Ga-til₃-e OF UR AND UET 9:1370

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While the Ur III text UET 9:1370 was first published as a copy by D. Loding in UET 9, this is the first time this long text has been more thoroughly treated. The text represents a disbursement by the Ur official Ga-til₃-e of various oils, dairy products and fruits for a total period of four years.

While Ga-til₃-e is attested in around sixty different administrative and economic texts, all dating to the period between IS 6 and IS 8, his official function and title in the city remains enigmatic. Although he can frequently be found in transactions involving the city's important Nanna temple, it seems plausible that his role in the city was not connected to any specific office or household. Instead, he appears to have organized various large transports between the different institutions of the city.

Keywords: cuneiform, Sumerian, Ur, administration, economy

Introduction

The text UET 9:1370 was first published as a copy in the appendix of D. Loding's publication of Ur III texts from Ur, kept in the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania.¹ It was supposed to be more thoroughly treated in a future article on chronology, and was therefore not included in any of the volume's indices. While no such treatment has appeared, the chronological data of the tablet has been evaluated and incorporated into our reconstruction of the Ur calendar a long time ago. Nevertheless, since the tablet is also of importance in many other respects, a complete reconstruction, transliteration and analysis of this long inscription may be justified.

One important aspect of UET 9:1370 is that it reflects some of the work of the Ur official Ga-til₃-e. Not only does the text provide an excellent picture of the different products that Ga-til₃-e concerned himself with, but it also offers some information on this official's function as a distributor/transporter within the city of Ur.

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The official Ga-til₃-e

The Ur official (always without title) Ga-til₃-e can be positively identified in about 60 texts dating from IS 6 to IS 8, about half of the attestation deriving from IS 8.² The first attestation of Ga-til₃-e is from IS 6/ii while the last certain evidence of this official dates to the 13th intercalary month of IS 8.³ However, UET 9:1370 edited below suggests that he may have been involved in disbursements already from the end of IS 2.

Many of the receipts⁴ and one delivery⁵ of Ga-til₃-e were earmarked as sa₂-dug₄ contributions for the god Nanna and it is possible that he should be tied to the — in Ur — highly important Nanna temple. Indeed, as we shall see below, Ga-til₃-e is well attested in transactions involving the storehouse (e₂-kišib-ba) of this temple. However, the products received by Ga-til₃-e were also intended as sa₂-dug₄ contributions for various minor deities or the “other” (didli) deities,⁶ the “small gods” (dingir-tur-tur-ne),⁷ the place of the queen or the ki-a-nag-^dAmar-^dSuen⁸ or — as in our text below — for purposes that appear to be of entirely secular nature.⁹ The most common supplier of products to Ga-til₃-e was the central storehouse in the city (e₂-kišib-ba), but also the storehouses of other institutions in, or in the vicinity of, the city provided Ga-til₃-e.¹⁰ For these reasons, we should perhaps view Ga-til₃-e as a government official in Ur not tied to any specific office or household, whose job it was to supply all (or at least several) households in the city with different fruits as well as oil- and dairy products. This would form a sharp contrast to the different scribes receiving grain from the granary (gur₇) intended for rations/allowances who seem to have been acting only on behalf of their own households.¹¹

Ga-til₃-e is also attested returning large numbers of empty containers to the E₂-kišib-ba (UET 3:887, 890) while he in other texts is receiving the same kind of containers from the storehouse, now filled with sesame oil (MVN 3:311). Thus he plays a part in what seems to be a large-scale recycling program. It should be noted that not only were these storage containers or jars usually very large¹² but they seem to have been brought in and out of the different storehouses in considerable numbers, providing an impression of the enormous storage capacity of these institutes. It should also be noted that Ga-til₃-e not only used the E₂-kišib-ba to deposit or withdraw containers but also stored (perhaps somewhat more modest) amounts of oil in similar jars in the E₂-kišib-ba-^dNanna.¹³ Ga-til₃-e could also store other products in the storehouses: in UET 3:1099 he is recorded delivering dates to the E₂-kišib-ba. These texts show us that while Ga-til₃-e largely seems to have arranged for products to be delivered

from the storehouses, he could also be appointed to organize the transport of products into the warehouses of the city.

In this function as a middle man between the different stores and the households of the city, Ga-til₃-e employed teams of workers carrying the products throughout the city.¹⁴ While receiving officials such as Ga-til₃-e appear to have been highly specialized,¹⁵ the workers in UET 9:1399 seem to have been involved in both carrying rushes and different fibers as well as KUR-KU-du₃ jars (for oil). It seems therefore reasonable to assume that the workers belonged to the organizations of the storehouses rather than the receiving/transporting officials.¹⁶

The text UET 9:1370

The long text UET 9:1370 is published with the excavation number U.21288 and was thus most likely found in room 8 or 9 of the so-called E₂-dub-la₂-mah in the city of Ur.¹⁷

The first three columns and about two thirds of the forth column record large amounts of sundry foodstuff from five separate periods for a complete duration of four years (from IS 2/xi until IS 6/x). While the period the text covers is recorded, there is no record of when the tablet was actually drawn up. It seems reasonable to assume that the text was composed sometime during the end of IS 6 or the beginning of IS 7.¹⁸ The remaining part of column four and the complete column five have been used to calculate the total amounts of the different products from the five periods. These products include different qualities of oil (i₃-giš) and butter-lard (i₃-nun), sheep's fat (i₃-udu), dates (zu₂-lum), different cheeses (ga-gazi, ga-HAR) and various fruits (giš^{hašhur}, (giš)geštin, giš^{GIL}, giš^{gi}₆-par₃, giš^{peš}₃, giš^{UR₂xA+NA}). The sixth and final column of the tablet reveals the actual economic transaction of the inscription and what the intentions for the different products were. This column can be translated as follows:

(¹)(blank space) (²)Disbursed separately, (³)from Ga-til₃-e, (⁴)(to be) put in its place. (⁵)*Da-a-a*, the inspector, (⁶)brought (it) from the surrounding area. (⁷)Responsible/via: Ur-^dše-ES₂-nun-BU. (⁸⁻¹⁰)From the month of the festival of An (xi) and the month of the festival of Mekigal (xii) the Year: (Ibbi-Suen) chose, by means of omen, the En-priest of Inana in Ur (IS 2), (¹¹⁻¹⁵)to the month of the exalted festival (x) the Year: Ibbi-Suen, the king of Ur, built for Nippur and Ur their great walls (IS 6). (¹⁶)Its years: it is four years.

In spite of the tablet's somewhat poor state of preservation, it is possible to reconstruct its broken areas with some degree of accuracy, especially since most products are found in similar and better preserved texts from the city (e.g. UET 3:1051 from IS 9-10). It should be noted that all reconstructions of numbers as well as most reconstructions of different products have been made in order to make the total of the products from the four years to be in accordance with the šu-nigin₂ values in the last few lines of Col. iv and in Col. v. In order to save space such reconstructions have not been discussed in the commentary after the transliteration, but ought to be clear enough from the table presented at the end of this article.

UET 9:1370 (IS 2/xi+xii/- — IS 6/x/-)

- Obv. i 2 [1/2 sila₃ i₃-nun dug₃-ga / giš a-r]a₂ 6
6 1/2 sila₃ i₃-[giš dug₃]-ga / giš a-ra₂ [x]
1 1/2 sila₃ i₃-nun dug₃-g[a] / giš a-ra₂ 3
[...] 1/2 sila₃ i₃-nun dug₃-ga
5 0;[1],0 2/3 sila₃ i₃-giš dug₃-ga
0;[1],1 2 1/3 sila₃ i₃-nun
0;0,1 7 sila₃ [i₃-giš]
0;0,2 8 sila₃ [zu₂]-lum
4 1/2 sila₃ [ga]-gazi
10 0;0,2 [ga]-HAR
0;0,1 6 sila₃ ^{giš}hašhur [had₂]
0;0,1 2 1/3 sila₃ geštin h[ad₂]
0;0,1 2 sila₃ ^{giš}gi₆-par₃
08.03 u₂ ^{giš}peš₃ še-/er-gu
15 murgu₂ nig₂-ka₉ e₂-lugal-ma₂-/gur₈-re ba-ak-a-ta
iti ezem-an-na / u₃ iti ezem-^dme-ki-gal₂
[mu] en ^dInana Unug^{ki}-ga / maš₂-e / i₃-pad₃
[x] sila₃ i₃-nun dug₃-ga / giš a-ra₂ 3
[x] 1/2 sila₃ i₃-giš dug₃-ga / giš a-ra₂ 3
20 [x] 1+[?] sila₃ i₃-nun dug₃-ga¹
Obv. ii (broken line)
0;2,5 7 sila₃ 10 1/2 gin₂¹ [i₃-nun]
1;2,1 8 5/6 sila₃ 1/5 gin₂ / i₃-[giš] gur
10+;+4,5 3 sila₃ zu₂-lum gur
5 1;0,0 [ga]-HAR gur
0;2,0 2+ [sila₃] ^{giš}hašur had₂

- 0;0,5 ʾ9ʾ [1/2 sila₃ ^{gi}šgeštin had₂
 0;0,1 2 [sila₃ ^{gi}šGIL
 0;1,0 6 [sila₃] ^{gi}šgi₆-p[ar₃]
 10 01ʾ.[xʾ] u₂ ^{gi}špeš₃ še-/[er]-gu
 ʾ07.50ʾ ^{gi}šʾUR₂xA+NA gar¹us₂
 ʾmu ^dI-bi₂-^dsuʾen / [lugal U]rim₅^{ki}-ma-ke₄ʾ /
 Si-m[u-ru-um^{ki}] m[u-hul]
 3 sila₃ [i₃]-giš dug₃-ga / [giš] ʾaʾ-ra₂ 2
 0;0,1 3 s[sila₃ x g]in₂ i₃-nun / dug₃-ga
 15 0;0,3 1 5/6 sila₃ i₃-giš dug₃-ga
 0;0,3 9 5/6 sila₃ 5 gin₂ / i₃-nun
 0;4,3 5 sila₃ i₃-giš
 1 [sila₃] i₃-udu
 [x] ʾx sila₃ʾ zu₂ʾʾ-[lumʾ]
 20 [... ga-HAR]
 Obv. iii [... ^{gi}šhašhur had₂]
 0;1,0 6 sila₃ [^{gi}šgi-par₃]
 52 ^{gi}š[peš₃ še-er-gu]
 04.40 ^{gi}šʾUR₂xA-NA gar us₂]
 5 (blank line)
 mu en-a[m-gal-an-na] / en ^dI[nana ba-hun]
 2 5/6 sila₃ ʾi₃ʾ-[x dug₃-ga] / giš ʾaʾ-r[a₂ x]
 3 sila₃ ʾi₃ʾ-giš [dug₃-ga]
 0;0,2 5 ʾ5/6ʾ sila₃ i₃-[nun]
 10 0;1,4 1/2 sila₃ i₃-[giš]
 0;4,2 4 2/3 sila₃ z[u₂-lum]
 0;0,2 9 ʾ1/3ʾ sila₃ ʾgaʾ-[HAR]
 0;0,2 3 [sila₃ ^{gi}šhašur had₂]
 0;0,1 8 si[la₃ 10 gin₂ ^{gi}šgi₆-par₃]
 15 13 ^{gi}špeš₃ š[e-er]-/g[u]
 mu *Tu-ki-in*-[gidri-*mi*]-/ig-ri-ša dumu-
 ʾmi₂-lugalʾ / en[sik] Za-ab-ša-[li^k]ⁱ-ke₄
 ba-a[n-tuk]
 ʾ1+ʾ sila₃ʾ [i₃-giš/nun] ʾdug₃-gaʾ /
 [giš a-ra₂ xʾ]
 Rev. iv [...]
 3 sila₃ i₃-g[iš dug₃-ga]
 0;0,1 ʾ8ʾ 1/2 sila₃ i₃-[nun]

- 0;0,2¹ [1] sila₃ 1[0 gin₂] i₃-giš
 [1] sila₃ i₃-udu
- 5 0;4,0 9¹ sila₃ zu₂-lum
 1/2 sila₃ ga-HAR
 [3] sila₃ ^{giš}gi₆-par₃
 [01[?].10[?]] ^{giš}peš₃ še-er-gu
 (blank line)
- 10 ʾmu ^dI¹-bi₂-ʾ^dsuen¹
 l[ugal Urim₅^k]-ma k[e₄]
 Nibru^[ki]
 Urim₅^{ki}-[ma-ke₄]
 bad₃ gal-ʾbi¹ m[u-du₃]
- 15 (blank line)
 ʾšu-nigin₂¹ 2 1/2 sila₃ i₃-[nun dug₃-ga] /
 giš a-r[a₂ 6]
 ʾšu-nigin₂¹ 6^(1 2) 1/2 sila₃ i₃-[giš/nun dug₃-ga] /
 giš a-r[a₂ x]
 ʾšu-nigin₂¹ 0;0,1 3 1/3 [sila₃ i₃-nun] /
 dug₃-ga giš ʾa¹-[ra₂ 3]
- Rev. v [šu-nigin₂ ... i₃-nun dug₃-ga]
 šu-nigin₂ 0;1,3 8¹ [1/2] / i₃-giš dug₃-ʾga¹
 šu-nigin₂ 1;0,3 3 2/3 sila₃ 5 ʾgin₂¹ / i₃-nun gur
 šu-nigin₂ 2;4,1 2 1/2 sila₃ 5 ʾgin₂¹ / i₃-giš gur
- 5 šu-nigin₂ 2 sila₃ i₃-udu
 šu-nigin₂ 16;3,1 7 5/6¹ sila₃ / zu₂-lum gur
 šu-nigin₂ 4 1/2 ga-gazi
 šu-nigin₂ 1[+[?];x,x, x] 1/3 sila₃ ga-HAR / gur
 šu-nigin₂ 0;ʾ4[?]¹,1 3 1/2 sila₃ ^{giš}hašhur / had₂
- 10 šu-nigin₂ 0;1,1 1 5/6 sila₃ geštin had₂
 šu-nigin₂ 0;0,1 2 sila₃ ^{giš}GIL
 šu-nigin₂ 0;2,4 5 sila₃ 10 gin₂ / ʾ^{giš}gi₆-par₃
 ʾšu-nigin₂¹ 02.10+[x[?]]+5 ^{giš}peš₃ / ʾše-er-gu¹
 ʾšu-nigin₂ 12[!].30¹ ^{giš}[UR₂xA-NA] / gar u[s₂]
- 15 (blank space)
- Rev. vi (blank space)
 [z]i-ga didli
 k[i G]a-til₃-e-ta
 ki-b[a] ga₂-ga₂

- 5 *Da-a-a šabra*
 bar-ta gal₂-la
 [gi]ri₃ Ur-^dše-EŠ₂-nun-BU
 [iti eze]m-an-na
 u₃ ʾiti^ʾ ezem-^dme-ki-gal₂
- 10 mu en ^dInana Unug^{ki}-ga / maš₂-e / i₃-pad₃-ta
 [it]i ezem-mah
 [m]u ^dI-bi₂-^dsuen / [lugal] Urim^{ki}₅-ma-ke₄
 [Nib]ru^{ki}
 [Ur]im^{ki}₅-ma-ke₄
- 15 bad₃ gal-bi / mu-du₃-a-še₃
 mu-bi mu-4-am₃

Commentary

i, 9: Already A. L. Oppenheim suggested that the ga-gazi (lit. “gazi milk”), here enumerated just above the unclassified, and thus less valuable, ga-HAR should be understood as an abbreviation of ga-HAR gazi “gazi cheese”.¹⁹ However, contrary to Oppenheim, who suggested the reading ga-gaz₂ with the translation “crushed cheese” (hence gaz “to crush”), we prefer the reading ga-gazi denoting a kind of cheese flavored or curdled with the gazi-plant.

ii, 1: One would expect this broken line between the i₃-nun dug₃-ga and the i₃-nun to list the i₃-giš dug₃-ga, but the total of this product in Col. v, 2 does not support this reconstruction. Since the summary section of products listed before i₃-giš dug₃-ga is broken (note the end of Col. iv) it is possible that this line is listing some product not appearing in any of the other years (e.g. i₃-nun dug₃-ga a-ra₂ 2, or the like).

ii, 8; v, 11: The context in the text tells us that this highly uncommon expression must have denoted some kind of fruit measured in cubic capacity (see also MVN 13:102).²⁰ It seems likely that the expression, in addition to just being a fruit, also denoted the wood of the fruit tree similar to the way “walnut” or “mulberry” in English may refer not only to the fruit, but also to the wood as well as the tree. In fact, not only the ^{giš}GIL, but also ^{giš}hašhur, zu₂-lum, ^{giš}UR₂xA+NA, ^{giš}gab₂ and ^{giš}gi₆-par₃ can all refer, not only to the actual fruits, but also to the trees/wood of the fruits they represent.²¹ The Sumerian verb GIL normally correspond to Akkadian *egērum* “to prevent”, “to twist” or “to be/ become twisted”, etc. perhaps suggesting that the ^{giš}GIL should be understood as some kind of thorn or sloe with fruits/berries.

ii, 11; iii, 4; v, 14: Note that this fruit, like the preceding ^{giš}peš₃ še-er-gu, in this text was counted rather than measured.

iii, 12-14: The reconstructions of the two lines before ^{giš}peš₃ še-er-gu (Col. iii, 15) recording products measured in volumes are certain since none of these lines can record ^{giš}GIL (see the table below), which in turn makes the reconstruction ʾgeštin^l-[had₂] in Col. iii, 12 impossible. Since this line cannot record ga-gazi (see table), the only possible reconstruction seems to be ʾga^l-[HAR].

iv, 8: The low number of the total (Col. v, 12) seems to imply that the 483 loads/talents (u₂) from IS 2 (Col. i, 14) were not included in the summary (where the measurement u₂ is not used). If so, it seems reasonable that the same would apply for the 60+[?] (or 1+[?]) u₂ from IS 3 (Col. ii, 10) which in turn would mean that we would, in order to fit the summary section, expect the amount 01.10 in Col. iv, 8. The small broken area in the line would allow for this reconstruction.

vi, 4, 6: The expressions ki-ba ga₂-ga₂(-de₃/dam) “(shall/is to be) put in its place” and bar-ta ga₂-la “carried/brought from the surrounding area” have both been discussed recently.²²

Summary of UET 9:1370

The different products and the amounts recorded for the four years in the text has been (tentatively) reconstructed in the table below.

The products in the first column are listed in their hieratic order as they would be listed if they were all enumerated for one single year. The numbers given in the seventh column “Total” represent the summary of the different, and for some years reconstructed, measurements of what the products *should* be. If the amount of a product is very fragmentary attested for more than one year and a calculation of the product’s total for the whole period is impossible to make, the field has been marked with a question mark.

Note that the fields 3-5 in the fifth column (“IS 5”) marked with question marks remain difficult to reconstruct. The reason is that Col. iii, 7 in the text theoretically may refer to any of the first five oil products with quality grades. However, the line should (due to the information in the summary section) most likely be reconstructed as any of the following alternatives: 1) ʾi₃^l-[nun dug₃-ga] giš ʾa^l-r[a₂ 3]; 2) ʾi₃^l-[giš dug₃-ga] giš ʾa^l-r[a₂ 3]; 3) ʾi₃^l-[giš dug₃-ga] giš ʾa^l-r[a₂ 2].

Also the values in the fields 3-6 in the sixth column (“IS 6”) are uncertain.

The first entry for IS 6 (Col. iii, 18) in the text can be reconstructed as referring to any of the 6 products that might be expected to be enumerated before the i₃-giš dug₃-ga appearing in Col. iv, 2. It should probably (see commentary) not be reconstructed as referring to the two highest qualities.

Products	IS 2/xi, xii	IS 3	IS 4	IS 5	IS 6/i-x	Total	šu-nigin ₂
i ₃ -nun 6	2 [1/2]	—	—	—	—	2 1/2	2 1/2
i ₃ -giš/num x	6 1/2	—	—	—	—	6 1/2	6 ^(1.2) 1/2
i ₃ -num 3	1 1/2	[x]	—	?	?	?	0;0,1 3 1/3
i ₃ -giš 3	—	[x] 1/2	—	?	?	?	[...]
i ₃ -giš 2	—	—	3	?	?	?	[...]
i ₃ -num dug ₃ -ga	[...] 1/2	[x] 1+27	0;0,1 3	—	?	?	[...]
i ₃ -giš dug ₃ -ga	0;[1],0 2/3 ¹	Col. ii, 1	0;0,3 1 5/6	3	3	0;1,3 8 1/2	0;1, 3 ¹ 8 1/2
i ₃ -num	0;[1],1 2 1/3	0;2,5 7 10	0;0,3 9 5/6 5	0;0,2 5 5/6 ¹	0;0,1 8 ¹ 1/2	1;0,3 3 2/3 5	1;0,3 3 2/3 5
i ₃ -giš	0;0,1 7	1;2,1 8 5/6 5 ¹	0;4,3 5	0;1,4 1/2	0;0,2 ¹ [1] 1[0]	2;4,1 1/2 5	2;4,1 2 1/2 5
i ₃ -udu	—	—	1	—	[1]	2	2
zu ₂ -lum	0;0,2 8	10+;+4,5 3	[...]	0;4,2 4 2/3	0;4,0 9 ¹	?	16;3,1 7 5/6 ¹
ga-gazi	4 1/2	—	—	—	—	4 1/2	4 1/2
ga-HAR	0;0,2	1;0,0	[...]	0;0,2 9 1/3 ¹	1/2	?	1 ¹ + ² ;x,x x ¹ 1/3
giš ¹ hašhur had ₂	0;0,1 6	0;2,0 2+	[...]	0;0,2 3	—	?	0;4 ¹ 1 3 1/2
(giš ¹)geštin had ₂	0;0,1 2 1/3	0;0,5 9 ¹ 1/2	—	—	—	0;1,1 1 5/6	0;1,1 1 5/6
giš ¹ GIL	—	0;0,1 2	—	—	—	0;0,1 2	0;0,1 2
giš ¹ gi ₆ -par ₃	0;0,1 2	0;1,0 6	0;1,0 6	0;0,1 8 [10]	[3]	0;2,4 5 10	0;2,4 5 10
giš ¹ peš ₃ še-er-gu	08.03 u ₂	01 ² . [x ²] u ₂	52	13	[01 ² . 10 ²]	543+ u ₂ , 135	02.10+[x ²]+5
giš ¹ UR ₂ xA+NA	—	07.50 ¹	04.40	—	—	750	02.30 ¹

Tentative reconstruction of the products of UET 9:1371 disbursed by Ga-til₃-e

Notes

¹ D. Loding, *Ur Excavation Texts IX. Economic Texts from the Third Dynasty*, Philadelphia, 1976. This publication — like all other editions of Ur III texts used in this article — will hereafter be abbreviated according to M. Sigrist & T. Gomi, *The Comprehensive Catalogue of Published Ur III Tablets*, Bethesda, 1991. Further abbreviations used in this article include: MSL 6 = B. Landsberger, *Materialien zum sumerischen Lexikon VI. The Series HAR-ra = hubullu. Tablets V-VII*, Rome, 1958; SAT 2-3 = M. Sigrist, *Texts from the Yale Babylonian Collections. Part 1-2*, Bethesda, 2000.

² See the indices in UET 3, p. 14 (add no. 149 (= Ga^(l kl)-til₃-e)); UET 9, p. 54 (add nos. 872 and 1370); M. Widell, *The Administrative and Economic Ur III Texts from the City of Ur*, Piscataway, 2003, 178.

³ UET 3:149; SAT 2-3:2027.

⁴ UET 3:149, 161, 164, 209, 1044, 1089; SAT 2-3:2015, 2016 and possibly 2027.

⁵ UET 3:384.

⁶ UET 3:149, 161, 164; SAT 2-3:2015 (the texts also include ^dNanna).

⁷ UET 3:209, 1089 (the texts also include ^dNanna).

⁸ SAT 2-3:2025; UET 3:252.

⁹ E.g. UET 3:1095; MVN 3:311; MVN 13:311; SAT 2-3:2025, 2026.

¹⁰ I.e. the (temples) of Nanna (see below) or Ningal (UET 3:1093, 1192), the granary “evil that not comes by” (gur₇-nig₂-erim₂-nu-dib) (UET 3:1088) and the storehouse of Ga-eš₅^{ki} (UET 3:1107 and, possibly, 410). In addition to these storehouses, Ga-til₃-e is once recorded to have received oil from the E₂-i₃-sur (SAT 2-3:2025).

¹¹ E.g. ^dNanna-sa₄ receiving for the E₂-^dŠara₂^(ki), Mu-ni⁽ⁿⁱ⁾-mah for the Šu-na-mu-gi₄, I-ti-ZU/^dZU/^dEN.ZU for the Su-bu, etc. (see M. Widell, “Reflections on Some Households and their Receiving Officials in the City of Ur in the Ur III Period,” *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 63/4 (2004), forthcoming).

¹² The jars in MVN 3:311 held somewhat less than 3 barig and 3 ban₂ each (≈ 210 liters), while the ones containing butter-lard received by Ga-til₃-e in UET 3:209 held more than two barig each (≈ 120 liters).

¹³ For Ga-til₃-e bringing in (empty) KUR-KU-du₃ jars in the E₂-kišib-ba-^dNanna, see UET 3:889, 891; TIM 6:17. For the texts where he is receiving KUR-KU-du₃ jars with oil from this institution, see UET 3:886, 1044, 1146, 1149; UET 9:927. Note also that the E₂-kišib-ba-E₂-karzi-da also had the capacity of storing KUR-KU-du₃ vessels during the reign of Ib-bi-Suen (UET 3:888).

¹⁴ Hence UET 9:1399. Note also UET 3:1095 where Ga-til₃-e receives dates for a team of carriers stationed in the king’s palace.

¹⁵ Other Ur officials that seem to have had similar duties as Ga-til₃-e include the scribe(?) Ur-^dŠul-gi-ra (responsible for textile products) or Ur-ku₃-nun-na (mainly barley).

¹⁶ Note here also UET 3:1403, an account (nig₂-ka₉) of the E₂-kišib-ba referring to rather high monthly silver wages for guruš workers hauling/carrying.

¹⁷ Widell 2003, 91-101.

¹⁸ Hence, the active period of Ga-til₃-e being IS 6-8 (above).

¹⁹ A. L. Oppenheim, *Catalogue of the Cuneiform Tablets of the Wilberforce Eames Collection in the New York Public Library*, New Haven, 1948, 7-8.

R. K. Englund (“Regulating Dairy Productivity in the Ur III Period,” *Orientalia* 64/4 (1995), 417-18) has with evidence from Umma been able to show that three units of ga-HAR/ga-UDgun₄ equaled two units of ga-gazi. It should be noted that if more than one dairy product is found in a text, the ga-gazi always appears first which, according to the well-known praxis of enumerating the most valuable products first, shows that the ga-gazi was considered to be the most valuable dairy product in the Ur III period.

For a list of references to the ga-HAR gazi, see M. Stol, “Milch(produkte). A. In

Mesopotamien,” *Reallexikon der Assyriologie* 8-3./4. (1994), 200; Englund 1995, 417, n. 69.

²⁰ According to MSL 6 (p. 28, line 269) ^{gi}GIL equals the Akkadian *nap-ra-ku* i.e. “a bolt” or “a bar” (from *parākum* “to lay crosswise”). The Akkadian equivalence *kal-ba-na-tu* “a siege engine” (MSL 6, p. 90, line 97) seems to have little to do with the expression in our text.

For the much more common ^{gi}GIL (commonly read ^{gi}gilim and simply translated “reed weave”) in Ur, see UET 3:845 or UET 9:360.

²¹ That ^{gis}hašhur also could refer to the apple tree is well known and can be seen in e.g. UET 3:782 listing several fruit trees. For the rare wood/tree zu₂-lum (occurring together with the date palm ^{gis}gišimmar), see UET 3:777; for the in Ur rather common fruit ^{gis}UR₂xA+NA (UET 3:60, 68, 96, etc.) as wood/tree, see UET 3:774, 782; for ^{gis}gab₂ as a fruit, see UET 9:872, for the expression as wood/tree, see UET 3:821.

²² M. Widell, “A Note on the Sumerian Expression SI-ge₄-de₃/dam,” *Sefarad*, 62/2 (2002), 393-400.