

Moravian Denarii of Přemysl Otakar II (1247–1253–1278)

Přemysl Otakar II started minting denarii of the pfennig type soon after he became the Moravian margrave. In 1253, as the new king of Bohemia, he began minting bracteates in Moravia, which were to become the predominant currency, but parallel to these he minted small denarii as well under the influence of Austrian countries. Both types of coins were equivalent units with identical weights; the weight of small bracteates of larger module is identical to denarii minted in the 1260s and the weight of small bracteates of smaller module is identical to denarii minted in the 1270s. Both types also saw parallel circulation, as shown by their joint appearance in Moravian coin finds from the 1260s – 1270s. In finds outside of Moravia however, these coins appear sporadically, indicating their nearly exclusive use in Moravian territory. Although the majority of money in circulation in Moravia were bracteates, denarii represent a not insignificant component. A recently discovered hoard containing solely Moravian denarii of pfennig type without bracteates and the discovery of new types of denarii show that the latter were a fully-fledged part of the coinage system. The minting of denarii ended probably with the beginning of minting medium-size bracteates dating to the last years of the reign of Přemysl Otakar II.