

# Spring Birding in Sicily

Naturetrek Tour Report

15th – 21st April 2022



Archimedes' Tomb



Woodchat Shrike



Spectacled Warbler



Eastern Dappled White

Tour report and images by Luca Boscain



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## Day 1

Friday 15th April

### Fontanarossa airport (Catania), Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza and Capo Murro di Porco

We landed in Catania on time and, despite the deep haze, people that were by the windows managed to see clearly the massive shape of the Mount Etna, the highest volcano in Europe. Here we met Luca, the local guide, at the arrivals gate, while Taea, the other leader, had travelled with us on the plane from Britain.

Out of the airport, unfortunately we had to wait for the two minibuses. Never mind, many of us took out the binoculars from the rucksacks and observed the first Spotless Starlings, typical of North Africa, the Iberian peninsula, Sardinia and Sicily, a single Cattle Egret and some Italian Sparrows, that in Sicily often share strong black patterns of Spanish Sparrow because of past genetic flows: Italian Sparrow, one of the only two sub-endemic species of birds in Italy, is in fact considered an established hybrid in between Spanish and House Sparrow.

We had lunch in a rather authentic Sicilian cafe, receiving a selection of local street food with *arancini* (fried rice balls stuffed with different ingredients), *mozzarella in carrozza* (fried mozzarella sandwiches), *panzerotti* and pizza. Then we drove south along a comfortable motorway for about an hour, observing a White Stork and admiring a large variety of roadside flowers that included Italian Sainfoin (*Sulla coronaria*), Spanish Broom (*Spartium junceum*), Purple Viper's-bugloss (*Echium plantagineum*), Giant Fennel (*Ferula communis*) and many more.

We arrived at the Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza, not far from Syracuse, our base for the week, finding a lovely ancient complex of rural buildings in original Sicilian style, surrounded by luxuriant gardens plenty of Mediterranean and exotic flowering trees, palms and flowerbeds, and we had about 40 minutes to settle down in the new rooms. In few minutes Ken spotted a Willow Warbler in the vegetation, a good sign of the migration going on in the area.

At 3.30 we left, heading to Capo Murro di Porco, the most prominent peninsula south of Syracuse: in spring it is usually a great place where to look for migrant birds arriving from south of the Mediterranean Sea and in fact the cloudy sky was filled with Barn Swallows, House Martins and Common Swifts, among which also we noticed some Sand Martins and one or two Red-rumped Swallows. Scanning round, we quickly spotted a number of Whinchats, Sardinian Warblers and Crested Larks, all showing well on the top of thistles or shrubs, while few Yellow Wagtails crossed in flight. Going through the maquis of Mediterranean Dwarf Palms (*Chamaerops humilis*), Spiny Burnet (*Sarcopoterium spinosum*), Tree Spurge (*Euphorbia dendroides*) and Spiny Asparagus (*Asparagus acutifolius*), we flushed a couple of Tree Pipits.

In the clearings the flora was incredible, with a multi-coloured mix of bluish Barbary Nut (*Moraea sisyrinchium*), Love-in-a-Mist (*Nigella damascena*) and Statice (*Limonium sinuatum*), deep pink Italian Gladiolus (*Gladiolus italicus*), whitish Pale Bugloss (*Echium italicum*) and Bellardia (*Bellardia trixago*), reddish Starry Clover (*Trifolium stellatum*), Mediterranean Star-thistle (*Centaurea sicula*) and Crown Daisy (*Glebionis coronaria*), etc.

Behind a stone wall we could see, through the telescope, a nice male of Woodchat Shrike with its dark red cap, while later on, behind Dwarf Palms, Mastics (*Pistacia lentiscus*) and brooms (*Calicotome* cfr. *infesta*), Luca spotted an odd wheatear perched on the limestones eroded by the waves, the saltiness and the wind, not far from the seaside. Checking carefully by telescope, despite the distance, the wet plumage and a general colour, browner than usual, we noticed the wings with the same tinge of the mantle, the black bridles and the tail, with buff instead of white, but also with a broader black bar at the end than in usual Northern Wheatears: an Isabelline Wheatear, a very rare migrant in Italy! We tried hard to get closer, but the bird was shy.

Coming closer to the seaside, Conny noticed some birds flying above the surface: by telescope we recognized a flock of 70-80 Yelkouan Shearwaters and a couple of far Sandwich Terns, while nearer crossed Yellow-legged and Audouin's Gulls, showing better their yellow and dark red bills.

Then we came back happy to the agriturismo and we met again at 7.15pm to list the species seen during the day, while outside was blowing a freezing strong wind. For supper, at 8pm., we had an appetizer of savoury cakes with vegetables, then a primo made of pasta with fish and cherry tomatoes, a secondo (the main course) with sardines and, finally, the typical Sicilian cannoli as pudding.

## Day 2

Saturday 16th April

### Pantano Cuba and Pantano Longarini

We met at 7am for a pre-breakfast walk in the garden of the agriturismo. We noticed a lot of Italian and Tree Sparrows, on the roofs, and some Serins, showing well on the top of the trees, plus a couple of Turtle Doves perched on a wire. It was harder to get a decent view of the Wood, Willow and Sardinian Warblers that were hopping in the deep foliage. We discovered a great view point from a terrace behind the main building, enjoying the panorama to the crop fields, then we went through a sort of orchard, next to the swimming pool. A male Lesser Kestrel Flew over, followed few minutes later by a flock of 103 Gull-billed Terns: one of the amazing surprises of migration, Gull-billed Terns in the garden!

After a tasty breakfast with freshly homemade cakes, yogurt and ricotta cheese, looked after by Carmen, we left at 9am. We stopped near Avola to shop for the picnic lunches and then we drove south half an hour more, to Pantano Cuba. The meaning of pantano in Sicily is brackish water lake, and those of Cuba and Longarini form one of the crucial migratory stop-overs for European birds. They used to be, until a few years ago, the paradise of poachers, being the first land that a migrant bird from Africa encounters on its way and the Italian rules and patrolling about the illegal hunting being usually too weak. When we came out of the minibuses, we were welcomed by two scuffling Whinchats, three Caspian Terns on passage and last, but not least, by Paolo, one of the guys that work here, giving their soul to the project that involved the area. The Stiftung pro Artenvielfalt, a German non-profit foundation, invested here, in fact, almost 3.5 million euros in order to buy the territory of the two lakes and surrounding areas, enclosing them with a fence in order to exclude every poacher, and to re-wild the habitats, once covered in garbage, green houses and even an illegal horse racecourse.

Paolo showed us the many installations they settled to improve the biodiversity, from the nests for the solitary bees *Megachile sicula*, to the stacks of stones or the logs for reptiles, the nest-boxes for passerines and bats, the perches in the middle of the meadows, etc. We walked through amazing meadows in bloom and, on a corner,

checking more carefully, we noticed many orchids: Naked Man Orchid (*Orchis italica*), Scented Orchid (*Anacamptis coriophora fragrans*), Small-flowered Tongue-Orchid (*Serapias parviflora*), the endemic *Ophrys holoserica* subsp. *biancae*, and, unfortunately now over, Early Spider Orchid (*Ophrys sphagodes*) and Giant Orchid (*Himantoglossum robertianum*). But there were also Tassel Hyacinths (*Muscari*, formerly *Leopoldia comosum*), broomrapes (*Orobanche crenata* and *O. nana*), Purple Salsify (*Tragopogon porrifolius*) and Small-flowered Catchfly (*Silene gallica*), to just mention a few other species of flowers.

From the bank of the Pantano Cuba, behind the reeds, we saw the first Greater Flamingos, while a number of Black-winged Stilts and Wood Sandpipers flew over our heads. The water level was very high, preventing the presence of many waders, but we spotted four Ferruginous Ducks, a male Red-crested Pochard, Garganey, Coots, Great Crested and Black-necked Grebes, well adapted to deeper waters. Unfortunately, there was a strong wind, so only Luca and Paolo managed to hear many Yellow Wagtails and Tree Pipits in flight and, among them, even a Richard's Pipit and a couple of Red-throated Pipits. Easier to hear were the innumerable Zitting Cisticolas and Cetti's Warblers, and we enjoyed notice the lively flight of the Hoopoes. On another corner, at one side of the enclosure that was going to host in a week some donkeys, useful to keep the grass short in some areas, Paolo pointed us Bumble Bee Orchid (*Ophrys bombyliflora*) and Eastern Serapias (*Serapias orientalis siciliensis*).

For lunch we were sheltered from the wind by the headquarter of the foundation, trying during the picnic a selection of Italian cheeses, from the blue gorgonzola to the yellow saffron-flavoured *piacentino ennese*.

Later we explored a labyrinth of hedges with Mastics, Olive trees, Dwarf Palms, etc, all planted one by one by Paolo and his colleagues, and a number of canals, ponds and marshes, looking for migrant passerines, amphibians or dragonflies, but we could only spot some endemic Sicilian Pond Turtles (*Emys trinacris*). Then we continued, on the other side of the road, to Pantano Longarini, where we had tens of Little Egrets, among which were a Great and a Cattle Egret in breeding plumage, two very close Greater Flamingos, some Great Crested Grebes in courtship and Common Terns in flight. We were looking first of all for the Isabelline Shrike reported a week ago but, with the strong wind, we couldn't see anything better than a female Collared Flycatcher. Even the blue sky was empty of raptors or swallows in the afternoon. Never mind, the excursion with Paolo was brilliant, and their conservation and restoration work in such a short time astonishing, so we complimented him strongly when we left the reserve.

Before heading back to Pozzo di Mazza, we drove slowly along a narrow road seeing a male Pied Flycatcher, a Purple Heron in flight and few Wood Sandpipers, and we reached the northern side of Pantano Longarini. From here we walked along a flowered bank, surrounded by Gull-billed and loud Little Terns in flight. We scanned by telescope a couple of artificial islands, but, because of the strong wind and the distance, we couldn't identify the silhouettes in backlight of anything better than Shoveler, Greenshank and Black-winged Stilt.

In the evening we celebrated Ken's birthday with a wonderful supper that included *arancini capunata* (chopped fried aubergines with other vegetables), *pasta alla norma* (with tomato, aubergines and ricotta cheese), chicken and a delicious cake with ricotta cheese.

## Day 3

Sunday 17th April

## Cava Grande del Cassibile, Pantano Morghella and Marzamemi

For the pre-breakfast walk we went through a lemon tree plantation: we heard a Common Nightingale singing from an Oleander hedge, then we saw a Whinchat and a passage of Common Swifts, Barn Swallows, House and Sand Martins in flight, heading to the south, apparently escaping from the bad weather. The morning surprise was today a flock of six Greater Flamingos, crossing over and possibly migrating to the north. Being Easter Sunday, in addition to the usual breakfast, we found a tasty *colomba*, a typical Italian Easter cake, with chocolate, almonds and candied orange bits.

Then we drove south again and, from Avola, we started to climb a bendy road in between two true walls of colourful flowers like Italian Gladiolus, Red Valerian, Hairy Vetch (*Vicia villosa*) and a number of spurge and brooms. We stopped by a view point where we enjoyed a great panorama to the town of Avola, famous because of its *Nero* wine, the Ionian Sea and the ancient terracing along the hill slopes, once all covered in cultivation, but once again the wind was extremely strong.

After passing a convent on a prominent point, we went through a sparse village of summer houses and we stopped to look out into a little valley further on, where the breeze was weaker. Luca had just got out of the minibus when he heard the clear call of a Sicilian Rock Partridge. In few seconds he spotted by telescope a male partridge singing on a stone wall on the other slope of the valley, far maybe 300-400 metres from us. We could all appreciate calmly by telescope the bird, noticing the browner back in comparison with the alpine Rock Partridges and the barred flanks, until Conny discovered there was also a female, few metres behind the male. In the meadow below us, among hundreds of Branched Asphodels (*Asphodelus ramosus*), there were some glorious Naked Man Orchids (*Orchis italica*), Ploughshare (Long-lipped) Serapias (*Serapias vomeracea*) and Bearded Iris (*Iris* × *germanica*), while keeping scanning by binoculars, we found a singing male Cirl Bunting, a couple of Rock Sparrows and the first Stonechat of the trip.

We continued among the stone walls of the Hyblean upland till the car park of Cava Grande, a gorge almost 500 metres deep where the river Cassibile flows, forming a number of green water pools, very popular among tourists in summer. After a quick stop for a coffee or facilities, we explored the edges of the gorge, admiring the landscape and looking for flora: in the rocks, we spotted the first tiny Mirror Orchids (*Ophrys speculum*) and Luca told us how to distinguish the Yellow Bee (*Ophrys lutea*), large with an angled profile of the lip, from the Lesser Yellow Bee Orchids (*Ophrys lutea* subsp. *galilaea*, formerly *O. sicula*), smaller with a flat lip and a dark swallow tail like pattern.

Those were the first of a long series of orchids we encountered: Naked Man Orchid again, then Pink Butterfly Orchid (*Anacamptis papilionacea* subsp. *expansa*), Sombre Bee Orchid (*Ophrys fusca*), Long-lipped Serapias, and a number of other wonderful flowers like Broad-leaved Anemone (*Anemone hortensis*), Kidney Vetch (*Anthyllis vulneraria* subsp. *maura*), Pink Cistus (*Cistus creticus*), Perfoliate Alexanders (*Smyrniium perfoliatum* subsp. *rotundifolium*), Friar's-Cowl (*Arisarum vulgare*) and Valeriana (*Fedia*) *graciliflora*.

We went into a scattered woodland of Aleppo Pines, Hawthorns and Manna Ashes, hearing the calls of various flycatchers and warblers, but we had to struggle a lot to finally spot a Pied Flycatcher and a Subalpine Warbler in the foliage. With a hint of sunshine, in addition to six Ravens, a Hobby and some Woodlarks in territorial song,

few butterflies started to fly: Common Swallowtail, Small Heath, Orange Tip and Austaut's Blue (*Polyommatus celina*), the North African version of Common Blue. A male Golden Oriole crossed in flight going to perch not far and in the open on a pine, allowing to most of the group to have a decent view through the telescope.

Then we moved, along cattle trails, to an area with more sparse vegetation and, after some search, we found pair of Spectacled Warblers of which male showed perfectly for a while on the top of a shrub. On the stone wall that sided the path, we noticed some more species of orchids: Man Orchid (*Orchis anthropophora*), Long-spurred (Green-winged) Orchid (*Anacamptis morio* subsp. *longicornu*), Sawfly Orchid (*Ophrys tenthredinifera*), Dark Bee Orchid (*Ophrys sphegodes* subsp. *atrata*), *Ophrys exaltata* and Giant Orchid, once again over.

The weather got worse quickly and, when it started to thunder, we came back to shelter under the roof a restaurant, where Luca and Taea had prepared a picnic with some yellow melon slices as well. It was definitely a perfect timing, we could say, because the thunderstorm with heavy rain lasting right for the time of lunch, stopping when we finished eating.

The sunshine came up again, so we tried a second time to look out of a derelict terrace, into the gorge, and we spotted a very obliging male Blue Rock Thrush that stayed for ages while we were spying it through the telescope.

Later we drove for about an hour to the south-eastern corner of Sicily, visiting the Pantano Morghella, another brackish water lake not far from the Ionian Sea.

Here we added Little Grebe, Grey Heron, Moorhen and 12 Squacco Herons, having rest on a grassy bank, and we met the famous Italian ornithologist Andrea Corso with another group of birdwatchers, who showed us a poor Short-eared Owl unfortunately found dead.

Among the dry grass, there were still a lot of flowers like Blue Statice, Large-flowered Golden Thistle (*Scolymus grandiflorus*), Upright Yellow-Flax (*Linum strictum*), Small Restharrow (*Ononis reclinata*) and Spiny Starwort (*Pallenis spinosa*) and light blue and red patches of Blue Stonecrop (*Sedum caeruleum*).

We celebrated the great day in the field driving to Marzamemi, a lovely fishermen village along the coast where we encountered all the best of the Italo-sicilian style, with thousands of people on walk, after the rich Easter banquet, along the seaside with their coolest clothes and dresses. Here we had a deserved Italian ice cream in an award-winning gelateria and then we looked out to the ancient saltpans, seeing Flamingos, Black-winged Stilts and eight Ruffs, apparently careless of the thick crowd.

We came back to the Pozzo di Mazza at almost 7pm. and, one hour later, we had another rich dinner with *bruschette*, pizza, pasta with ricotta cheese and zucchini, swordfish and strawberries.

Coming out, a Scops Owl was singing, before the arrival of another night thunderstorm.

## Day 4

Monday 18th April

## Saline di Priolo and Penisola Magnisi

With the bad weather of the night, it was worth having a good look in the garden for migrants so, early in the morning, we went around the swimming pool and we had a good time seeing male Pied and Collared Flycatchers, Whinchat, Wood and Willow Warbler plus another flock of Flamingos on transfer in the cloudy sky.

After breakfast, we drove half an hour north to the Saline di Priolo and, when we arrived, there were still few raindrops, but also a hint of sunshine. We were welcomed by the incredibly friendly staff of LIPU, the Italian partner of Birdlife International, that manages the protected area and we were introduced to the history of the reserve. The ancient salt pans were in fact heavily polluted by the nearby industrial area and an oil pipeline used to cross the wetland, while now, with a great recovery plan, the quality of the water has improved strongly, allowing the Flamingos to start to breed for the first time in Sicily. The bad news was however that most of the reserve had been burnt by a criminal fire in July 2019 and the vegetation was still recovering, while the funds to rebuild the hides were waiting to be approved by the usually slow politics. While listening, five Bee-eaters crossed in the sky, then two Hoopoes, two Woodchat Shrikes and a Pied Flycatcher appeared: a great start indeed! We walked through the bush to the former *capanno 4*, a hide destroyed by the fire. The wet grass of the path was filled with tens of Painted Frogs, most of them neo-metamorphosed ones, but also few adults. Among the many flowers, the first butterflies began to climb the stems, trying to heat up, including Eastern Dappled White (*Euchloe ausonia*), Small Heath (*Coenonympha pamphilus*), Austaut's Blue and Small White (*Pieris rapae*).

Nearby the former pipeline that used to be the footbridge to the hide, there were plenty of Greater Flamingos feeding in the deep water, while on the other side Italian Edible Frogs (*Pelophylax* cfr. *hispanicus*) were in full singing contest, despite the also loud calls of the Flamingos and the much less natural traditional Italian music sounding from the close beach: at least we had the satisfaction that the bad weather reduced the disturbance of Pasquetta (Easter Monday), a national bank holiday in Italy.

From the *capanno 3*, the only surviving hide, unfortunately the Flamingos were much further away, possibly trying to escape the loud music, so we only saw some Barn Swallows and Sand Martins, flying above the water surface, one Gadwall and a couple of male Shoveler. Coming back first to prepare the picnic on some tables and seats in the shade of the trees, Luca and Taea observed Spotted Flycatcher, Common Redstart and Lesser Whitethroat. The lunch included pizzette and beautiful bundles filled with vegetables and cheese. Unfortunately, black clouds started to gather again at the horizon.

In the afternoon, we went along the isthmus of the Penisola Magnisi, next to an abandoned establishment of industrial storage, and, in the foliage of tamarisks and figs, we noticed first a Pied Flycatcher among tens of Italian Sparrows, then an unexpected Wryneck appeared on a pole, showing for few seconds in the telescope. Later we climbed the edge of the peninsula in a sea of multi-coloured thistles, like *Scolymus grandiflorus*, *Silybum marianum* and *Notobasis syriaca*: as usual, with the bad weather, there were plenty of fallen migrants. Amazingly, four or five Common Whitethroats were hopping on the posts, together with two Woodchat Shrikes, Subalpine Warbler, Whinchat, Sardinian Warbler. Then, while we were threatened by the rain on arrival above the far refineries, we had a singing Corn Bunting in the distance, we flushed a Curlew and a Greater Short-toed Lark landed not far from us in the middle of the path, allowing few good shots! Luca had just heard a Red-throated

Pipit when the heavy shower started: we ran to the minibuses, but we were rather far and we got completely wet. The thunderstorm continued, so we decided to finish with the field activities and to come back earlier than usual to the hotel.

In the evening, Luca settled the moth trap and used a bat detector to identify the bats that were flying around as Kuhl's Pipistrelles (*Pipistrellus kuhlii*), one of the commonest urban species in Italy.

For supper we had *capuliatu* pasta, sausages, spicy meatballs and homemade lemon jelly.

## Day 5

Tuesday 19th April

### Mount Etna

In the morning there wasn't anything in the trap, probably because of the still cool night temperatures, but a couple of Diamondback Moths (*Plutella xylostella*) and a Silver Y, while the clear air allowed incredible view of the Etna peak covered in fresh snow even if it was further than 100 kilometres away. In the orchard, there were two Collared Flycatchers, male and female, a male of Common Redstart, Whinchat and Common Whitethroat, plus about 40 Bee-eaters that crossed in flight.

We left about a quarter earlier than usual, then in less than an hour and half of driving, first along the motorway and then in an intricate network of crowded narrow roads, we arrived in the foothill of a secondary crater of Mount Etna, not far from Nicolosi, called Monti Rossi.

After a steep start, the walk continued almost in flat with the first observation of a Coal Tit, followed by a pair of obliging Firecrests. In the shade of the undergrowth, below the Austrian Black Pines, we found carpets of the introduced Narrow-leaved Lupins (*Lupinus angustifolius*), but also of the endemic race of Green-winged Orchid *longicornu*, with here and there few Branciforti's Orchids (*Orchis brancifortii*), similar to the Four-spotted Orchid but with a much shorter trilobed lip and endemic to Sicily, Sardinia and Calabria.

Then on a stone wall our attention was kept by a number of short delicate plants: Narrow Navelwort (*Umbilicus horizontalis*), Spring Cress (*Arabis verna*) and Early Forget-Me-Not (*Myosotis ramosissima*). When the woodland of pines, Holm and Downy Oaks got more open, Luca pointed us first a Short-toed Treecreeper and then a male of Rock Bunting that showed well in the telescope for minutes. The path continued along a slope where the dark and fertile volcanic ash was colonized by an amazing mix of flowers: Red Valerian, Woad (*Isatis tinctoria*), Crimson Pea (*Lathyrus chymenum*), Field Marigold (*Calendula arvensis*), Long-headed Poppies (*Papaver dubium*) and many more. The crater side was orientated to the south, so with the heat there were a lot of butterflies around like a female of Eastern Orange Tip (*Anthocharis damone*), Green-underside Blue (*Glaucopsyche alexis*), Small Copper (*Lycaena phlaeas*) and Large White (*Pieris brassicae*). A Sicilian Long-tailed Tit appeared for few seconds, enough to show the light brown head, typical of this endemic subspecies, and the long tail.

Later we came back to the minibuses, and we climbed through the lava fields and the patches of the endemic Etna Broom (*Genista aetnensis*). We stopped briefly at a woodland of Sweet Chestnuts, near Monte Concilio to look for orchids: most of them were still in bud, but a stunning Roman Orchid (*Dactylorhiza romana*) bent over,

promptly straighten by Luca with a twig to allow better photos. In the distance we heard the calls of Nuthatch, Blackcap and Chiffchaff, but we had no sightings.

For lunch we went to the Terrazza sull'Etna: a nice self-service restaurant where we could choose a delicious *tris di primi* and salads. In the early afternoon there was no queue at the ticket office of the cable car, so, we climbed smoothly the Etna slopes to an altitude of 2,500 metres. While we were waiting for the 4x4 vehicle, we spotted a Raven in flight. The ascent of the dark ash and pumice fields, with patches of white snow here and there and the shapes of a number of secondary craters, all with a bright sunshine, was quite something.

At an altitude of about 2,700metres, we descended from the coach and followed local volcanologist guide who led us, with tentative but understandable English, along a path to a view point into the Valle del Bove, the valley where most of the eruptions flow, but it was unfortunately covered in clouds. We could see clearly, instead, the three summit craters with fumaroles and yellow sulphur. The strong wind stole Ian's hat: possibly a tribute to the volcano god.

We came back to the restaurant for a coffee break, then we went for a short wander to Piano Vetore: the panorama was gorgeous with glimpses of warm afternoon light on the snowy summit and on the black stripes of solidified lava in the yellow of the grass. There were few birds around: Northern Wheatear, Stonechat, Woodlark, so Luca pointed used the telescope to point out an example pahoehoe lava instead. The flat meadows were all dry, with just few blue flowers of the endemic Etna Violet (*Viola aethnensis*) and the spiny leaves of the also endemic Sicilian Milk-vetch (*Astragalus siculus*).

The trip back to Pozzo di Mazza, despite some traffic, went peacefully and we arrived at the agriturismo at about 7pm, ready for another good dinner with pasta with lemon sauce and sea bream.

## Day 6

Wednesday 20th April

### Vendicari and Syracuse Archaeological Park.

The pre-breakfast walk, today with the sunshine, offered fewer migrants than usual, with just a glimpse of a Golden Oriole for Luca, but in the fresh air of spring we noticed the Tree Sparrows mating on the roof, some noisy flocks of Common Swifts and two Moorish Geckos heating up on a stone wall.

After a short stop at the supermarket in Avola, we drove south to the Nature Reserve of Vendicari. Here we walked along the road to the entry but, despite searching, we missed the skinks on the stone walls, finding only more Moorish Geckos and Italian Wall Lizards. The path continued siding some eucalyptuses and penetrated in a reedbed where we saw a Common Reed Warbler, while a Cetti's Warbler was only heard.

We reached the wonderful beach of Vendicari, one of the most popular among the tourists in summer, and we noticed thousands of odd little sea balls: the aegagropila of the Neptune-grass, an underwater plant that forms vast prairies, one of the most important habitats of the Mediterranean Sea. While we were admiring the shape of ancient tuna factory and the Swabian tower on the horizon, some small flocks of Flamingos flew through the sky, followed by four Spoonbills.

Then we followed the seaside, walking among the garigue of the dunes with Large-fruited Junipers (*Juniperus macrocarpa*), mastic and olive trees and we spotted a lot of interesting flowers like Bee Orchid (*Ophrys apifera*), Yellow-Wort (*Blackstonia perfoliata*), Rosy Garlic (*Allium roseum*), and few birds like Sardinian Warbler and Linnet. Arriving at the southernmost hide, the water level of the lagoon was very high, allowing the presence only of some Greater Flamingos, so we retraced our footprints, heading to the tuna factory that appeared in an episode of the famous Montalbano series. We first observed a Woodchat Shrike on a shrub, then we scanned the northern lagoon from a number of viewpoints. Luca, using his book, told us how to distinguish the different species of waders, often far in the haze, and pointed the pink of the Slender-billed Gull, just behind the first hedge of bushes.

From another small hide, we had much better views of the waders, admiring many of them closer and noting the distinctive features of each species: Ruff, Curlew Sandpiper, Spotted Redshank, Dunlin, Little Stint, Ringed and Kentish Plovers, mainly almost in breeding plumage, despite still being on migration to their nesting grounds in Northern Europe. While Luca and Taea headed back to the minibuses to prepare the picnic in the shade, we stopped by a third hide, nearby which an Italian Festoon (*Zerynthia cassandra*) briefly appeared.

After lunch, we drove north to Syracuse, where we visited the archaeological park called Neapolis, the Greek and Roman “new town” out of the city walls of Ortigia, the old city centre. Going through some luxuriant gardens with large shading trees, we reached the *latomie*, some ancient quarries, spotting an unexpected Peregrine Falcon in fast flight. Here we discovered that, after many years, many trails were finally opened again allowing visits the lesser-known side of the archaeological park. We went first among the citrus groves, noticing the tens of square holes in the cliffs, remains of ancient tombs, and then we continued, enjoying the shade of a monumental centenary Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*) on the way, to the so called “Archimedes’ tomb”.

Then we came back to the most famous “Ear of Dionysus”, a weird shaped artificial cave, we found the first of three female Collared Flycatchers in the garden, and we continued climbing the steps of the Greek Theatre. Still used in summertime, the stone seats were now covered with timber and in the scene was settled a large staircase for shows.

In the crevices of the pale limestones, we noticed many Italian Wall Lizards and tiny flowers like Ground-pine (*Ajuga chamaepitys*), Sicilian Snapdragon (*Antirrhinum siculum*), Small Restharrow, Thin Leaf Brookweed (*Samolus valerandi*) and Rock Capers (*Capparis spinosa* subsp. *rupestris*). From the top of the theatre, we had a great view to the bay behind and we saw the refreshing waterfall of the Nymphaeum, alimented by an ancient aqueduct. We finished with a loop around the “Ara di Gerone” altar and the Roman Amphitheatre, seeing a Pied Flycatcher, a Common Redstart and some more Bee-eaters on migration.

At 6pm, we were at Pozzo di Mazza, plenty of time to pack our suitcases before a dinner with the inevitable pasta, a meat roll with pistachio, a pancake filled with ricotta cheese and, to finish, our daily shot of homemade limoncello.

A melancholic Scops Owl came by night to sing not far from our rooms.

## Day 7

Thursday 21st April

## Fontanarossa airport (Catania)

This morning we had an early start and a light breakfast of a slice of cake and some coffee, because it was the last day, and the flight was scheduled rather early. We were all ready at 7.35am by the minibuses for loading and we drove for about an hour to the Catania airport. On the way we saw once again two White Storks on the nesting poles nearby the Simeto river.

We said goodbye to Luca and Taea, who had a second Sicilian tour, and we had plenty of time to give our suitcases to the check-in desk and to wait for our flight at 11.05am.

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## Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

Common name	Scientific name	April 2022						
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		4	4			10	
Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>		10	2				
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>		4		2			
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>				1			
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>		4					
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		10	2				
Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>		1					
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>		4					
Sicilian Rock Partridge	<i>Alectoris graeca whitakeri</i>			2				
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		✓	50	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>		1					
Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		3				H	

Common name	Scientific name	April 2022						
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			2	3H			
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		50	50	30		10	
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>			2	H			
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		20	5			3	
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>		10					
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>		200	50	100		400	
Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oediconemus</i>		H					
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		20	10	2		10	
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>						1	
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>						1	
Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>						2	
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>				1		2	
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>			8			20	
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>						10	
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>						5	
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>						5	
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			1			1	
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>						1	
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		9				1	
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>						3	
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		1		H		2	
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>						10	
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		4	2			1	
Audouin's Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus audouinii</i>	5						
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	10	5	✓	✓	2	2	
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>		103					
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>		3					
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	2			1		2	
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>		5					
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		5					
Yelkouan Shearwater	<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>	70						
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	1				10		2
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	1	1		1	.		
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>						2	
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>						4	
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>		1					
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>			13				
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	1	1					
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			1	1	1	1	
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>		1					
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>		3	1			1	
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		30	1	3		2	
Sparrowhawk/Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter sp.</i>					1		
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		3	1	1		2	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		1	5	1	2	1	
Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>			H	H	H	H	
Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>			D				
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		5		3		H	
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>				5	40	✓	
Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>				1			

Common name	Scientific name	April 2022						
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>					2H		
Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>		1					
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	5	10	5	2	2	2	1
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>			1				
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>						1	
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	1			4		1	
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>			1			1	
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius albipectus</i>		2	2		2	5	
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	2	3	3	
Western Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>						3	
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	1	2	1	5	2	
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>			6		1		
Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>					5		
European Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	2		2		H	H	
Great Tit	<i>Parus major aphrodite</i>	H	H	5	5	2	3	
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			2		1		
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata apuliae</i>	5	5	3	5	H	2H	1
Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>				1			
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	2	10	20	10	H		
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	5	✓	✓	✓		
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	1						
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		3H	3	3		5	
Sicilian Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus siculus</i>					1		
Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>		1		1			
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	1	2		1			
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita collybita</i>					H		
Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>			1	H			
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>				H			
Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		2H		3H		3	
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	H	10	2	5		3	
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		1	1	1	3H	3	
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>				1			
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>	5	3	✓	5	H	10	H
Eastern Subalpine Warbler	<i>Curruca cantillans cantillans</i>			3		1		
Spectacled Warbler	<i>Curruca conspicillata</i>			2				
Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>					2		
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			2	1	3	H	
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>					H		
Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	10	✓	✓	✓	10	✓
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	10	5	2	3	3	10	
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		2	1	3		1	
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	H				2H		H
Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>			2H	H	H		
European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>		1	4	3		1	
Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>		1	3	1	2	3	
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>					H		
Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>				1	1	1	
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			1				
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	5	10	5	3	1		
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>			3		1		

		April 2022						
Common name	Scientific name	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>					1		
Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	1						
Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>			5				
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		10	✓	✓	2	✓	
Italian Sparrow	<i>Passer italiae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	5	10	2		1	1	
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba alba</i>	H	1		2			
Richard's Pipit	<i>Anthus richardi</i>		1					
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	2	3	2	3			
Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>		2H		H			
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>			H		2H		
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>			3	2		2	
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		10	5	2	5	10	
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	10	10	3	5	
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	3	5	✓	2	3	5	H
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		H		1		H	
Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>					3		
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirrus</i>			2		H		

## Other vertebrates

		April 2022						
Common name	Scientific name	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<b>MAMMALS:</b>								
Western Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>		D	D				
Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>					S	S	
Kuhl's Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus cfr. kuhii</i>				5			
<b>AMPHIBIANS &amp; REPTILES</b>								
Painted Frog	<i>Discoglossus pictus pictus</i>				20			
Italian Edible Frog	<i>Pelophylax cfr. hispanicus</i>				10			
Sicilian Pond Terrapin	<i>Emys trinacris</i>		5					
Italian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis siculus</i>	1D	2	✓	10	5		
Sicilian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis wagleriana</i>			1				
Moorish Gecko	<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>						6	
Western Whip Snake	<i>Hierophis viridiflavus carbonarius</i>			1				

## Invertebrates

		April						
Common name	Scientific name	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<b>BUTTERFLIES:</b>								
	<b>Papilionidae</b>							
Italian Festoon	<i>Zerynthia cassandra</i>						1	
Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>		2	1				
	<b>Pieridae</b>							
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>					2		

Common name	Scientific name	April						
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>				2			
Eastern Dappled White	<i>Euchloe ausonia</i>				1			
Eastern Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis damone</i>					1		
Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>			5				
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>		5	3	1	2	1	
	<b>Lycaenidae</b>							
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			1		2		
Green-underside Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>					2		
Austaut's Blue	<i>Polyommatus celina</i>		3	2	2			
	<b>Nymphalidae</b>							
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>				1			
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>					1	2	
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>			10	1	1		
	<b>Hesperiidae</b>							
Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>			1				
<b>MACRO MOTHS: (T = trap, F = field)</b>								
Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>					1T		
Purple Marbled	<i>Eublemma ostrina</i>					1F		
Pine Processionary-moth	<i>Thaumetopoea pityocampa</i>					S		
Four-spotted	<i>Tyta luctuosa</i>		1F					
Six-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena filipendulae</i>		2F		5F			
<b>MICRO MOTHS</b>								
A fairy longhorn moth	<i>Nemophora raddaella</i>	1F						
Diamond-backed Moth	<i>Plutella xylostella</i>					2T		
<b>OTHER INVERTEBRATES</b>								
<b>Damselflies and dragonflies</b>								
Island Bluetail Damselfly	<i>Ischnura genei</i>		1		2			
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombi</i>		1					
<b>Other insects</b>								
Nosed Grasshopper	<i>Acrida ungarica</i>		1					
Egyptian Grasshopper	<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>						1	
Honey Bee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>			x				
A bumblebee	<i>Bombus</i> sp.				x			
A bee-fly	<i>Bombylius medius</i>		1					
Littoral Tiger Beetle	<i>Calomera littoralis</i>						xx	
Seven-spot Ladybird	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>					x		
A longhorn bee	<i>Eucera</i> sp.					1		
A seed bug	<i>Lygaeus creticus</i>						2	
A leafcutter bee	<i>Megachile sicula sicula</i>		xx				x	
European Seed-harvesting Ant	<i>Messor capitatus</i>		xx					
A mason bee	<i>Osmia</i> cfr. <i>ferruginea</i>				1			
Mediterranean Spotted Chafer	<i>Oxythyrea funesta</i>				x			
A leafcutter bee	<i>Rhodanthidium</i> sp.				1			
A soldier beetle	<i>Trichodes alvearius</i>				x		x	
Violet Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>			1			1	

Common name	Scientific name	April						
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<b>Other invertebrates</b>								
Yellow-legged Pachyiulus (millipede)	<i>Pachyiulus flavipes</i>		x	x	x	x	x	

## Plants

Common name	Scientific name	Family	Location (first or best)
<b>Clubmosses</b>	<b>Lycophytes</b>		
Mediterranean Clubmoss	<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	Selaginellaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Ferns</b>	<b>Leptosporangiate ferns</b>		
Mediterranean Maidenhair Fern	<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Pteridaceae	Syracuse Arch. Park (Syracuse)
Rustyback	<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Aspleniaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Southern Polypody	<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>	Polypodiaceae	Monte Concilio (Etna)
<b>Conifers</b>	<b>Gymnosperms</b>		
Common Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Cupressaceae	Piano Vetore (Etna)
Large-fruited Juniper	<i>Juniperus (oxycedrus) macrocarpa</i>	Cupressaceae	Vendicari
Aleppo Pine	<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Pinaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Black Pine	<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Pinaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
<b>Dicotyledon Flowering Plants</b>	<b>Dicot Angiosperms</b>		
Bear's Breeches	<i>Acanthus mollis</i>	Acanthaceae	Vendicari
Sea-Purslane	<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i>	Amaranthaceae	Pantano Longarini
A saltwort	<i>Sarcocornia</i> cfr. <i>fruticosa</i>	Amaranthaceae	Vendicari
Shrubby Sea-blite	<i>Suaeda vera</i>	Amaranthaceae	Pantano Cuba
Mastic	<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Anacardiaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Wild Carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i>	Apiaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Field Eryngo	<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Apiaceae	Pantano Morghella
Giant Fennel	<i>Ferula communis</i>	Apiaceae	Catania
Shepherd's-needle	<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Apiaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Alexanders	<i>Smyrniolus olusatrum</i>	Apiaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Perfoliate Alexanders	<i>Smyrniolus perfoliatum rotundifolium</i>	Apiaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Italian Thapsia	<i>Thapsia garganica</i>	Apiaceae	Pantano Morghella
Mediterranean Hartwort	<i>Tordylium apulum</i>	Apiaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Oleander	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Apocynaceae	Saline di Priolo
Greater Periwinkle	<i>Vinca major</i>	Apocynaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Common Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	Araliaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Corn Chamomile	<i>Anthemis</i> cfr. <i>arvensis</i>	Asteraceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
A chamomile	<i>Anthemis secundiramea</i>	Asteraceae	Capo Murro di Porco

Common name	Scientific name	Family	Location (first or best)
Golden-star	<i>Asteriscus aquaticus</i>	Asteraceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Common Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Asteraceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Hairy Beggarticks	<i>Bidens pilosa</i>	Asteraceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Field Marigold	<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Asteraceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
A thistle	<i>Carduus</i> cfr. <i>corymbosus</i>	Asteraceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Italian Thistle	<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>	Asteraceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
A knapweed	<i>Centaurea napifolia</i>	Asteraceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Mediterranean Star Thistle	<i>Centaurea sicula</i>	Asteraceae	Capo Murro di Porco
A knapweed	<i>Centaurea sphaerocephala</i>	Asteraceae	Vendicari
Purple Milk Thistle	<i>Galactites tomentosus</i>	Asteraceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Crown Daisy	<i>Glebionis coronaria</i>	Asteraceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Bristly Oxtongue	<i>Helminthotheca echioides</i>	Asteraceae	Penisola Magnisi
Syrian Thistle	<i>Notobasis syriaca</i>	Asteraceae	Penisola Magnisi
Spiny Starwort	<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>	Asteraceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Mediterranean Phagnalon	<i>Phagnalon saxatile</i>	Asteraceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Large-flowered Golden Thistle	<i>Scolymus grandiflorus</i>	Asteraceae	Pantano Morghella
Oxford Ragwort	<i>Senecio</i> cfr. <i>squalidus</i>	Asteraceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Groudsel	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Asteraceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Milk Thistle	<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Asteraceae	Capo Murro di Porco
A sow-thistle	<i>Sonchus</i> sp.	Asteraceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Slender Sow-thistle	<i>Sonchus tenerrimus</i>	Asteraceae	Pantano Cuba
A dandelion	<i>Taraxacum</i> sp.	Asteraceae	Piano Vetore (Etna)
Purple Salsify	<i>Tragopogon porrifolius</i>	Asteraceae	Pantano Cuba
Pale Yellow Dandelion	<i>Urospermum dalechampii</i>	Asteraceae	Capo Murro di Porco
False Hawkbit	<i>Urospermum picroides</i>	Asteraceae	Vendicari
Etna Barberry	<i>Berberis aetnensis</i>	Berberidaceae	Piano Vetore (Etna)
Dyer's Alkanet	<i>Alkanna tinctoria</i>	Boraginaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Borage	<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Boraginaceae	Pantano Cuba
Honeywort	<i>Cerinthe major</i>	Boraginaceae	Pantano Cuba
A hound's-tongue	<i>Cynoglossum cheirifolium</i>	Boraginaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Blue Hound's-tongue	<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Boraginaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Purple Viper's-bugloss	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Boraginaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Pale Bugloss	<i>Echium italicum</i>	Boraginaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Small-flowered Viper's-bugloss	<i>Echium parviflorum</i>	Boraginaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Viper's-bugloss	<i>Echium</i> cfr. <i>vulgare</i>	Boraginaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna) (leaves)
Early Forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis</i> cfr. <i>ramosissimus</i>	Boraginaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Spring Cress	<i>Arabis verna</i>	Brassicaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
European Sea-rocket	<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Brassicaceae	Marzamemi
White Rocket	<i>Diplotaxis eruroides</i>	Brassicaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Common Whitlowgrass	<i>Draba verna</i>	Brassicaceae	Piano Vetore (Etna)
Woad	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	Brassicaceae	Saline di Priolo
Sweet Alyssum	<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	Brassicaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Three-horned	<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i>	Brassicaceae	Saline di Priolo

Common name	Scientific name	Family	Location (first or best)
Stock			
Wild Radish	<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Brassicaceae	Pantano Cuba
White Mustard	<i>Sinapis</i> cfr. <i>alba</i>	Brassicaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
A mustard	<i>Sinapis</i> cfr. <i>pubescens</i>	Brassicaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Hedge Mustard	<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Brassicaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Rock Caper	<i>Capparis spinosa</i> subsp. <i>rupestris</i>	Capparaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Annual Valerian	<i>Centranthus calcitrapae</i>	Caprifoliaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Red Valerian	<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Caprifoliaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
African Valerian	<i>Valeriana (Fedia) graciliflora</i>	Caprifoliaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Sweet Scabious	<i>Sixalix atropurpurea</i>	Caprifoliaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Hairy-fruited Cornsalad	<i>Valerianella</i> cfr. <i>eriocarpa</i>	Caprifoliaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Sticky Mouse-ear Chickweed	<i>Cerastium glomeratum</i>	Caryophyllaceae	Pantano Longarini
A catchfly	<i>Silene colorata</i>	Caryophyllaceae	Pantano Longarini
Sand Catchfly	<i>Silene conica</i>	Caryophyllaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Small-flowered Catchfly	<i>Silene gallica</i>	Caryophyllaceae	Pantano Cuba
Bladder Campion	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Caryophyllaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
A sand-spurrey	<i>Spergularia</i> sp.	Caryophyllaceae	Pantano Cuba
Common Chickweed	<i>Stellaria</i> cfr. <i>media</i>	Caryophyllaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Pink Cistus	<i>Cistus creticus</i>	Cistaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
A bindweed	<i>Calystegia</i> sp.	Convolvulaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Mallow	<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Convolvulaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Bindweed	<i>Convolvulus elegantissimus</i>	Convolvulaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
A dodder	<i>Cuscuta</i> sp.	Convolvulaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Starry Stonecrop	<i>Phedimus stellatus</i>	Crassulaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Blue Stonecrop	<i>Sedum caeruleum</i>	Crassulaceae	Pantano Morghella
Thick-leaved Stonecrop	<i>Sedum dasyphyllum</i>	Crassulaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Narrow Navelwort	<i>Umbilicus horizontalis</i>	Crassulaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Squirting Cucumber	<i>Ecballium elaterium</i>	Cucurbitaceae	Avola
Many-flowered Heath	<i>Erica multiflora</i>	Ericaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Large Mediterranean Spurge	<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Tree Spurge	<i>Euphorbia dendroides</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Sun Spurge	<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Corn Spurge	<i>Euphorbia segetalis</i> agg.	Euphorbiaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Carnation Spurge	<i>Euphorbia</i> cfr. <i>terraccina</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Vendicari
Castor Oil Plant	<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Annual Mercury	<i>Mercurialis annua</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Coojong (Blue-leaved Wattle)	<i>Acacia saligna</i>	Fabaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Kidney Vetch	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i> subsp. <i>maura</i>	Fabaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Southern Milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus hamosus</i>	Fabaceae	Pantano Cuba
Sicilian Milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus siculus</i>	Fabaceae	Piano Vetore (Etna)

Common name	Scientific name	Family	Location (first or best)
Hairy Thorny Broom	<i>Calicotome infesta</i>	Fabaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Carob	<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Fabaceae	Saline di Priolo
Shrubby Scorpion-vetch	<i>Coronilla valentina</i> subsp. <i>glauca</i>	Fabaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Mount Etna Broom	<i>Genista aetnensis</i>	Fabaceae	Piano Vetore (Etna)
Red Pea	<i>Lathyrus</i> cfr. <i>cicera</i>	Fabaceae	Pantano Cuba
Crimson Pea	<i>Lathyrus clymenum</i>	Fabaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Winged Vetchling	<i>Lathyrus ochrus</i>	Fabaceae	Pantano Cuba
Cretan Bird's-foot-trefoil	<i>Lotus</i> cfr. <i>creticus</i>	Fabaceae	Vendicari
Grey Bird's-foot-trefoil	<i>Lotus cytisoides</i>	Fabaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Edible Bird's-foot-trefoil	<i>Lotus</i> cfr. <i>edulis</i>	Fabaceae	Penisola Magnisi
Southern Bird's-foot-trefoil	<i>Lotus</i> cfr. <i>ornithopodioides</i>	Fabaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Asparagus Pea	<i>Lotus tetragonolobus</i>	Fabaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Narrow-leaved Lupin	<i>Lupinus angustifolius</i>	Fagaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Shore Medick	<i>Medicago</i> cfr. <i>littoralis</i>	Fabaceae	Pantano Cuba
Button Medick	<i>Medicago orbicularis</i>	Fabaceae	Pantano Cuba
A yellow melilot	<i>Melilotus</i> sp.	Fabaceae	Pantano Cuba
Cockscomb Sainfoin	<i>Onobrychis caput-galli</i>	Fabaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Yellow Restharrow	<i>Ononis natrix</i> agg.	Fabaceae	Pantano Morghella
Small Restharrow	<i>Ononis reclinata</i>	Fabaceae	Pantano Morghella
Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Fabaceae	Catania
Spanish Broom	<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Fabaceae	Catania
Italian Sainfoin	<i>Sulla (Hedysarum) coronarium</i>	Fabaceae	Augusta
Field Clover	<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Fabaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Hairy Trefoil	<i>Trifolium cherleri</i>	Fabaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Small White Clover	<i>Trifolium nigrescens</i>	Fabaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Reversed Clover	<i>Trifolium resupinatum</i>	Fabaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Star Clover	<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Fabaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Bladder Vetch	<i>Tripodion tetraphyllum</i>	Fabaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Reddish Tufted Vetch	<i>Vicia benghalensis</i>	Fabaceae	Pantano Cuba
A vetch	<i>Vicia leucantha</i>	Fabaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Common Vetch	<i>Vicia</i> cfr. <i>sativa</i>	Fabaceae	Pantano Cuba
Downy Vetch	<i>Vicia villosa</i>	Fabaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Sweet Chestnut	<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Fagaceae	Monte Concilio (Etna)
Holm Oak	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Fagaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Downy Oak	<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Fagaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Yellow-Wort	<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Gentianaceae	Vendicari
Cut-leaved Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Geraniaceae	Saline di Priolo
Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium molle</i>	Geraniaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Little-Robin	<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	Geraniaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Round-leaved Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Geraniaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Redstem Stork's-bill	<i>Erodium</i> cfr. <i>cicutarium</i>	Geraniaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Soft Stork's-bill	<i>Erodium malacoides</i>	Geraniaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza

Common name	Scientific name	Family	Location (first or best)
Musk Stork's-bill	<i>Erodium</i> cfr. <i>moschatum</i>	Geraniaceae	Pantano Cuba
Ground-pine	<i>Ajuga chamaepitys</i>	Lamiaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Henbit Dead-nettle	<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	Lamiaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
A savory	<i>Micromeria</i> cfr. <i>graeca</i>	Lamiaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Jerusalem Sage	<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Lamiaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Prasium	<i>Prasium majus</i>	Lamiaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Greek Sage	<i>Salvia fruticosa</i>	Lamiaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Wild Clary	<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Lamiaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
An ironwort	<i>Sideritis romana</i>	Lamiaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Felty Germander	<i>Teucrium capitatum</i>	Lamiaceae	Pantano Morghella
Tree Germander	<i>Teucrium fruticans</i>	Lamiaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Conehead Thyme	<i>Thymbra capitata</i>	Lamiaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Pale Flax	<i>Linum</i> cfr. <i>bienne</i>	Linaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Upright Yellow-flax	<i>Linum strictum</i>	Linaceae	Pantano Morghella
Hairy Abutilon	<i>Abutilon grandifolium</i>	Malvaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Tree Mallow	<i>Malva arborea</i>	Malvaceae	Marzamemi
Mediterranean Mallow	<i>Malva cretica</i>	Malvaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Cretan Mallow	<i>Malva</i> cfr. <i>multiflora</i>	Malvaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Common Mallow	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Malvaceae	Pantano Longarini
Common Fig	<i>Ficus carica</i>	Moraceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Moreton Bay Fig	<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>	Moraceae	Syracuse Arch. Park (planted)
A gumtree	<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp.	Myrtaceae	Vendicari
Manna Ash	<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	Oleaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Olive	<i>Olea europaea</i>	Oleaceae	Saline di Priolo
Bellardia	<i>Bellardia trixago</i>	Orobanchaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Yellow Bartsia	<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Orobanchaceae	Pantano Cuba
Bean	<i>Orobanche crenata</i>	Orobanchaceae	Pantano Cuba
Broomrape			
Common	<i>Orobanche minor</i>	Orobanchaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Broomrape			
Dwarf Sorrel	<i>Orobanche nana</i>	Orobanchaceae	Pantano Cuba
Broomrape			
Hairy	<i>Orobanche pubescens</i>	Orobanchaceae	Pantano Longarini
Broomrape			
Procumbent	<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Oxalidaceae	Pantano Cuba
Yellow Sorrel			
Bemuda	<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Oxalidaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Buttercup			
White Ramping	<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	Papaveraceae	Pantano Cuba
Fumitory			
Common	<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	Papaveraceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Fumitory			
Long-headed	<i>Papaver dubium</i>	Papaveraceae	Pantano Longarini
Poppy			
Common Poppy	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Papaveraceae	Pantano Cuba
Opium Poppy	<i>Papaver somniferum</i>	Papaveraceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Sicilian	<i>Antirrhinum siculum</i>	Plantaginaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Snapdragon			
A toadflax	<i>Linaria reflexa</i>	Plantaginaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Weasel's-snout	<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Plantaginaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Glandular	<i>Plantago afra</i>	Plantaginaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Plantain			
Buck's-horn	<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Plantaginaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Plantain			
Thick-leaved Plantain	<i>Plantago crassifolia</i>	Plantaginaceae	Pantano Longarini

Common name	Scientific name	Family	Location (first or best)
Hare's-foot	<i>Plantago lagopus</i>	Plantaginaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Plantain			
Toothed	<i>Plantago serraria</i>	Plantaginaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Plantain			
A sea lavender	<i>Limonium narbonense</i>	Plumbaginaceae	Vendicari
Wavyleaf Sea	<i>Limonium sinuatum</i>	Plumbaginaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Lavender/Statice			
A sea lavender	<i>Limonium</i> cfr. <i>syracusanum</i>	Plumbaginaceae	Capo Murro di Porco (leaves)
Scarlet	<i>Lysimachia (Anagallis)</i>	Primulaceae	Pantano Cuba
Pimpernel	<i>arvensis</i>		
Brookweed	<i>Samolus valerandi</i>	Primulaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Broad-leaved	<i>Anemone hortensis</i>	Ranunculaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Anemone			
Love-in-a-mist	<i>Nigella damascena</i>	Ranunculaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Rough-fruited	<i>Ranunculus muricatus</i>	Ranunculaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Buttercup			
White	<i>Reseda alba</i>	Resedaceae	Pantano Cuba
Mignonette			
Italian Buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	Rhamnaceae	Vendicari
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Rosaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Loquat	<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Rosaceae	Syracuse Arch. Park (planted)
Almond	<i>Prunus amygdalus</i>	Rosaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Rosaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Almond-leaved	<i>Pyrus spinosa</i>	Rosaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Pear			
Evergreen Rose	<i>Rosa</i> cfr. <i>sempervirens</i>	Rosaceae	Vendicari
Elmleaf	<i>Rubus</i> cfr. <i>ulmifolius</i>	Rosaceae	Saline di Priolo
Blackberry			
Thorny Burnet	<i>Sarcopoterium</i>	Rosaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
	<i>spinosum</i>		
Southern	<i>Galium</i> cfr. <i>verrucosum</i>	Rubiaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Cleavers			
Cleavers	<i>Galium aparine</i>	Rubiaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Wild Madder	<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Rubiaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Field Madder	<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Rubiaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Orange	<i>Citrus x aurantium</i>	Rutaceae	Syracuse Arch. Park (planted)
Australian Ngaio	<i>Myoporum</i> cfr. <i>insulare</i>	Scrophulariaceae	Pantano Cuba
Nettle-leaved	<i>Scrophularia peregrina</i>	Scrophulariaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Figwort			
Wavyleaf	<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	Scrophulariaceae	Pantano Cuba
Mullein			
Tree-of-Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Simaroubaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Bittersweet	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Solanaceae	Vendicari
Black	<i>Solanum</i> cfr. <i>nigrum</i>	Solanaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Nightshade			
a Tamarisk	<i>Tamarix</i> sp.	Tamaricaceae	Pantano Cuba
Basil-leaved	<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Urticaceae	Pantano Cuba
Pellitory			
Etna Pansy	<i>Viola aethnensis</i>	Violaceae	Piano Vetore (Etna)
<b>Monocotyledon</b>	<b>Monocot</b>		
<b>Flowering</b>	<b>Angiosperms</b>		
<b>Plants</b>			
Rosy Garlic	<i>Allium roseum</i>	Amaryllidaceae	Pantano Longarini
Friar's-cowl	<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Araceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Italian Arum	<i>Arum italicum</i>	Araceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Mediterranean	<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	Arecaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Dwarf Palm			
Wild Asparagus	<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	Asparagaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Tassel Hyacinth	<i>Muscari (Leopoldia)</i>	Asparagaceae	Pantano Cuba

Common name	Scientific name	Family	Location (first or best)
	<i>comosum</i>		
A star-of-Bethlehem	<i>Ornithogalum</i> sp.	Asparagaceae	Pantano Longarini
Small Asphodel	<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	Asphodelaceae	Saline di Priolo
Branched Asphodel	<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i>	Asphodelaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Yellow Asphodel	<i>Asphodeline lutea</i>	Asphodelaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Sea Club-rush	<i>Bolboschoenus maritimus</i>	Cyperaceae	Pantano Cuba
Italian Gladiolus	<i>Gladiolus</i> cfr. <i>italicus</i>	Iridaceae	Pantano Cuba
Bearded Iris	<i>Bearded Iris</i>	Iridaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
	<i>Iris</i> x <i>germanica</i>		
Barbary Nut	<i>Moraea sisyrinchium</i>	Iridaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Toad Rush	<i>Juncus bufonius</i>	Juncaceae	Saline di Priolo
Scented Orchid	<i>Anacamptis coriophora</i>	Orchidaceae	Pantano Cuba
Green-winged Orchid	<i>Anacamptis morio</i> subsp. <i>longicornu</i>	Orchidaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Pink Butterfly Orchid	<i>Anacamptis papilionacea</i> ssp. <i>expansa</i>	Orchidaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Roman Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza romana</i>	Orchidaceae	Monte Concilio (Etna)
Giant Orchid	<i>Himantoglossum robertianum</i>	Orchidaceae	Pantano Cuba
Common Bee Orchid	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	Orchidaceae	Vendicari
Bumblebee Orchid	<i>Ophrys bombyliflora</i>	Orchidaceae	Pantano Cuba
Sombre Bee Orchid	<i>Ophrys fusca</i>	Orchidaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
A bee orchid	<i>Ophrys</i> cfr. <i>exaltata</i>	Orchidaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
A beaked spider orchid	<i>Ophrys holoserica</i> subsp. <i>biancae</i>	Orchidaceae	Pantano Cuba
Yellow Bee Orchid	<i>Ophrys lutea</i>	Orchidaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Lesser Yellow Bee Orchid	<i>Ophrys lutea</i> subsp. <i>galilaea (sicula)</i>	Orchidaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Mirror Orchid	<i>Ophrys speculum</i>	Orchidaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Early Spider Orchid	<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i>	Orchidaceae	Pantano Cuba
Dark Bee Orchid	<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i> subsp. <i>atrata</i>	Orchidaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Sawfly Orchid	<i>Ophrys tenthredinifera</i>	Orchidaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Man Orchid	<i>Orchis anthropophora</i>	Orchidaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Branciforti's Orchid	<i>Orchis brancifortii</i>	Orchidaceae	Monti Rossi (Etna)
Naked Man Orchid	<i>Orchis italica</i>	Orchidaceae	Pantano Cuba
Small-flowered Serapias	<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	Orchidaceae	Pantano Cuba
Eastern Serapias	<i>Serapias orientalis (siciliensis)</i>	Orchidaceae	Pantano Cuba
Ploughshare (Long-lipped) Serapias	<i>Serapias vomeracea</i>	Orchidaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
Giant Reed	<i>Arundo donax</i>	Poaceae	Pantano Cuba
An oat	<i>Avena</i> sp.	Poaceae	Pantano Cuba
Wall Barley	<i>Hordeum</i> cfr. <i>murinum</i>	Poaceae	Agriturismo Pozzo di Mazza
Hare's Tail	<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Poaceae	Capo Murro di Porco
Goldentop Grass	<i>Lamarckia aurea</i>	Poaceae	Syracuse Archaeological Park
Common Reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Poaceae	Pantano Longarini
Neptune-grass	<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	Posidoniaceae	Marzamemi

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Common name	Scientific name	Family	Location (first or best)
Smilax (Rough Bindweed)	<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Smilacaceae	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>FUNGI</b>			
Splitgill Mushroom	<i>Schizophyllum commune</i>	Schizophyllaceae	Saline di Priolo
Variegated Foam Lichen	<i>Stereocaulon vesuvianum</i>	Stereocaulaceae	Piano Vetore (Etna)