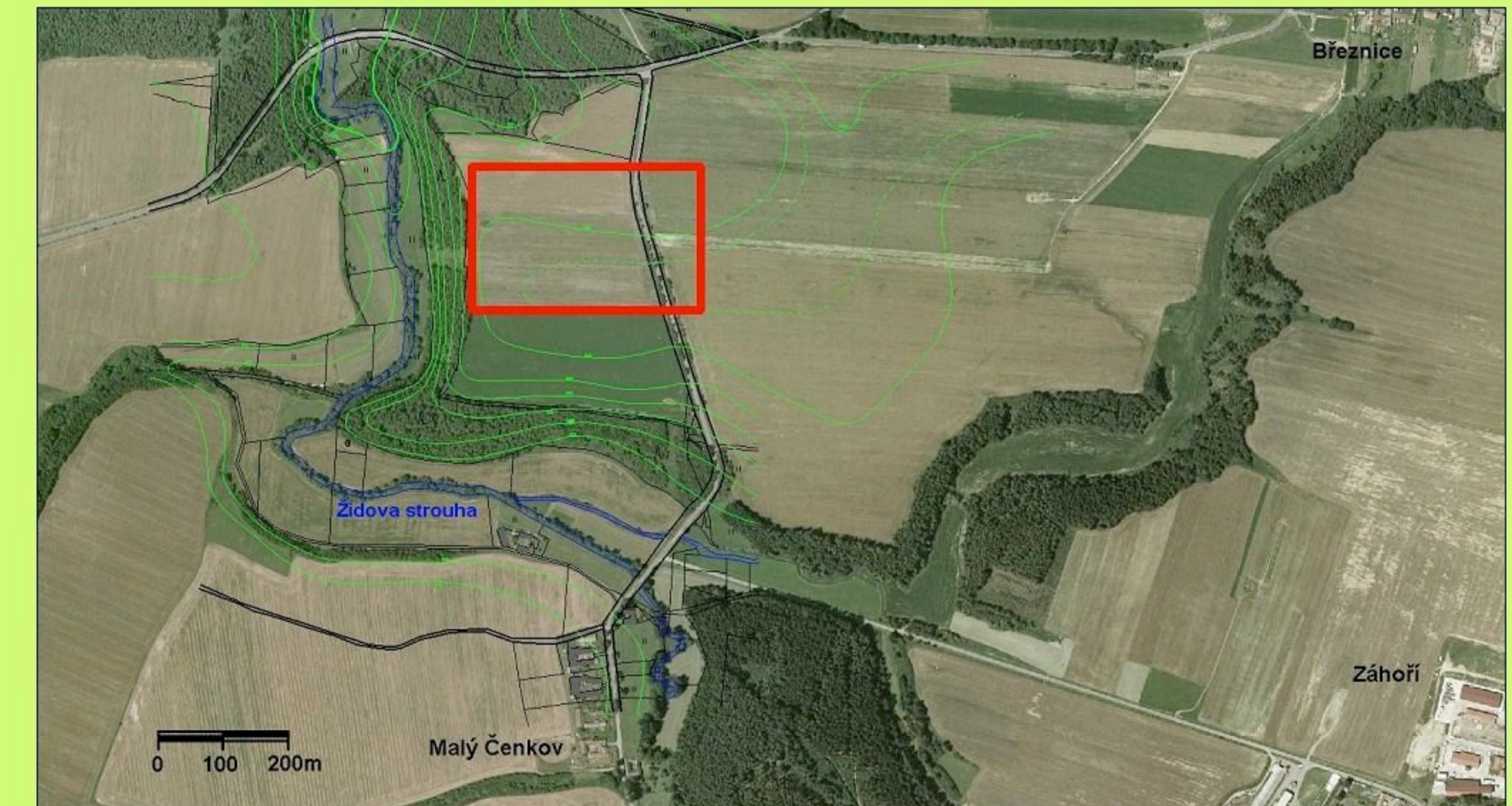


Red point represents the settlement in Březnice on the map of Bohemia

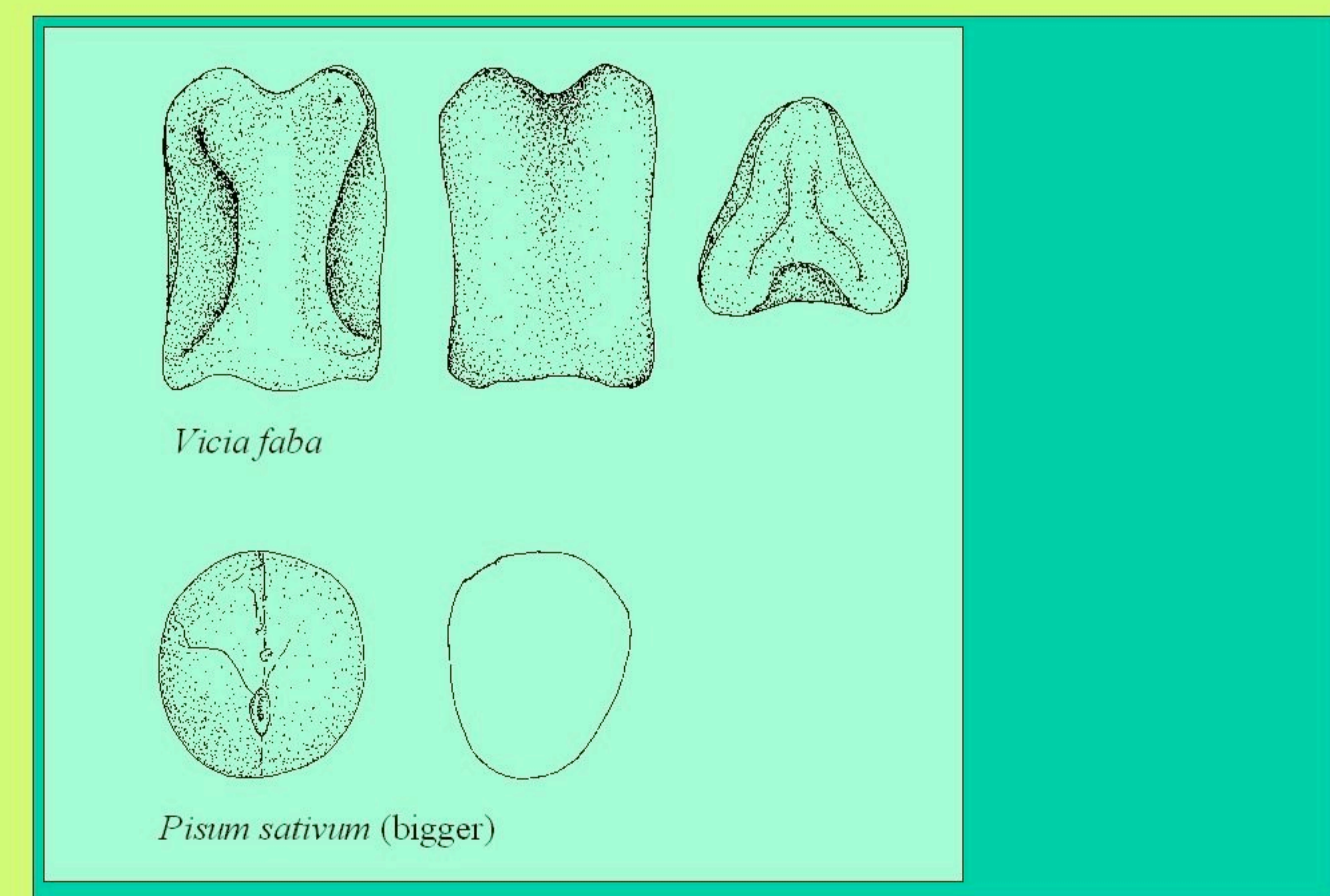


Ground plan and section one of the ditches

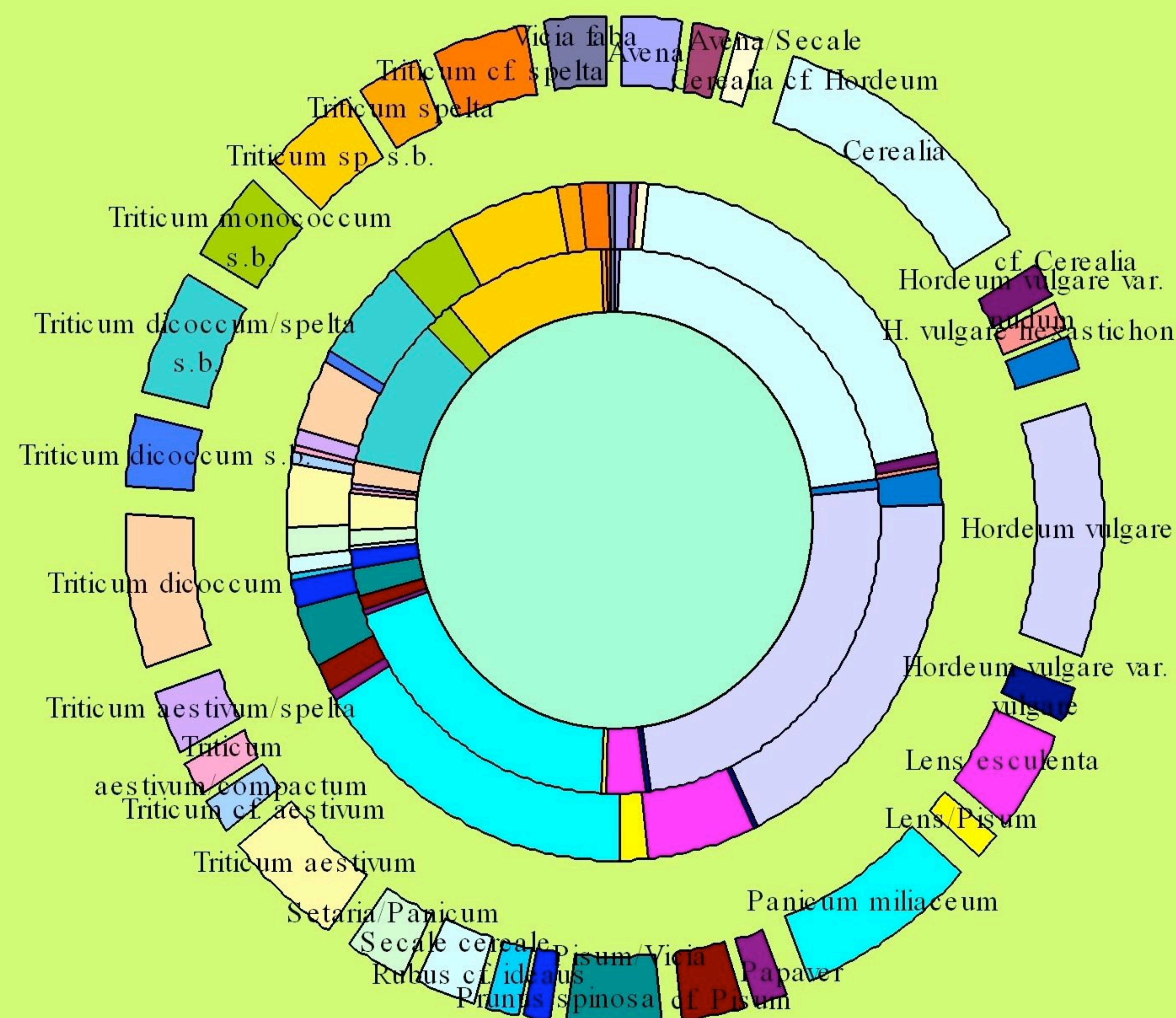
The Late Bronze Age settlement in Březnice near Bechyně (South Bohemia) was investigated during 2005-2009. As well as commonly found features, many ditches were also found (about 1/3). In settlement areas of the late Bronze Age several such ditches have been excavated in south and west Bohemia in the Czech Republic, in southwest Germany and Austria. These ditches are linear pits oriented in a north-south direction and the length (usually 4-7m) is four times the width. The ditches are usually filled up burned pottery, ceramic weights and stone artifacts.



The results of macro-remains analysis represent extraordinarily rich collections of archaeobotanical finds. Until now, five ditches from ten have been analysed. Extracted macro-remains from these objects bear attributes of waste origin where *Chenopodium album*, *Polygonum aviculare*, *Fallopia convolvulus* are the most frequent.



Particular ditches display specific characters of species composition ranging from a rather low background composition to a high concentration of charred macro-remains. Preliminary interpretations of such archaeological features should reflect their subterranean settlement character, whereas their function as offering places is not excluded.



In the analyzed samples the main cereals were barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and millet (*Panicum miliaceum*). Less frequent were species of wheat: bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum*), spelt (*T. spelta*), emmer (*T. dicoccum*) and einkorn (*T. monococcum*). Other macroremains found were legumes: lentil (*Lens esculenta*), pea (*Pisum sativum*) and broad bean (*Vicia faba*). Poppy seeds (*Papaver somniferum*) were rare.
 External circle: absolute number; middle circle: frequency in samples; Internal circle: frequency in objects.
 S.B.: spikelet base

