



ANCIENT

170-116BC Ptolemy VIII AR Tetradrachm



PTOLEMAIC EGYPT. Ptolemy VIII Euergetes II (170-116 BC). AR tetradrachm (25mm, 13.51 gm, 12h). NGC AU 5/5 - 3/5. Paphos, dated RY 30 (141/0 BC). Diademed head of Ptolemy I right / ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ, eagle standing left on thunderbolt, wings closed; ΛΛ (date) to left, ΠΑ to right. Svoronos -. Paphos Hoard 6. SNG Copenhagen 623 variant (date). DCA 51. Minor rough patches, otherwise nicely centered and struck in high relief. Scarce this nice.

Ptolemy VIII

Ptolemy VIII Euergetes II (c. 182 BC – June 26, 116 BC), nicknamed Physcon, was a king of the Ptolemaic dynasty in Egypt. Ptolemy VIII's complicated political career started in 170 BC. This is when Antiochus IV Epiphanes of the Seleucid Empire invaded and captured King Ptolemy VI Philometor and all of Egypt, with the exception of the city of Alexandria. Antiochus allowed Ptolemy VI to continue as a puppet monarch. Meanwhile, the people of Alexandria chose Ptolemy Euergetes, his younger brother, as king. Euergetes was popularly known as "Physkōn", Latinized as Physcon, meaning sausage, potbelly or bladder, due to his obesity. Instead of taking up arms against one another, the brothers decided to co-rule Egypt.

Additional Rarity: A PTOLEMAIC KINGDOM. Ptolemy VIII (170-116 BC). AR tetradrachm AU 5/5 – 4/5 sold at a Heritage auction on May 12, 2016 for \$705.

