



11620 Brown Earth from Otranto

Brown earth with lime deposits sometimes produces small, round nuggets of iron oxide sediments, also known as "pea-ore". In medieval times this pea-ore was used to smelt iron. It can be found in practically all areas in which limestone occurs, especially in the fall on freshly tilled soil, after rain. The brownish red colour is reminiscent of coagulated blood, and the pigment obtained from it can be used in all painting techniques.