

## Tecelagem e tinturaria

Não há *villa* sem pendentes de fuso, a falarem-nos de horas longas no manuseio dos fios, que, depois, nos teares (e tantos são os pesos que se encontram para teia e trama ficarem bem esticadas!...), assumirão forma de tecidos vários que as agulhas afeiçoariam. Do Alto do Cidreira, um separador trabalhado, de osso, conta-nos dos dedos ágeis que o acarinharam...

Casais Velhos e talvez também junto ao Alto do Cidreira foram locais de preparação de uma «púrpura» de que os Lusitanos, aqui, terão sido exímios mestres.

## Weaving and dying

Never have we found a *villa* without spindle whorls or loom weights. The first represent long hours dedicated to the spinning of threads – most likely relieved with some socializing. The latter stand for the looms where the weavers used weights to keep the warp good and tight and transformed the threads, as by magic, into all sort of fabrics. From Alto do Cidreira we have a worked bone separator which makes us reflect on its use and the loving and agile fingers of its owner. At Casais Velhos and probably also near Alto do Cidreira there was an industry of a much sought after purple dye; an industry at which the Lusitanian's reportedly were eminent masters.