

Sicily in Autumn

Naturetrek Tour Report

15th – 21st September 2020



Sicilian Grayling



Painted Frog (Dan Lay)



Mt. Etna Broom



Mallow Skipper



Sicilian Wall Lizard



Spurge Hawk Moth

Tour report by Dan Lay & Luca Boscain and images by Luca Boscain (and Dan Lay)



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Summary

Our autumn trip to Sicily gives opportunities to enjoy not only wildlife, but also some great historical aspects, amazing landscapes and the incomparable food and wine. We kept a wide perspective, not only focusing on birds but also wonderful species of moths, flowers, reptiles, spiders, butterflies and dragonflies, often species endemic to Sicily or southern Italy. The birdwatching was, however, particularly rewarding, offering most of the Sicilian specialities, including Sicilian Rock Partridge, Marbled Duck, Spectacled Warbler and Sicilian Long-tailed Tit. The Covid19 extra hygiene measures meant we were not able to enjoy the usual famous Naturetrek self-service picnics, but we adjusted – and didn't go hungry! Thanks to the group for your adaptability and responsibility during the week.

Day 1

Tuesday 15th September

After a very early start, we landed at the Catania Fontanarossa airport at 10.55am. The terminal was less busy than usual, so we were gathered easily by Dan, one of our tour leaders, and met Luca, who lives in Italy. We collected the minibuses and drove smoothly for less than an hour to the Case del Feudo. In this former 17th-century hunting lodge, surrounded by the peaceful Syracuse countryside, among citrus trees and vineyards, we were welcomed by Baron Beneventano, the owner of the estate, and by Ms La Greca, the housekeeper. After hygiene information and temperature checks, we took possession of our rustic rooms upstairs, often furnished with unexpected furniture and themed paintings, different in each room. We then gathered in the courtyard, enjoying the first Mediterranean sunshine. Yeasin served each person a selection of the typical “arancini”, mixed salad, fresh tomatoes and mozzarella, while a number of beautiful butterflies were flying around the variety of flowers of the garden, including Long-tailed Blue Swallowtail and Cleopatra.

We left at 3pm, after a welcome coffee, heading to Syracuse. Here we had a quick shop for drinks and fruit, before continuing to Capo Murro di Porco, the “snout of pig”. This is the most prominent peninsula of south-eastern Sicily and can be a great place to look for migrants, recovering here before their journey through the Mediterranean Sea.

The area is covered by a verdant garigue rich in Mastic Trees (*Pistacia lentiscus*), Thorny Burnets (*Sarcopoterium spinosum*), Tree Spurges (*Euphorbia dendroides*) and the rare Dwarf Fan Palms (*Chamaerops humilis*), the only native palm of Europe. We walked along a track to the lighthouse, that had been restored recently and had lost a bit of its decadent charm. Scanning by binoculars and telescopes, we spotted a Common Kestrel and some Fan-tailed Warblers, while the vegetation was filled in Italian Wall Lizards and grasshoppers, among which we distinguished Lamenting Grasshopper (*Eyprepocnemis plorans*) and the Red-winged Grasshopper *Oedipoda miniata*.

The seawatching from the lighthouse was rewarded by, besides the spectacular blows of foam produced by the rough waves crashing against jagged limestone, the first Yellow-legged Gulls and two Sandwich Terns. The eroded pale rocks hosted patches of interesting plants like Rock Samphire (*Crithmum maritimum*), Golden Samphire (*Limbarda crithmoides*), Spanish Oregano (*Thymbra capitata*) and Syracusan Sea-lavender (*Limonium syracusanum*).

On the way back, driving through the peninsula, Luca pointed some more noticeable plants on the road side, going from the tall spikes of Sea Squill (*Drimia maritima*), to the Large Mediterranean Spurge (*Euphorbia characias*) and the introduced Marvel of Peru (*Mirabilis jalapa*), with nice purple flowers.

After some spare time, we met again at 7pm in the courtyard for an aperitif and to list the species observed during the day. We tasted the wines produced on the Case del Feudo estate, going from the Syrah to the famous Nero d'Avola, and some beautiful "crostini" with tomato sauce topping. Then Luca and Dan explained in detail the plans for tomorrow and, more generally, for the week, before we moved inside for supper in a dining room that used to be a stable, but is now totally renewed and made particularly attractive through the use of soft illumination, decorations that were formerly used to embellish the donkeys during festivals and a series of ancient agrarian tools. The meal included an endless list of dishes, going from a "risotto" with peppers, to spicy sausages, to salmon, to aubergines, to some delicious almond cakes for pudding.

As in the other trips Luca set a moth trap outside, but since one of the members of the group, John, was particularly interested in moths, he added a white sheet under the box to maximise the captures and set his own moth-trap on his window for the night: an amazing detecting capacity indeed.

Day 2

Wednesday 16th September

This morning we met at 7am by the moth trap, under a tree in the garden. Our attention was first attracted to a big stack of twigs and branches, where we noticed some passerines moving. They were not the easiest birds to identify, being all three "LBJs", but finally we got views good enough to recognize a Cetti's Warbler and two young Subalpine Warblers, particularly plain and pale in the colour.

In the moth trap there were about 150-200 moths, so Luca and John had a lot to work in photographing, identifying and releasing each subject. Among the most abundant, we had Four-spotted, Dark Mottled Willow, Vestal and Spotted Sulphur, with tens of individuals, but there were quite a few other noticeable macro moths, including The Amah, Mediterranean Brocade, Ruby Tiger, Pink-barred Eublemma, Devonshire Wainscot and the geometrid *Catarhoe basochesiata*. John's moth trap, set on the window on the first floor, got a very beautiful Spurge Hawk-moth. Dan went with some other members of the group to have a short walk in the Case del Feudo property, having the first encounter with some of its cutest inhabitants: the Fan-tailed Warblers.

After breakfast, we left Case del Feudo at 9am, while dark clouds were gathering in the sky. Heading south, we reached the Reserve of Vendicari, along the south-eastern coast of Sicily, and we parked comfortably in the garden of the bar where we were due for lunch, welcomed by a second Luca. We started to walk in the reserve that hosts a number of brackish lakes and some former salt pans. Scanning from the first hides, we spotted some Little Stints on the mud, tens of far Grey Herons, 12 Spoonbills and some Little Egrets, while a Marsh Harrier crossed in the sky. We continued walking on a solid concrete path that went through patches of brambles plenty of berries and then through tall reed-beds: they were all very good habitats for passerines on migration, but unfortunately there was too much wind, so we could only notice some late blooms typical of the salty environments, like those of Golden Samphire and Sea-lavender (*Limonium narbonense*).

Reaching the beach, the sea was rough, and we noticed abundant deposits of egagropiles, funny spherical products of the underwater prairies of Neptune Grass (*Posidonia oceanica*) carried on the shore by the waves. The path went now parallel to the sea-side, going through a maquis of Mastic Tree and Prickly Juniper (*Juniperus oxycedrus* ssp. *macrocarpa*), and we noticed wonderful patches of Sea Daffodils (*Pancratium maritimum*) in bloom on the sand dunes. Checking the soil where we were walking, our eyes were attracted by some Red-veined Darters and Littoral Tiger Beetles, the large darkling beetle *Tentyria grossa* and the grasshopper *Acrotylus longipes*.

From another hide that faced to the Pantano Roveto, we spent some more time scanning: there were about 150 Slender-billed Gulls, among which we found an Audouin's Gull with an Italian ring, plus one Greenshank, 55 Flamingos and 12 distant Shelducks. Then we walked back north spotting, on the shore of the Pantano Grande,

23 Dunlins and two Ringed Plovers, to reach the “tonnara” that appeared in an episode of the famous “Inspector Montalbano”. This former tuna factory, abandoned more than a century ago but used since the 17th century, had lost its roof and had been recently restored, appearing like the ruin of an ancient cathedral: a very atmospheric structure settled in front of a beautiful bay. There nearby, we found the square tower of the Swabian rule, used for centuries to spot the Saracen corsairs: now a great location where to take a memory photo hearing the rumble of the sea.

For lunch, we could choose among a variety of sandwiches all filled with local products, including tuna, artichokes, dried tomatoes, “capponata”, etc. Then Luca told us about a Sicilian delicacy, the “granita siciliana”, a dessert made with creamy ice grains and clementine or lemon juice, coming from the citrus cultivations of the second Luca’s family.

Then we tried to reach the southern side of the reserve, but all the roads were closed, so we decided to move south to Marzamemi. We first stopped by an informal viewpoint to the Marzamemi former saltpans. Behind some Giant Reeds (*Arundo donax*), we saw three Black-winged Stilts, two Spotted Redshanks, some Shoveler and few Teal. The access had changed, with the city centre forbidden to the vehicles, so we had to park a bit further away and walk back to the little town to find a hole in the succession of cream coloured houses that faced the seaside, to have another look into the saltpans. Our presence, with telescopes, cameras and binoculars, aroused the interests of the people around, but we continued birding, finding five Kentish and one Ringed Plover plus three Temminck’s Stints, a rather infrequent species of wader in Britain.

The Naturetrek usual “gelateria” was closed, so we walked back to the minibuses following the shore, hypothesizing about the owner of the incredibly pretty red house on the island offshore the bay. The weather got worse, starting to rain, but we decided to try another brackish water pond, the Pantano Morghella. Here we found a lot of gulls, resting on the mud, some more Ringed Plovers and a couple of Common Sandpipers, but the rain became heavier. We were back by the minibuses when two huge Caspian Terns crossed in flight above us, emitting their awkward calls.

With that heavy shower, the idea was now to return to Case del Feudo but, on the left side of the road, we noticed another little pond plenty of birds. Dan got a glimpse of a frog that revealed itself as a lovely Sicilian Painted Frog, then we started to scan the former saltpans: Grey Herons and four Great Egrets, 13 Snipe and a number of Dunlin and Little Stints, among which was a single Ruff.

After some spare time, we met for the aperitif at 7.30, then the dinner included a risotto with zucchini, some fried seafood and pork meat.

Luca showed the group why the weather was getting so bad: a cyclone was circling just offshore the eastern coast of Sicily and wasn’t clear if it was going to move to the west or, far from us, to the Balkans.

Tonight only John settled his moth trap on his window, while Luca couldn’t because of the downpour.

Day 3

Thursday 17th September

John’s moth trap was particularly successful, because he collected a lot of big moths like Death’s-head Hawk-moth (*Acherontia atropos*), five Convolvulus Hawk-moths (*Agrius convolvuli*), Giant Looper (*Ascotis selenaria*) and a Lappet (*Gastropacha quercifolia*), probably dragged by the strong winds caused by the off-shore cyclone.

Luca and Dan led a rather humid pre-breakfast walk round the estate with some of us, finding some interesting migrants like three Golden Orioles, three Alpine Swifts, Tree Pipit and Sedge Warbler; the latter appeared in the same meadow as the Fan-tailed Warblers and showed well the different jizz between this and other apparently similar species.

After breakfast, we drove for about 50 minutes to the south, arriving to the Pantano Cuba, a brackish water lake that, together with the adjacent Pantano Longarini, was bought by a German foundation, “Stiftung Pro Artenvielfalt”, four years ago with the aim to protect both from illegal hunting, that used to abound in the area, and from the abusive expansion of the neighbouring tourist development related to the Granelli beach. An investment of almost five million euros led to the almost complete enclosure of the two lakes by a fence, together with the adoption of a series of actions for protection, conservation and strengthening of the local biodiversity.

Nino, who works here, received us by the entrance and led the group to discover this corner of Heaven, telling us all the history of the birth of this private reserve and pointing out all the smart installations that were set up in the field in order to increase the local biodiversity: not only dozens of nest boxes on the abandoned buildings, under the roofs or on the trees, but also drinking pools, piles of stones for reptiles, perches for passerines, bug-hotels for solitary bees, meadows mown in stripes for farmland birds and orchids, cleaned areas from the former green houses and garbage, etc.

Despite the rather dry vegetation, we first noticed a lot of insects, including nice butterflies like Swallowtail, Lang's Short-tailed Blue and Plain Tiger, an immigrant from Africa, but also various Crimson Speckled Moths and Cone-headed Grasshopper.

Then some Spoonbills crossed in the sky, followed by 50 Slender-billed Gulls and five Pintail, as we reached the lake edge. On the other side, there were flocks of Little and Common Ringed Plovers, Redshank, Little Egrets, Spoonbills and a couple of Pied Avocets. Floating on the surface of water there were hundreds of Coots, Mallards and Little Grebes while, on the land side, in the prairies, many Fan-tailed Warblers and Whinchats. We had a glimpse of a Hoopoe, so Nino went to flush it again to show it to all the members of the group: what a lovely bird!

Later on we moved on to the other side of the road, edged by hundreds of new native trees, like Olive and Mastic Trees, planted by Nino and his colleagues to create a buffer zone between traffic and lakes, and we entered in the Pantano Longarini. It was a recent acquisition of the Stiftung Pro Artenvielfalt Foundation, so the view point was still rather unofficial, but from the little abandoned house the view was stunning: a lot of very close Greater Flamingos, with their lovely pink colour, but also many Redshank among which we spotted Greenshank, Black-winged Stilt and four elegant Marsh Sandpipers.

Nino's colleague, Giancarlo, phoned Nino to tell him he had found a Leopard Snake, but he didn't catch it. We rushed over but the reptile had disappeared, and we only managed to locate many Italian Wall Lizards, a Southern Darter and some European Firebugs in the grass. It was now time to have lunch, so we found some nice seats at Pantano Cuba where we consumed the sandwiches prepared in the morning by Dan and Luca. While we were eating, a number of Marsh Harriers and Kestrels passed over.

After lunch we went to another viewpoint of Pantano Longarini. On a muddy island, there was a big flock of white birds that revealed themselves to be Black-headed and Slender billed Gulls together with few Sandwich and Caspian Terns. There were also many small waders around, including Ringed and Kentish Plovers, Dunlins and Little Stints.

One of the target species of the southern lakes were two species of rare Mediterranean ducks that we had missed so far, so Nino led us to another lake, this time freshwater, with hundreds of Coots. Scanning carefully with telescopes, we spotted first four Purple Swamphens on the edge of the reed-beds, then also a single Ferruginous Duck and a lovely little Marbled Duck, a species that breeds in Italy with less than ten pairs, all concentrated in Sicily: mission accomplished!

We finished our visit of the extreme south of Sicily with the Pantano Baroncello: some of us preferred to have a refreshing swim on the nearby beach, while birders were awarded by close views of Dunlins, Little Stints, Snipes,

Ruffs and Marsh Sandpiper, surrounded by maybe a hundred of pure white Little Egrets in the sunset light. We met again with the others by the beach, enjoying an unforgettable view of the backlight waves of the sea made golden in the colour by the low sunshine.

We came back to Case del Feudo in about an hour, with time to have a shower before the welcome supper based on pasta with broccoli, meat and tarts with fruit topping.

Day 4

Friday 18th September

This morning, since the day was announced to be mainly sunny, it was decided to dedicate it to Mount Etna, the highest peak in Sicily and the tallest active volcano in Europe with an altitude of 3,326 metres: a place where you wouldn't want be in bad weather! So we had an earlier breakfast than usual, at 7am and we left at 8am. On the way to Catania, we took the motorway that crossed the Simeto river valley, where we noticed some White Stork nests, on the pylons, but none of them was around, being possibly already in Africa for the winter. Then, after seeing some weird architectonic structures on the roadside the real function of which we couldn't understand properly (to save the nearby buildings from the traffic noise or the motorway from the rain?), we left the main road to start to climb along the labyrinth of narrow roads that go through the Etna villages, like Mascalucia and Nicolosi.

Our first stop was not far from the so-called Parsifal Park, where we were first welcomed by the passage of Alpine and Pallid Swifts on migration. We then explored the patches of Red Valerian (*Centranthus ruber*), in bloom on the roadside, looking for butterflies: there were a lot of Lang's Short-tailed Blues, but also some Small Coppers, Meadow Browns and Long-tailed Blues. We also heard the calls of a Wood Warbler, present here on migration, but we failed to locate it, keeping hidden in the maquis of Etna Broom (*Genista aetnensis*). We continued driving to the foothills of Monte Concilio, in a lovely mosaic of gardens, orchards and patches of Sweet Chestnut Trees (*Castanea sativa*) and Downy Oaks (*Quercus pubescens*). Another stop produced finally a good view of a second Wood Warbler, plus Blue Tits and Short-toed Treecreepers. A Raven crossed in flight followed by an unidentified large falcon.

We kept climbing among the lava fields, spotting unlucky houses now almost covered by rather recent eruptions and luckier patches of forest that managed to survive, even if surrounded by the threatening hug of dark solidified lava streams.

When we finally reached the Rifugio Sapienza area, we were surprising in noticing how much less crowded it was in comparison with other years: one of the few good effects of the Covid19 had been, in fact, to give the possibility to enjoy particularly touristic destinations in a much more exclusive way. We parked easily in a half empty car park and, after a facilities stop, we took the cable car that led from the Rifugio Sapienza at 1,900 metres to 2,500 metres of altitude. By the top, there was only a bit of breeze, making the climate reasonable when we queued to get in the huge 4x4 coaches that moved us to the 2,700 metres of the so called "Philosopher's hut". The weather was getting worse quickly, but we had still a clear view of the top of Etna, coughing puffs of steams from yellowish sulphur fields.

Luca was just explaining a bit of natural history of the volcanoes and telling us the low possibilities to see any creature but ladybirds on that rocky desert, when John spotted a White-speck Moth arrived by chance in that inhospitable habitat; then we found some of the predicted Seven-spot Ladybirds. A trail led us to climb one of the two Barbagallo craters: when we started to have a loop around, the clouds descended, covering most of the view, but making the place even more dramatic, with few gashes of sunshine and blue sky here and there. Peter decided to train himself by having a second tour of the crater, while the other members of the group took their time, discovering the heat coming from the centre of Earth just digging a bit in the volcanic gravel.

On the way back, from the cable car, Luca noticed a single Rock Bunting and a flock of Rock Sparrows, moving among the patches of grass and Aspens (*Populus tremula*). Back at the Rifugio Sapienza for lunch, we enjoyed the lack of crowd in a self-service restaurant where everybody could choose among a selection of different Sicilian tasty dishes, including the beautiful “melanzane alla parmigiana”, fried aubergines with pizza topping.

In the afternoon, we drove down, having a gorgeous Peregrine Falcon on head along the road, to visit the Piano Vetore area, a peaceful valley with extensions of meadows, maquis of Etna Brooms in blossom, looking like a herd of yellow clouds, and a number of interesting volcanic structures, including solidified pahoehoe lava or former lava tunnels. We were surprised to discover that the seats and an altar set up there had operated as setting for Pope John Paul II to celebrate mass: an unexpected place for the leader of the Catholic Church.

We reached a nice asphalted “boulevard” edged by Black Poplars (*Populus nigra*) where there were quite few birds around, with Stonechats, Wheatear and Whinchat on the fences, and flocks of Rock Buntings and Serins feeding in the grass. The most attractive birds we had were the Coal Tits and, first of all, the famous Sicilian Long-tailed Tits (subsp. *siculus*), that appeared on the side of a woodland of Black Pines (*Pinus nigra* subsp. *laricio*), allowing great observations and showing well their characteristic grey mantle and brownish head.

The rather warm sunshine made the grass alive with hundreds of insects, including the widespread Seven-spot Ladybirds, Praying Mantis and a lot of grasshoppers that included Pygmy Pincer Grasshopper and *Chorthippus messinai*, the latter endemic to Sicily. But the most attractive were the butterflies: John had been particularly happy in finding the green geometrid *Hylaea mediterranea*, endemic to Southern Italy, while the others enjoyed some Queen of Spain Fritillaries, Oberthür's Grizzled Skipper, Hermits and a lot of graylings which species can't be established without dissection, because both Common and Sicilian Grayling are present in the area.

Luca pointed also a number of interesting plants, going from the endemic *Tanacetum siculum*, *Potentilla calabra*, *Rumex aetnensis*, *Centaurea giardiniae*, Etna Bedstraw (*Galium aetnicum*), Etna Barberry (*Berberis aetnensis*) and Etna Milk-vetch (*Astragalus siculus*), with few pale pink flowers and amazing thorns, to some other species in full bloom like Sheep's-bit (*Jasione montana*), Tunic Flower (*Petrorhagia saxifraga* ssp. *gasparrinii*) and Purple Toadflax (*Linaria purpurea*).

Despite the late season, we had still many examples about how much such an isolated high mountain offered to the flora and fauna suitable grounds where to evolve local and endemic forms or species.

But there was still an endemic species to see, possibly the most iconic: the Whitaker's or Sicilian Rock Partridge (*Alectoris graeca whitakeri*), most likely well separated from the mainland Rock Partridges, according to the most recent research. So, we had a last try along the road to Nicolosi, scanning a lava field where Luca had it in 2019. We noticed a singing male Black Redstart on a wire, then a very distant Peregrine Falcon, perched on a rock... but no signs of presence of the partridge. We were deciding to give up when we heard the call of an individual, apparently close to us. A couple of minutes later the Partridge appeared for few seconds on our left, showing for enough to notice the brownish back, distinctive of this subspecies, and the barred flanks!

We celebrated the great day with a sumptuous dinner, having a delicious pasta with fresh ricotta cheese, fried chicken, tuna, aubergines and chips.

Day 5

Saturday 19th September

While Dan led the birding walk in the estate of Case del Feudo, having an unexpected Short-toed Treecreeper, people interested in moths had again Luca's and John's moth-traps to check: possibly more than 200 subjects! The most noticeable were possibly the Mediterranean geometrids *Menophra japygiaria*, *Microloxia herbaria* and *Eucrotes indigenata*, then Passenger, Lace Border, Pale-shouldered Cloud, Dumeril's Rustic, Egyptian Bollworm and the tiny *Dichomeris lamprostoma*. Another find were the poor animals trapped in the almost dried-up swimming

pool of Case del Feudo: some frogs were already died, but Dan managed to rescue six Painted Frogs and a Grass Snake (*Natrix helvetica sicula*): well done!

After breakfast, we drove south going out of the motorway at Avola and starting to climb the sinuous road to Cava Grande. We first stopped by a wonderful viewpoint that faced to the town of Avola and allowed us to appreciate the endless work of humans in the area who built over the centuries a complex system of terraces in order to cultivate all the fertile slopes of the Hyblean upland, now no longer used.

In the blue sky we spotted at least four late juvenile Honey Buzzards, on their way to Africa, while the active scanning of the hill slopes produced Northern Wheatear, Blue Rock Thrush and an unexpected juvenile Spectacled Warbler, characterized by its chestnut-coloured wings. While Luca was attracted by a sick Copper Demoiselle, identified by its funny purple vent and by the dark green wings, Dan found a lovely Mediterranean Mantis.

We had another stop on the way, exploring a dry meadow in the upland where we spotted the first Sicilian Wall Lizards, a couple of huge spiders *Argiope lobata* and Dan managed to catch a gorgeous Ocellated Skink.

At Cava Grande we parked in the shade of the trees and we walked along the edge of a dramatic gorge almost 500 metres deep: tourist often walk down to the stream to swim in stunning green pools, but with a hot sunshine we didn't consider that opportunity because of the long ascent we would have to climb afterwards, to come back to the car park! We were happy enough in enjoying the view to the caves on the other side of the gorge where people in bygone ages found a safe place where to hide temporarily from the raids of pirates. From a viewpoint we could see a Blue Rock Thrush moving on a cliff while a couple of Cleopatra flew around us.

We continued walking in an interesting maquis of scattered trees of Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and Almond-leaved Pear (*Pyrus spinosa*), shrubs like Pink Rock-rose (*Cistus creticus*), Yellow Restharrow (*Ononis natrix ramosissima*), Osyris (*Osyris alba*) and the huge Mauritania Grass (*Ampelodesmos mauritanicus*). We encountered a lot of nice butterflies going from the large Swallowtail, Tree Grayling and Large Banded Grayling, to smaller ones like Southern Blue, Baton Blue and Mallow Skipper. But the true star was the Sicilian Grayling: we found two or three very fresh individuals that could be definitely identified here, as Common Grayling has never been reported.

The birding, probably because of the heat, was rather slow, with a Woodlark and two Ravens as we walked to a panoramic hill, but the flora, despite the time of the year, was still rich, going from the Ivy-leaved Cyclamens (*Cyclamen hederifolium*) in bloom, to the white Sweet Alyssum (*Lobularia maritima*), the pink *Dianthus rupicola*, the blue Winged Larkspur (*Delphinium halteratum*) and the ancient Mediterranean Clubmoss (*Selaginella denticulata*) on a shady wall.

We had lunch, finally in refreshing shade, in a nice restaurant where we tried a mix of appetizers and local products, including homemade pizza, bruschetta, zucchini, peppers, aubergines and cheese.

Then we drove for about half an hour first in the flat upland, then in a series of narrow valleys and hills, unfortunately often burnt by recent fires, until we reached the town of Noto, the famous "capital of the Sicilian Baroque". Designated World Heritage by the UNESCO in 2002, together with some other centres in the valley, Noto was destroyed by a violent earthquake in 1693, but totally reconstructed eight kilometres away from the ancient site in the same architectural style, the Baroque. The warm colours of the local stone, going from pale yellow, to ochre and pink, look particularly bright in the afternoon light. Luca left us an hour and half to explore the city centre or, as most of us did, have a lovely ice-cream or granita sitting in a bar.

We got back to Case del Feudo at 5.30pm and Dan spotted, and this time caught, a gorgeous Leopard Snake, possibly the most beautiful snake in Europe with its coral red spots rimmed in black!

After another rich supper, we met again to have a night walk round the property: on the walls of the buildings were plenty of cute Moorish and Turkish Geckos, distinguished by the different shape of their toes, as well as millipedes and snails. Unfortunately, owls were not particularly active, but we managed to hear in the distance a Scops and a Little Owl.

Day 6

Sunday 20th September

Today Luca led the pre-breakfast walk round the grounds, but there were not many signs of migration among the citrus trees, with only a couple of Buzzards and Fan-tailed Warblers of note, plus two nice dragonflies, an immature male of Violet Dropwing and a Blue Emperor. Dan accompanied John in checking the two moth traps that this time contained the beautiful erebid *Grammodes bifasciata*, Buff-tip (*Phalera bucephala*) and the Mediterranean noctuids *Antirrhinum Brocade*, *Mythimna languida*, *Mythimna sicula* and *Condica viscosa*.

This morning we visited Penisola Magnisi, a peninsula that projects off-shore from the ugly rusty industrial centre of Priolo and Augusta, less than half-an-hour's drive. This site had been inhabited by humans since Neolithic times (in fact, discovered here were the remains of the settlement of Thapsos) but today hosts an extraordinary peace, particularly rich prairies covered in thistles and a breath-taking deep-blue sea.

As we arrived, 15 Sandwich Terns flew above our heads. We started to walk along the isthmus, past some ugly abandoned buildings now colonized by big Fig trees (*Ficus carica*), where we observed a lot of Spotless Starlings, Italian and Tree Sparrows and a single Spotted Flycatcher.

The vast prairie of the peninsula, that in spring shows a palette of different thistles and other prickly daisies was now all died in the tall stems, but the recent thunderstorms had allowed to some new plants to grow at a lower level: extensions of European Heliotrope (*Heliotropium europaeum*), Lesser Calamint (*Clinopodium nepeta*), Common Leadwort (*Plumbago europaea*) and Common Purslane (*Portulaca oleracea*), among which we noticed Autumn Squill (*Prospero autumnale*), Autumn Grape-Hyacinth (*Muscari parviflorum*) and Autumn Mandrake (*Mandragora autumnalis*), all perfectly in flower.

This deep green layer appeared to be suitable for a lot of butterflies and moths like Eastern Bath White (*Pontia edusa*), Crimson-speck Moth and its caterpillars, Clouded Yellow (*Colias crocea*) and Cotton Bollworm Moth (*Helicoverpa armigera*), but also for Italian and Sicilian Wall Lizards and a number of other species of insects.

It took some time to flush the first Stone Curlews, usually frequent in the area, while the peace of the place had for soundtrack the songs and the calls of tens of Crested Larks, Wheatears, Fan-tailed Warblers, Goldfinches and Tawny Pipits.

We reached the Second World War bunkers, now derelict, then we explored a small courtyard with a hedge of Prickly Pears and a beautiful bush of Rosemary in blossom plenty of butterflies like a fresh Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*). Some members of the group decided that it was hot enough to come back by the isthmus to have a refreshing swim in the calm bay, while some others kept birding and encountering some more Stone Curlews.

When we were not far from the Aragonese Tower, a Tree Pipit flew on a wire giving for some time the impression to be something else, but the heat was pitiless for everybody.

We came back to the minivans where we had a picnic lunch with the sandwiches prepared by Luca and Dan, facing the turquoise shallow waters of the Ionian sea, but never stopping to look for birds: we had in fact 2 Caspian Terns, 3 Honey Buzzards and 2 Marsh Harriers on passage in flight.

In the afternoon we dedicated to some historical aspects of Sicily, visiting the Archaeological park of Syracuse. In the Greek and Roman time, the so called Neapolis, the "new town", being out of the city walls, was a useful area where to bury the deaths or where to provide fun for alive people, with the presence of a well preserved Greek Theatre and of a small Roman Amphitheatre.

The Covid19 restriction imposed a fixed route of visit, so we started from the coolest place, the Latomia del Paradiso, where a shady garden plenty of big trees lies on the side of a cliff in which generations of ancient people, mainly prisoners, dug amazing quarries of stone. One of those is known with the famous name of “Ear of Dionysus” because of Caravaggio’s interpretation of the special shape and acoustic of the cave: he invented that it was the mad tyrant Dionysus’s tool to hear the groans of its prisoners.

On the walls of the Ear, we noticed a pair of large beetles, possibly belonging to the genus *Blaps*, and the jumping spider *Menemerus semilimbatus*.

So we went to the Greek Theatre: by the top of the cavea, there was a large nymphaeum, an artificial waterfall alimented by an ancient aqueduct. Some of this water penetrated also on the sides of the cliff, creating a couple of pools where we spotted Southern Skimmer (*Orthetrum brunneum*), Keeled Skimmer (*Orthetrum coerulescens*) and Broad Scarlet (*Crocothemis erythraea*).

The last to visit was the amphitheatre, where we were attracted by the beauty of the planted Peruvian Peppertrees (*Schinus molle*), with pinnate leaves and tiny white flowers, and by the flights of some passerines: one or two Spotted Flycatchers on the fence and a marvellous male of Common Redstart, still almost in breeding plumage.

Then we came back to the minivans to drive to the Syracuse City Center, the island of Ortigia: while Luca and Dan struggled to find a car park, we were dropped nearby the Greek temple of Apollo and, from there, we had one hour and half to wander around, having another lovely “gelato”, visiting the stunning cathedral, that used to be a Greek temple, the Aretusa freshwater spring and the unforgettable main square in the late afternoon light.

Here we met again our leaders that gathered the group to come back for dinner to Case del Feudo.

Day 7

Monday 21st September

The pre-breakfast walk offered today the nice view of a Common Whithroat, while much busier was the job of the moth-trappers, with other 200 subjects to check. The most interesting macros we had were Grass Eggar (*Lasiocampa trifolii*), Geometrician (*Grammodes stolidi*) and two similar *Grammodes bifasciata*, Radford's Flame Shoulder (*Ochropleura leucogaster*), Cream Drab (*Xanthodes albago*) and the noctuid *Mythimna prominens*.

The micros were richer than usual and, besides the species we had already, we added the attractive Scarce Crimson and Gold (*Pyrausta sanguinalis*), the crambid *Diasemiopsis ramburialis*, the cosmopterigid *Pyroderes argyrogrammos* and individuals of the genus *Euchromius* (a crambid) and, possibly, *Oxypteryx* (a black and white gelechid).

Dan first spotted and caught with gloves a nice Italian Edible Frog (*Pelophylax synkl. hispanicus*) in garden of the Case, showing the specimen to all the group, then helped some of us to fill the annoying Covid19 form necessary to come back to UK.

We finished enough early with the form and the loading of the suitcases in the minivans to be on the way just after half past nine, managing to avoid another severe temperature control of Ms La Greca and saving some additional time for birding during the morning.

We drove for about 45 minutes to stop, not far from the airport, by the remote mouth of the Simeto river, the second longest in Sicily. While Dan stayed with the minivans, keeping them safe, the others followed Luca on the bank, birding for the last time in the holiday.

We first noticed some interesting dragonflies with dark tips of the wings: individuals of the rare Northern Banded Groundling (*Brachythemis impartita*), an African species reported in Europe only in southern Spain, Sardinia and Sicily.

Few minutes later Luca heard the call of the sought-after Penduline Tits: a number of them came close, perching on the tamarisk branches or feeding on the reeds.

We walked for some hundreds of metres, birding on both the sides of the bank. On the left, in a little tidal marsh, we had a couple of young Greater Flamingos and an obliging Little Ringed Plover in perfect light that showed well the yellow eye ring through the telescope. On the right we scanned hard a large group of hundreds of Yellow-legged Gulls, resting on the sand by the mouth of the river. Despite the backlight, we managed to spot by telescope a single adult of Lesser Black-backed Gull, probably belonging to the Baltic subspecies *fuscus*, 4 Caspian Terns, 1 Grey Plover and the only Oystercatcher of the trip.

Ann descended to the sandy beach to finally take a close picture of a Sea Daffodil, finding wonderful blooming plant.

They were the last observations, because at 11.15 we had to move to the airport: few minutes of drive and we said goodbye to Luca, getting in a busy Catania airport perfectly on time to do our check-in with no rush.

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Leopard Snake (Dan Lay)

Checklists

Birds

	Common name	Scientific name	TL	September						
				15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1	Sicilian Rock Partridge	<i>Alectoris graeca whitakeri</i>	X				1			
2	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	L		1					
3	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	X		15	10				
4	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>	X			2				
5	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	X		20	50				
6	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	X		5	100				
7	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	X			5				
8	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	X		5	5				
9	Marbled Duck	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>	X			1				
10	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	X			3				
11	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	X			1				
12	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	X			3	3			
13	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	X				20	2	1	
14	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia "domestica"</i>	X	30	100	30	50	10	50	10
15	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	X	10	20	20	15	15	20	10
16	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	X			2				
17	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	X	30	20	30	10	5	10	5
18	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	X		2	5				2
19	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	X			1000				
20	Western Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	X			6				
21	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	X			150				
22	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	X			4				
23	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	X		60	300				3
24	Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicnemus</i>	X						30	
25	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	X							1
26	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	X		5	30				
27	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	X			2				
28	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	X							1
29	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	X		5	20				
30	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	X			5				2
31	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	X		10	2				
32	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	X			1				
33	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	X			1				
34	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>	X		2	10				
35	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	X		4	1				
36	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	X		35	50				
37	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	X		30	10				
38	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	X		13	5				
39	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	X		3	1				
40	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	X			50				
41	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatalis</i>	X			5				
42	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	X		3	5				
43	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	X		2	3				
44	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	X		1	5				
45	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>	X		150	60				
46	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	X		50	100				10
47	Audouin's Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus audouinii</i>	X		5	2				

	Common name	Scientific name	TL	September							
				15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
48	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	X	5	100	5				2	500
49	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	X								1
50	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	X	2		1				18	
51	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	X		2	4				2	4
52	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	X		1	5					
53	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	X		12	30					
54	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	X	20	1						20
55	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	X		50	50					5
56	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	X		2	4					
57	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	X		10	100				1	3
58	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	X					4		3	
59	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	X		3	5				5	
60	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	X		1	2	3	2	3	3	2
61	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	X				H	H			
62	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>	X					H			
63	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	X			2				1	1
64	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	X		2	2					
65	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	X	5							
66	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	X	2	1	5	2	2	3	3	2
67	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	X			1					
68	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	X				1				
69	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	X			3					
70	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	X	2	H	2	2H	2	5	3	3
71	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	X	5	10	5	5	3	20	10	10
72	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	X							3	1
73	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	X			3	4			H	2
74	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	X				1	2			
75	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	X				6				
76	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	X				3	3		H	
77	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	X		2		3	1	2		H
78	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>	X								5
79	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	X				6	1			
80	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	X		H	10	1	H	20	3	3
81	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	X			2					
82	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	X	20	50	10	20	5	5	10	10
83	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	X			10		100	6		
84	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	X	H	5	5H	H	2H	3H	3H	3H
85	Sicilian Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus siculus</i>	X				5				
86	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	X				2				
87	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	X				2				
88	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	X			1					
89	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	X	3	5	10		3	10	5	5
90	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	X				H				
91	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>	X	2	5	10		5	5	5	5
92	Eastern Subalpine Warbler	<i>Curruca cantillans</i>	X		2					H	
93	Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>	X								1
94	Spectacled Warbler	<i>Curruca conspicillata</i>	X					1			
95	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>	X				1				
96	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	X				2	2H			
97	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>	X				3	2			
98	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	X	20	30	30	30	10	30	5	5

	Common name	Scientific name	TL	September						
				15	16	17	18	19	20	21
99	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	X		1	3	H	1	2	1
100	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	X			1			4	
101	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	X				H		H	
102	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	X				1			
103	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	X						1	
104	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	X					2		
105	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	X				2			
106	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	X		1	3	1		1	
107	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	X			1	1	1	20	
108	Italian Sparrow	<i>Passer italiae</i>	X	10	10	100	10	5	30	10
109	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	X	H	H	5			10	10
110	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>	X				20			
111	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	X		2	5	1		1	
112	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	X					H	H	
113	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba alba</i>	X	1	1	1		1		
114	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>	X						5	
115	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	X			3			2	
116	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	X					1		
117	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	X						H	H
118	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	X			2	2	H	1	1
119	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	X		3	3	3	1	20	5
120	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	X				20	1		
121	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	L			H				
122	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>	X				4			
123	Girl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>	L					H		

	Common name	Scientific name	TL	September						
				15	16	17	18	19	20	21
BUTTERFLIES:										
1	Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>	X					1		
2	Oberthür's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>	X				2			
3	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	X	1		2		5	2	
4	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	X	1						
5	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	X			1	5			
6	Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>	X				1	3	5	
7	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	X	1		1	2	1	1	
8	Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>	X	1				3		
9	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	X				3	1		
10	Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	X	2	1		2			
11	Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>	X			1	30		3	
12	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	X	1	1	1	1		2	1
13	Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes baton</i>	X					3		
14	Southern Blue	<i>Polyommatus celina</i>	X					1	1	
15	Geranium Bronze	<i>Cacyreus marshalli</i>	X					1		
16	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	X			1		1	2	
17	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	X		1			1	1	
18	Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	X				3			
19	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	X			1	2	2	2	
20	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	X				1	1		

				September						
	Common name	Scientific name	TL	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	Great Banded Grayling	<i>Brintesia circe</i>	X					1		
22	Tree Grayling	<i>Hipparchia sttilinus</i>	X					5		
23	Sicilian Grayling	<i>Hipparchia blachieri</i>	X					3		
24	Common Grayling	<i>Hipparchia</i> cfr. <i>semele</i>	X				20			
25	The Hermit	<i>Chazara briseis</i>	X				2			
26	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	X				1	5	1	
27	Plain Tiger	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>	X			1				
	MOTHS:									
	MACROS:									
1	Death's-head Hawk-moth	<i>Acherontia atropos</i>	X			1				
2	Pale Shoulder	<i>Acontia lucida</i>	X		1	2		1	25	3
3	Grey or Large Sagger	<i>Acronicta psi/cuspis</i>	X						1	
4	Knot Grass	<i>Acronicta rumicis</i>	X						1	1
5	Sorcerer	<i>Aedia leucomelas</i>	X		1		3	3	1	3
6	Convolvulus Hawk-moth	<i>Agrius convolvuli</i>	X			5	1			
7	Dark Sword Grass	<i>Agrotis ipsilon</i>	X		5	1	2	1	1	
8	Shuttle-shaped Dart	<i>Agrotis puta</i>	X						1	4
9	Turnip	<i>Agrotis</i> cfr. <i>segetum</i>	X		1			1		
10	Gregson's Dart	<i>Agrotis spinifera</i>	X		3	1		1		1
11	Giant Looper	<i>Ascotis selenaria</i>	X			1		3	1	
12	Yellow Belle	<i>Aspitates ochrearia</i>	X					1		
13	Porter's Rustic	<i>Athetis hospes</i>	X		5	10	4	20	20	15
14	Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	X	1	1	30	12	5	100	3
15	Flame	<i>Axylia putris</i>	X		2	1	1		2	2
16	Antirrhinum Brocade	<i>Calophasia platyptera</i>	X						1	
17	Pale Mottled Willow	<i>Caradrina</i> cfr. <i>clavipalpis</i>	X		1					2
18	A geometrid	<i>Catarhoe basochesiata</i>	X		1					
19	Pale-shouldered Cloud	<i>Chloantha hyperici</i>	X					1		
20	A noctuid	<i>Condica viscosa</i>	X						3	1
21	A noctuid	<i>Cryphia ochsi/algae</i>	X		2				1	
22	A mocha	<i>Cyclophora</i> sp.	X		1					
23	The Amah	<i>Dysauxes famula</i>	X		2	1	2	3	2	1
24	Passenger	<i>Dysgonia algira</i>	X					2		
25	Egyptian Bollworm	<i>Earias insulana</i>	X					1		1
26	Hoary Footman	<i>Eilema caniola</i>	X		1	5	6	5	5	2
27	Spotted Sulphur	<i>Emmelia trabealis</i>	X		10	2	1	10	10	5
28	Pink-barred Eublemma	<i>Eublemma cochylioides</i>	X		1			3	3	1
29	Purple Marbled	<i>Eublemma ostrina</i>	X		2				2	
30	Small Marbled	<i>Eublemma parva</i>	X		2	20		1	7	2
31	Bordered Emerald	<i>Eucrostes indigenata</i>	X					1	1	
32	Lappet	<i>Gastropacha quercifolia</i>	X			1				
33	An erebid	<i>Grammodes bifasciata</i>	X						3	1
34	Geometrician	<i>Grammodes stolidia</i>	X		2			2	4	2
35	Scarce Bordered Straw	<i>Helicoverpa armigera</i>	X		5	8	10	1	15	1
36	Vine's Rustic	<i>Hoplodrina</i> cfr. <i>ambigua</i>	X		1	1	1	2	2	
37	An emerald	<i>Hylaea mediterranea</i>	X				1			
38	Spurge Hawkmoth	<i>Hyles euphorbiae</i>	X		1			1		
39	Portland Ribbon Wave	<i>Idaea degeneraria</i>	X		5		2	3	3	5
40	A wave	<i>Idaea distinctaria</i>	X		2					
41	A wave	<i>Idaea efflorata</i>	X				1	2		

	Common name	Scientific name	TL	September						
				15	16	17	18	19	20	21
42	Rambur's Wave	<i>Idaea elongaria</i>	X					1	2	
43	Lustrous Least Carpet	<i>Idaea filicata</i>	X		3	2	6	5	5	10
44	Small Dusty Wave	<i>Idaea seriata</i>	X		1		2			
45	Satin Wave	<i>Idaea subsericeata</i>	X		1					1
46	Oak Eggar	<i>Lasiocampa quercus</i>	X							2
47	Devonshire Wainscot	<i>Leucania putrescens</i>	X		1				1	
48	Dumeril's Rustic	<i>Luperina dumerilii</i>	X					1		
49	Hummingbird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	X	2				1		
50	A geometrid	<i>Menophra japygiaria</i>	X					1		
51	Herb Emerald	<i>Microloxia herbaria</i>	X					1		
52	A noctuid	<i>Mythimna congrua</i>	X							1
53	Clay	<i>Mythimna ferrago</i>	X		1					
54	A noctuid	<i>Mythimna languida</i>	X						1	
55	A noctuid	<i>Mythimna prominens</i>	X						1	1
56	A noctuid	<i>Mythimna sicula</i>	X						2	
57	White-speck	<i>Mythimna unipuncta</i>	X				1		1	
58	An erebid	<i>Nodaria nodosalis</i>	X		1				1	
59	Large Yellow Underwing	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	X						2	1
60	Radford's Flame Shoulder	<i>Ochropleura leucogaster</i>	X							1
61	A geometrid	<i>Parascotia nissenii</i>	X				1			
62	An emerald	<i>Phaioграмма etruscaria</i>	X		1	1				
63	Buff-Tip	<i>Phalera bucephala</i>	X					1		
64	Ruby Tiger	<i>Phragmatobia fuliginosa</i>	X		2			3	2	2
65	Vestal	<i>Rhodometra sacraria</i>	X	2	15	10	12	10	20	15
66	Pinion-streaked Snout	<i>Schrankia costaestrigalis</i>	X					1		
67	Middle Lace Border	<i>Scopula decorata</i>	X					1		
68	Mullein Wave	<i>Scopula marginepunctata</i>	X				1		1	
69	A geometrid	<i>Scopula minorata</i>	X						1	
70	Lace Border	<i>Scopula ornata</i>	X			1		2		1
71	A wave	<i>Scopula vigilata</i>	X							1
72	Dark Mottled Willow	<i>Spodoptera ciliium</i>	X		20	1	1	15	2	5
73	Small Mottled Willow	<i>Spodoptera exigua</i>	X		1		1	1	4	1
74	Mediterranean Brocade	<i>Spodoptera littoralis</i>	X		3	2	3	5	2	5
75	Slender Burnished Brass	<i>Thysanoplusia orichalcea</i>								
76	Ni Moth	<i>Trichoplusia ni</i>	X					2	2	1
77	Four-spotted	<i>Tyta luctuosa</i>	X		25	20	4	30	50	25
78	Crimson Speckled	<i>Utetheisa pulchella</i>	X			6			100	
79	Cream Drab	<i>Xanthodes albago</i>	X							1
	MICROS :									
1	A crambid	<i>Achyra nudalis</i>	X		3	1		30	20	30
2	White-streak Grass-Veneer	<i>Agriphila</i> cfr. <i>latistria</i>	X				1			
3	A crambid	<i>Ancylolomia</i> cfr. <i>inornata</i>	X		2			3		1
4	A crambid	<i>Angustalius malacellus</i>	X		1					
5	A crambid	<i>Antigastra catalaunalis</i>	X		1	1	4	5	4	
6	A coleophorid	<i>Coleophora</i> sp.	X							2
7	Privet Tortrix	<i>Clepsis consimilana</i>	X		1	1	1		1	5
8	Unidentified crambid	Crambidae spp.	X						1	
9	A tortricid	<i>Crociosema plebejana</i>	X		2					
10	A tortricid	<i>Cydia</i> cfr. <i>fagiglandana</i>	X				1			
11	A pyralid	<i>Denticera divisella</i>	X		1					

	Common name	Scientific name	TL	September						
				15	16	17	18	19	20	21
12	A crambid	<i>Diasemiopsis ramburialis</i>	X							1
13	A gelechid	<i>Dichomeris lamprostoma</i>	X		1			1	1	
14	Long-legged China-Mark	<i>Dolicharthria punctalis</i>	X		1					
15	European Pepper Moth	<i>Duponchelia fovealis</i>	X			1				
16	Rosy Tabby	<i>Endotricha flammealis</i>	X		1			1		
17	A pyralid	<i>Ephestia</i> cfr. <i>woodiella</i>	X		1	1		1		
18	An elachistid	<i>Ethmia bipunctella</i>	X		3	4	3	1	5	3
19	A crambid	<i>Euchromius</i> sp.	X							1
20	Unidentified gelechid	Gelechidae spp.	X					1		1
21	Old World Webworm	<i>Hellula undalis</i>	X		2				10	
22	Grass Webworm	<i>Herpetogramma licarsisalis</i>	X		2	1		3		1
23	Ornate Hydriris Moth	<i>Hydriris ornatalis</i>	X		1		1	1		2
24	A pyralid	<i>Hypsopygia</i> cfr. <i>incarnatalis</i>	X							1
25	A pyralid	<i>Lamoria anella</i>	X		1	2		2	2	2
26	European Vine Moth	<i>Lobesia botrana</i>	X					3		
27	A pyralid	<i>Loryma egregialis</i>	X			1		1		
28	A pyralid	<i>Maradana fuscolimbalis</i>	X		1			1		1
29	A tineid	<i>Morophaga morellus</i>	X		1			1		
30	Rush Veneer	<i>Nomophila noctuella</i>	X		3	2	2	5	10	10
31	A gelechid	cfr. <i>Oxypteryx</i> sp.	X							1
32	A crambid	<i>Palpita vitrealis</i>	X	1	1	1	4	1	10	
33	Diamondback Moth	<i>Plutella xylostella</i>	X		1		1	3		1
34	Unidentified pterophorid	Pterophoridae spp.	X		2		1	1		
35	Unidentified pyralid	Pyralidae spp.	X		3	1		3	2	3
36	Scarce Crimson and Gold	<i>Pyrausta sanguinalis</i>	X							1
37	A cosmopterigid	<i>Pyroderces argyrogrammos</i>	X						1	2
38	Beet Webworm Moth	<i>Spoladea recurvalis</i>	X						5	
39	Unidentified tineid	Tineidae spp.	X		2			3		
40	Unidentified tortricid	Tortricidae spp.	X		1			1	1	
41	Rusty Dot Pearl	<i>Udea ferrugalis</i>	X		1		2	1	10	1
	OTHER INVERTEBRATES:									
1	Copper Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx haemorrhoidalis</i>	X					1		
2	Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>	X	1		1			3	2
3	Southern Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum brunneum</i>	X						1	
4	Keeled Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>	X						1	
5	Broad Scarlet	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	X	2		1			10	1
6	Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>	X		5	1				
7	Southern Darter	<i>Sympetrum meridionale</i>	X			1				
8	Violet Dropwing	<i>Trithemis annulata</i>	X						1	
9	Northern Banded Groundling	<i>Brachythemis impartita</i>	X							10
10	Cicada Cricket	<i>Svercus palmetorum</i>	X		1					
11	Italian Tree Cricket	<i>Oecanthus pellucens</i>	X					1		
12	A band-winged grasshopper	<i>Sphingonotus caeruleans</i>	X				2	2		
13	A grasshopper	<i>Aiolopus strepens</i>	X		1					
14	A band-winged grasshopper	<i>Acrotylus</i> cfr. <i>longipes</i>	X		1					
15	Yellow-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda fuscocincta</i>	X					50		
16	Red-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda miniata</i>	X	1					3	
17	A grasshopper	<i>Chorthippus messinai</i>	X				1			
18	Cone-headed Grasshopper	<i>Acrida ungarica</i>	X		1	1			1	
19	Migratory Locust	<i>Locusta migratoria</i>	X					2		

	Common name	Scientific name	TL	September							
				15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
20	Lamenting Grasshopper	<i>Eyprepocnemis plorans</i>	X	10						1	
21	Pygmy Pincer Grasshopper	<i>Calliptamus siciliae</i>	X				1				
22	A wood cockroach	<i>Ectobius</i> sp.	X		1						
23	European Firebug	<i>Pyrrhocoris apterus</i>	X	1		1					
24	A seed bug	<i>Dieuches armatipes</i>	X					1			
25	Red Cabbage Bug	<i>Eurydema ornata</i>	X							2	
26	A shield bug	<i>Acrosternum millierei</i>	X		1			1			
27	A mantis	<i>Geomantis larvoides</i>	X							1	
28	Praying Mantis	<i>Mantis religiosa</i>	X				1				
29	Mediterranean Mantis	<i>Iris oratoria</i>	X					1			
30	Marmalade Hover-fly	<i>Episyrphus balteatus</i>	X			1					
31	Unidentified hover-fly	Syrphidae sp.	X					1			
32	A not-biting midges	Chiromonidae sp.	X								1
33	Unidentified robber fly	Asilidae sp.	X		3						
34	A robber fly	cfr. <i>Machimus</i> sp.	X			1					
35	Honey Bee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>	X		5						
36	Four-striped Digger Bee	<i>Amegilla quadrifasciata</i>	X			3				3	
37	Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>	X					D			
38	A carpenter ant	<i>Camponotus nylanderii</i>	X					1			
39	A wasp	<i>Scolia hirta unifasciata</i>	X		1						
40	French Paper Wasp	<i>Polistes</i> cfr. <i>gallicus</i>	X							5	
41	Hornet	<i>Vespa crabro</i>	X		3	1	2	5		1	
42	German Yellowjacket	<i>Vespa germanica</i>	X		1		1				1
43	An ichneumon wasp	<i>Enicospilus</i> sp.	X					1			
44	Seven Spot Ladybird	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>	X			1	20				
45	Littoral Tiger Beetle	<i>Calomera littoralis</i>	X		2						
46	A darkling beetle	<i>Lagria</i> sp.	X								1
47	A darkling beetle	cfr. <i>Tentyria grossa</i>	X		1						
48	A darkling beetle	<i>Pimelia</i> cfr. <i>rugulosa</i>	X			1					
49	A darkling beetle	<i>Blaps</i> sp.	X							2	
50	A diving beetle	<i>Hydaticus leander</i>	X								1
51	A click beetle	Elateridae sp.	X		1			1			1
52	A rhinoceros beetle	<i>Phyllognathus excavatus</i>	X					1			
53	A glowworm	<i>Lampyris</i> cfr. <i>ambigena</i>	X			1					
54	An handsome fungus beetle	<i>Ancylopus melanocephalus</i>	X					1			1
55	A ladybirdspider	<i>Eresus</i> sp.	X				1				
56	A jumping spider	<i>Menemerus semilimbatus</i>	X							1	
57	Angular Orbweaver	<i>Araneus angulatus</i>	X	1							
58	Lobed Argiope	<i>Argiope lobata</i>	X					2			
59	Radiated Wolf Spider	<i>Hogna radiata</i>	X					1			
60	Millipede sp.	Julidae sp.	X		20	10	10	20	10	10	
61	Decollate Snail	<i>Rumina decollata</i>	X			1					
62	Chocolate-band Snail	<i>Massylaea vermiculata</i>	X			10		1			
63	Green Garden Snail	<i>Cantareus apertus</i>	X					1			
64	Garden Snail	<i>Cornu aspersum</i>	X					10			
65	A slug	<i>Milax</i> sp.	X							1	

	Scientific name	Common name	TL	Location
	NB			
	* = species or subspecies endemic of Sicily			
	LYCOPHYTES	CLUBMOSES		
	Selaginellaceae	Lesser Clubmosses		
1	<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	Mediterranean Clubmoss	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
	PTERIDOPHYTES	FERNS & ALLIES		
	Aspleniaceae	Spleenwort Family		
2	<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Rustyback	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
	Dennstaedtiaceae	Bracken Family		
3	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	X	Monte Concilio (Etna)
	Pteridaceae	Maidenhair Fern Family		
4	<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Black Maidenhair Fern	X	Neapolis (Siracusa)
	GYMNOSPERMS	CONIFERS		
	Cupressaceae	Juniper Family		
5	<i>Juniperus communis</i> var. <i>hemisphaerica</i> *	Common Juniper	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)
6	<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i> ssp. <i>macrocarpa</i>	Prickly Juniper	X	Vendicari
	Pinaceae	Pine Family		
7	<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo Pine (planted)	X	Vendicari
8	<i>Pinus nigra laricio</i>	Black Pine	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)
9	<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Umbrella Pine	X	Nicolosi (Etna)
	ANGIOSPERMS	FLOWERING PLANTS		
	Amaranthaceae	Amaranth Family		
10	<i>Amaranthus viridis</i>	Green Callaloo Amaranth	X	Marzamemi
11	<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i>	Sea-Purslane	X	Vendicari
12	<i>Suaeda vera</i>	Shrubby Sea-Blite (leaves)	X	Capo Murro di Porco
	Anacardiaceae	Sumach Family		
13	<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic Tree	X	Capo Murro di Porco
14	<i>Schinus molle</i>	Peruvian Peppertree (planted)	X	Neapolis (Siracusa)
	Apiaceae	Carrot Family		
15	<i>Bupleurum fruticosum</i>	Shrubby Hare's-ear (planted)	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
16	<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Rock Samphire	X	Capo Murro di Porco
17	<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot (dead stems)	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
18	<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo (dead stems)	X	Penisola Magnisi
19	<i>Ferula communis</i>	Giant Fennel (dead stems)	X	Pantano Morghella
20	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Common Fennel	X	Capo Murro di Porco
21	<i>Seseli tortuosum</i>	A fennel	X	Vendicari
	Apocynaceae	Periwinkle Family		
22	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander (planted)	X	Catania (motorway sides)

	Scientific name	Common name	TL	Location
	Araliaceae	Ivy Family		
23	<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
	Asteraceae	Daisy Family		
24	<i>Achillea ligustica</i>	Southern Yarrow	X	Monte Concilio (Etna)
25	<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field Marigold	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
26	<i>Carlina gummifera</i>	Pine Thistle	X	Capo Murro di Porco
27	<i>Carlina hispanica</i> ssp. <i>globosa</i> *	A carline thistle (dead stems)	X	Capo Murro di Porco
28	<i>Carthamus lanatus</i>	Woolly Distaff Thistle (dead stems)	X	Capo Murro di Porco
29	<i>Centaurea aspera</i>	Rough Star-Thistle	X	Marzamemi
30	<i>Centaurea giardinae</i> *	A knapweed	X	Monte Concilio (Etna)
31	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Rush Skeletonweed	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)
32	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Bull Thistle	X	Neapolis (Siracusa)
33	<i>Erigeron bonariensis</i>	Flax-leaved Horseweed	X	Marzamemi
34	<i>Erigeron sumatrensis</i>	Guernsey Fleabane	X	Monte Concilio (Etna)
35	<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp Agrimony	X	Neapolis (Siracusa)
36	<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	False Yellowhead	X	Capo Murro di Porco
37	<i>Helichrysum italicum</i> ssp. <i>siculum</i> *	Curry Plant	X	Monte Concilio (Etna)
38	<i>Helminthotheca echioides</i>	Bristly Ox-tongue	X	Case del Feudo
39	<i>Jacobaea ambigua</i>	A ragwort	X	Parsifal park (Etna)
40	<i>Limbarda crithmoides</i>	Golden Samphire	X	Capo Murro di Porco
41	<i>Onopordum</i> cfr. <i>illyricum</i>	Illyrian Thistle (dead stems)	X	Capo Murro di Porco
42	<i>Picris hieracioides</i>	Hawkweed Oxtongue	X	Monte Concilio (Etna)
43	<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	Common Golden Thistle	X	Vendicari
44	<i>Senecio squalidus</i> ssp. <i>aethnensis</i>	A ragwort	X	Rifugio Sapienza (Etna)
45	<i>Symphotrichum subulatum</i> v. <i>squamatum</i>	Annual Saltmarsh Aster	X	Pantano Longarini
46	<i>Tanacetum siculum</i> *	A tansy	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)
47	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i>	Rough Cocklebur	X	Foce del Simeto
	Berberidaceae	Barberry Family		
48	<i>Berberis aetnensis</i>	Etna Barberry	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)
	Boraginaceae	Forget-me-not Family		
49	<i>Echium italicum</i>	Pale Bugloss (dead stems)	X	Capo Murro di Porco
50	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's-bugloss	X	Parsifal park (Etna)
51	<i>Heliotropium europaeum</i>	Heliotrope	X	Capo Murro di Porco
	Brassicaceae	Cabbage Family		
52	<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea Rocket	X	Vendicari
53	<i>Diplotaxis eruroides</i>	White Rocket	X	Pantano Longarini
54	<i>Diplotaxis tenuifolia</i>	Perennial Wall-Rocket	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
55	<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	Sweet Alyssum	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
	Cactaceae	Cactus Family		
56	<i>Opuntia</i> cfr. <i>ficus-indica</i>	Prickly Pear	X	Capo Murro di Porco
	Campanulaceae	Bellflower Family		
57	<i>Jasione montana</i>	Sheep's-bit	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)

	Scientific name	Common name	TL	Location
	Capparaceae	Caper Family		
58	<i>Capparis spinosa</i> ssp. <i>sicula</i>	Caper Bush (leaves)	X	Capo Murro di Porco
	Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family		
59	<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian	X	Parsifal park (Etna)
60	<i>Sixalix atropurpurea</i>	Sweet Scabious	X	Penisola Magnisi
	Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family		
61	<i>Dianthus rupicola</i>	A pink	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
62	<i>Petrorhagia saxifraga</i> ssp. <i>gasparrinii</i>	a Tunic Flower	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)
63	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder Champion	X	Capo Murro di Porco
	Cistaceae	Rockrose Family		
64	<i>Cistus creticus</i>	Pink Rock-rose (leaves)	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
	Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family		
65	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	X	Marzamemi
	Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family		
66	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Wall Pennywort (dead stems)	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
	Cucurbitaceae	Gourd Family		
67	<i>Ecballium elaterium</i>	Squirting Cucumber	X	Marzamemi
	Ericaceae	Heather Family		
68	<i>Erica multiflora</i>	A heather (leaves)	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
	Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family		
69	<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	Large Mediterranean Spurge	X	Capo Murro di Porco
70	<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress Spurge	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
71	<i>Euphorbia dendroides</i>	Tree Spurge (leaves)	X	Capo Murro di Porco
72	<i>Euphorbia maculata</i>	Spotted Spurge	X	Penisola Magnisi
73	<i>Euphorbia prostrata</i>	Prostrate Sandmat	X	Vendicari
74	<i>Euphorbia segetalis</i>	Corn Spurge	X	Penisola Magnisi
75	<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Castor Oil Plant	X	Case del Feudo
	Fabaceae	Pea Family		
76	<i>Astragalus siculus</i> *	Etna Milk-vetch	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)
77	<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Carob Tree	X	Vendicari
78	<i>Genista aetnensis</i>	Etna Broom	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)
79	<i>Ononis natrix</i> ssp. <i>ramosissima</i>	Yellow Restharrow	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
80	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	False Acacia	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)
81	<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom	X	Vendicari
82	<i>Vachellia karroo</i>	Sweet Thorn	X	Vendicari
	Fagaceae	Beech Family		
83	<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut	X	Monte Concilio (Etna)
84	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holly Oak	X	Neapolis (Siracusa)
85	<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy Oak	X	Monte Concilio (Etna)

	Scientific name	Common name	TL	Location
	Hypericaceae	St. John's-wort Family		
86	<i>Hypericum triquetrifolium</i>	Curled-leaved St. John's-wort	X	Capo Murro di Porco
	Lamiaceae	Deadnettle Family		
87	<i>Clinopodium nepeta</i>	Lesser Calamint	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
88	<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Jerusalem Sage (leaves)	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
89	<i>Thymbra capitata</i>	Spanish Oregano	X	Penisola Magnisi
	Moraceae	Mulberry Family		
90	<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig	X	Capo Murro di Porco
	Myrtaceae	Mirtle Family		
91	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	River Redgum	X	Venicari
92	<i>Myrtus communis</i>	Myrtle	X	Venicari
	Nyctaginaceae	Bougainvillea Family		
93	<i>Mirabilis jalapa</i>	Marvel of Peru	X	Pantano Morghella
	Oleaceae	Olive Family		
94	<i>Olea europaea</i> ssp. <i>oleaster</i>	Olive	X	Capo Murro di Porco
	Papaveraceae	Poppy Family		
95	<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	Yellow Horned Poppy	X	Penisola Magnisi
	Phytolaccaceae	Pokeweed Family		
96	<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	American Pokeweed (planted?)	X	Neapolis (Siracusa)
	Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family		
97	<i>Linaria purpurea</i>	Purple Toadflax	X	Parsifal park (Etna)
98	<i>Plantago crassifolia</i>	A plantain	X	Venicari
	Plumbaginaceae	Thrift Family		
99	<i>Limonium</i> cfr. <i>narbonense</i>	A sea-lavender	X	Venicari
100	<i>Limonium</i> cfr. <i>syracusanum</i> *	A sea-lavender	X	Capo Murro di Porco
101	<i>Plumbago europaea</i>	Common Leadwort	X	Penisola Magnisi
	Polygonaceae	Dock Family		
102	<i>Rumex scutatus</i> ssp. <i>aetnensis</i> *	French Sorrel	X	Monte Concilio (Etna)
	Portulacaceae	Purslane Family		
103	<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Common Purslane	X	Penisola Magnisi
	Primulaceae	Primrose Family		
104	<i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i>	Ivy-leaved Cyclamen	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
	Ranunculaceae	Buttercup Family		
105	<i>Delphinium halteratum</i>	Winged Larkspur	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
	Rosaceae	Rose Family		
106	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile

	Scientific name	Common name	TL	Location
107	<i>Potentilla calabra</i>	A cinquefoil	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)
108	<i>Pyrus spinosa</i>	Almond-leaved Pear	X	Vendicari
109	<i>Rosa</i> cfr. <i>canina</i>	Dog Rose	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)
110	<i>Rubus ulmifolius</i>	Elm-leaved Blackberry	X	Vendicari
111	<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Thorny Burnet	X	Capo Murro di Porco
	Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family		
112	<i>Galium aetnicum</i> *	Mount Aetna Bedstraw	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)
	Salicaceae	Willow Family		
113	<i>Populus nigra</i>	Black Poplar	X	Piano Vetore (Etna)
114	<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen	X	Rifugio Sapienza (Etna)
	Santalaceae	Sandalwood Family		
115	<i>Osyris alba</i>	Osyris	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
	Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family		
116	<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	Wavy-leaved Mullein	X	Capo Murro di Porco
117	<i>Verbascum</i> cfr. <i>thapsus</i>	Great Mullein	X	Parsifal park (Etna)
	Simaroubaceae	Tree of Heaven Family		
118	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of Heaven	X	Nicolosi (Etna)
	Solanaceae	Nightshade Family		
119	<i>Mandragora autumnalis</i>	Mandrake	X	Penisola Magnisi
120	<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Tree Tobacco	X	Penisola Magnisi
121	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Bittersweet	X	Vendicari
122	<i>Solanum</i> cfr. <i>nigrum</i>	Black Nightshade	X	Penisola Magnisi
	Tamaricaceae	Tamarisk Family		
123	<i>Tamarix</i> sp.	A tamarisk	X	Vendicari
	Thymelaeaceae	Daphne Family		
124	<i>Daphne gnidium</i>	Flax-leaved Daphne	X	Capo Murro di Porco
	Verbenaceae	Verbena Family		
125	<i>Lantana camara</i>	Lantana	X	Neapolis (Siracusa)
126	<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	Common Vervain	X	Case del Feudo
	Zygophyllaceae	Caltrop Family		
127	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	Small Caltrops	X	Case del Feudo
	Monocots	Monocotyledons		
	Amaryllidaceae	Daffodil Family		
128	<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	Sea Daffodil	X	Vendicari
	Asphodelaceae	Asphodel Family		
129	<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i>	Branched Asphodel (dead stems)	X	Capo Murro di Porco

	Scientific name	Common name	TL	Location
	Arecaceae	Palm Family		
130	<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	Mediterranean Dwarf Palm	X	Capo Murro di Porco
	Asparagaceae	Asparagus Family		
131	<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	Wild Asparagus	X	Capo Murro di Porco
132	<i>Drimia maritima</i>	Sea Squill	X	Pantano Morghella
133	<i>Muscari parviflorum</i>	Autumn Grape Hyacinth	X	Penisola Magnisi
134	<i>Prospero autumnale</i>	Autumn Squill	X	Penisola Magnisi
	Juncaceae	Rush Family		
135	<i>Juncus acutus</i>	Sharp Rush	X	Vendicari
	Poaceae	Grass Family		
136	<i>Ampelodesmos mauritanicus</i>	Mauritania Grass	X	Cava Grande del Cassibile
137	<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed	X	Case del Feudo
138	<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Hare's Tail	X	Capo Murro di Porco
139	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed	X	Siracusa
	Posidoniaceae	Sea-grass Family		
140	<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	Neptune Grass	X	Vendicari
	Smilacaceae	Smilax Family		
141	<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Common Smilax	X	Case del Feudo

	Common name	Scientific name	TL	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	MAMMALS:									
1	European Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	X		D					
2	European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	X		S				S	
3	Kuhl's Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus kuhlii</i>	L					H		
	AMPHIBIANS									
1	Sicilian Painted Frog	<i>Discoglossus pictus pictus</i>	X		1			6		
2	Italian Edible Frog	<i>Pelophylax synkl. hispanicus</i>	X							1
	REPTILES									
1	Italian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis siculus</i>	X	3	5	5	5	10	20	3
2	Sicilian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis wagleriana</i>	X					5	20	
3	Turkish Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus turcicus</i>	X	2				10		
4	Moorish Gecko	<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>	X	1	2	3	1	10	3	1
5	Ocellated Skink	<i>Chalcides ocellatus tiligugu</i>	X					1		
6	Western Whip Snake	<i>Hierophis (v.) carbonarius</i>	X			D				
7	Leopard Snake	<i>Zamenis situla</i>	X					1		
8	Grass Snake	<i>Natrix helvetica sicula</i>	X					1		