

# Sicily in Autumn

Naturetrek Tour Report

12th – 18th September 2023

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Sicilian Grayling



Autumn Mandrake



Mediterranean Mantis



Hermann's Tortoise

Tour report and photos by Luca Boscain



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Tour participants: Luca Boscain and David Gibbs (Leaders) with 13 Naturetrek clients

## Day 1

Tuesday 12th September

### Catania airport and Cava Grande del Cassibile

We landed on time at Catania Airport and the day was superb, with a clear blue sky and the prominent shape of Etna showing some steam from the top craters, easily visible in the distance. Outside the arrivals gate, we met Luca, our local guide, while David, the other leader, had flown with us.

The rental of the minivans was relatively fast and smooth, so we were along the motorway before midday, noticing the mix of crops on fields and hills, going from citrus trees to olive trees and vegetables, but also a few areas recently burnt.

We stopped for lunch in a service station, where Luca bought us some sandwiches and David showed us Lang's Short-tailed and Long-tailed Blues, then we soon reached the *agriturismo* Pozzo di Mazza, our base for all the week. Surrounded by wonderful gardens, it was an ancient complex of buildings now renewed to host tourists.

We had a full hour for a break, then we met again at 2pm to drive southwards first and then uphill to the Hyblaean plateau. We visited the edge of the 500m deep Cava Grande gorge, noticing the green pools of the Cassibile river in the bottom of this spectacular valley. In the cliffs were plenty of caves, tombs and ancient huts used in past centuries by shepherds but sometimes also by local people to hide from pirates.

We walked through an open Mediterranean maquis with a number of late flowers like Pine Thistle (*Chamaeleon gummiifera*), Shrubby Hare's-ear (*Bupleurum fruticosum*), Flax-leaved Daphne (*Daphne gnidium*), Lesser Calamint (*Clinopodium nepeta*), Spanish Oregano (*Thymbra capitata*) and *Ononis ramosissima*, while Branched Asphodels (*Asphodelus ramosus*), Jerusalem Sages (*Phlomis fruticosa*) and Pink Rockroses (*Cistus creticus*) had finished flowering. A few butterflies were flying like Tree and Great Banded Graylings, Wall Brown, Swallowtail and Southern Gatekeeper, but also the endemic Sicilian Grayling (*Hipparchia blachieri*).

A couple of tens of Bee-eater flew over, followed by a Woodlark and several Ravens. Unfortunately the Spectacled Warbler didn't appear, but at least we could enjoy a magnificent panorama into the gorge from a low hill and we could even spot, shining in the distance, the pale shape of Syracuse city centre, called Ortigia.

On the walls there was a variety of Italian Wall lizards (*Podarcis siculus*) showing different patterns, while in the grassland we noticed a couple of endemic Sicilian Wall Lizards (*Podarcis waglerianus*), with creamy stripes along the flanks.

From another viewpoint we noticed a Blue Emperor that had preyed on a butterfly, then we had a refreshing break in the shade of a café, still facing the gorge.

In the evening we met first at 19.30, to complete the checklist, then followed a four course supper with delicious appetizers, pasta, chicken skewers, ice-cream and *zibibbo* wine: definitely a happy end!

## Day 2

## Wednesday 13th September

### Pantano Cuba

During the night, David put a moth-trap under a shelter in the garden so, at 7.15am, we met there to have a look: there were no large moths trapped, but a rich variety of small ones like Large Yellow Underwing (*Noctua pronuba*), Passenger (*Dysgonia algira*), Mediterranean Brocade (*Spodoptera littoralis*), Small Mottled Willow (*Spodoptera exigua*), Twoband Ozarba (*Pseudozarba bipartita*) and tens of Vestals (*Rhodomestra sacraria*).

The only migrant bird in the garden was a lonely Spotted Flycatcher.

After breakfast, we drove southwards, stopping first in Avola to go shopping for the picnics, and then continuing to Pantano Cuba. Here we were welcomed by Paolo and Nino, two workers who told us the history of a place. In 2016, in fact, the Stiftung pro Artenvielfalt, a German no-profit foundation, decided to invest money (so far almost 3,5 million euros) in order to buy the territory of two lakes, Pantano Cuba and Pantano Longarini, and surrounding areas, to enclose them with a fence in order to exclude poachers from there, and to re-wild the habitats, once covered in garbage, green houses and even an illegal horse racecourse, of one of the crucial migratory stopovers of European birds.

Near a small hut were a small drinking pool for birds and patches of flowers were attracting Southern Darters, wasps and bees like the pretty *Amegilla quadrifasciata*.

The growth of the grass is managed by mowing some areas or by the use of four cute donkeys, with their peculiar selective grazing habits, that leave growing orchids and gladioluses, unfortunately in flower just in spring, so not flowering now.

We went on foot to the bank of the brackish Pantano Cuba: the pools of shallow water were literally covered with thousands of egrets, ducks, coots, gulls and shorebirds, but most of them were in backlit and far away, in the heat haze. With the telescope we could distinguish the shapes of Greater Flamingos, Spoonbills, Black-winged Stilts, Glossy Ibises and Purple Swamphens, while Hoopoes, Bee-eaters, Barn Swallows and Sand Martins were crossing in flight overhead.

Along the northern corner of the lake, the extended mudflats had Little Ringed Plovers and Temminck's Stints.

Luca and Dave prepared a buffet for the picnic in Paolo's hut, offering a colourful variety of cheeses, hams, vegetables and fruits.

Later we explored the scrub around a small freshwater pond, finding Migrant Spreadwings, Island Bluetails, Scarlet Darters and a female Blue Emperor that was laying eggs in the water.

With much better light, we came back to the main lake of the Pantano Cuba and now we could scan more carefully each group of birds, even if the distances were again quite big. Among the Teals we found Pintail, Wigeon and Garganey, while among the Black-headed Gulls, a Gull-billed Tern and Slender-billed Gulls. But it was the wader bonanza that astonished us! Luca and Dave showed their skills looking step by step for rarer species: Red Knot,

Black-tailed Godwit, Little Stint, Ruff, Curlew Sandpiper, Kentish Plover, Spotted Redshank, Marsh Sandpiper and Broad-billed Sandpiper all appeared among hundreds of Dunlins, Greenshanks, Redshanks and Curlews.

The heat was quite intense in the sunshine so, tired but happy, we gave up at about 16.30. We said goodbye to Paolo and we drove for about an hour back to Pozzo di Mazza.

At check-list time, Stone Curlews were calling in the distance. Supper offered appetizers, pasta with *bottarga* (dried fish-eggs), swordfish and almond pudding.

## Day 3

## Thursday 14th September

### Mount Etna

Today, in the moth trap, there were once again tens of tiny moths, but also a couple of crickets (*Eumodicogryllus bordigalensis* and *Gryllus bimaculatus*) and a Mediterranean Mantis (*Iris oratoria*). New moths were Amah (*Dysauxes famula*), Portland Ribbon Wave (*Idaea degeneraria*) and Cream Drab (*Xanthodes albago*).

We left half an hour earlier than usual to have some additional time in the field: we had in fact our longest drive of the week to Mount Etna (3,357 m), the highest volcano in Europe.

After a first half along the motorway, in Catania we started to climb the foothills of the mountain, going through a number of picturesque villages, to reach two secondary craters called Monti Rossi, not far from Nicolosi. Here we had just got out from the minivan when a family of Sicilian Long-tailed Tits (*Aegithalos caudatus* ssp. *siculus*) came to welcome us, hopping in the Umbrella Pines (*Pinus pinea*), soon followed by a Short-toed Treecreeper, while a Girl Bunting was singing in the distance.

We climbed for a few hundred metres a rather steep track, spotting flowers on the roadsides like Purple Viper's-bugloss (*Echium plantagineum*), Sheep's-bit (*Jasione montana*), Rush Skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*), *Centaurea giardinae*, etc.

Unfortunately the upper part of the pinewood had been devastated recently by a fire, so the last birds we had were Coal Tit and Great Spotted Woodpecker, than we decided to retrace our steps.

We took a diversion among the Etna Broom (*Genista aetnensis*) maquis and the lava flows, stopping to look for the Sicilian Rock Partridge, but we had no luck. On the Red Valerians (*Centranthus ruber*) were flying various Long-tailed and Lang's Short-tailed Blues, while a Mallow Skipper was sitting on the *Heliotropium suaveolens*. In the Downy Oak (*Quercus pubescens*) and Chestnut tree (*Castanea sativa*) woodlands of Monte Concilio, we found a couple of interesting Woodland Ringlets and a Southern Blue, while birds were extremely quiet.

We had lunch in a self-service restaurant in the Rifugio Sapienza settlement (1,910 m), extremely touristic but still surrounded by lava flows and patches of endemic Etna Sorrel (*Rumex scutatus aetnensis*), Etna Tansy (*Tanacetum siculum*) and Etna Ragwort (*Senecio squalidus aetnensis*).

Later, most of the group decided to go up on a cable car first, and then on 4x4 coaches to about the Valle del Bove view point at 2,700m. A few lucky ones could spot a pale morph Booted Eagle, gliding in the distance. A volcanologist guide told us basic information about the volcano and the ash and lava fields that were surrounding us: most of the Etna eruptions emit, fluid lava that flows down along the "Ox valley", where it descends gently, cooling off without causing problems to the population that lives in the foothills. In the bright sunshine, refreshed by the breeze, we had a close view of the three upper cones, on the top of the volcano, with their yellow sulphur and white steam.

Liz was the only one to join Luca and David in searching for flora and butterflies around the lower Silvestri craters. Their best finds included Sicilian Soapwort (*Saponaria sicula*) and Etna Daisy (*Anthemis aetnensis*), both with still a few flowers left, and Queen of Spain, Sicilian Grayling and Brown Argus.

After an ice-cream, the group gathered all together once again to have a quick exploration to Piano Vetore, a peaceful grassland surrounded by pinewoods and lava flows. Endemic plants were unfortunately over, including Etna Barberry (*Berberis aetnensis*), Etna Milk-vetch (*Astragalus siculus*), *Galium aetnicum* and *Potentilla calabra*, with just Tunicflowers (*Petrorhagia saxifraga*) in full bloom. A couple of Rock Buntings, Whinchat, Stonechat and Woodlark all appeared on a rocky hill covered in Common Junipers (*Juniperus communis*). We had a last stop to have a close view of the Rosemary-leaved Willowherb (*Chamaenerion dodonaei*), then we drove down for an hour and half to Pozzo di Mazza.

Another glorious dinner included appetizers, pasta with *pesto trapanese*, meat skewers, *cassatelle* with *ricotta* cheese and *limoncello*.

## Day 4

## Friday 15th September

### Vendicari, Ortigia (Syracuse) and Capo Murro di Porco

In the trap we found two Mediterranean Mantises and one Grey Mantis (*Ameles decolour*), plus Turnip (*Agrotis segetum*), Pale Mottled Willow (*Caradrina clavipalpis*), Blair's Mocha (*Cyclophora puppillaria*), Hoary Footman (*Eilema caniola*), Lustrous Least Carpet (*Idaea filicata*) and Four-spotted (*Tyta luctuosa*).

After breakfast, we headed southwards to Vendicari, a nature reserve protecting a couple of *pantani* and one of the most famous beaches in Sicily.

A Subalpine Warbler was hopping on the Olive trees (*Olea europaea*) at the roadside but offered just glimpses. We walked on a track through a reedbed and, among Giant (*Arundo donax*) and Common Reeds (*Phragmites australis*), we noticed Annual Saltmarsh Aster (*Symphyotrichum subulatum*), Golden Samphire (*Limbarda crithmoides*), Bittersweet Nightshade (*Solanum dulcamara*) and Narrow-leaved Sea-lavender (*Limonium narbonense*). Then we continued quite fast, alongside the beach among Large-berried Juniper (*Juniperus macrocarpa*), Sweet Thorn (*Vachellia karroo*), Golden Wreath Wattle (*Acacia saligna*) and Sea Daffodils (*Pancratium maritimum*), to get a decent view from the southernmost hide. Unfortunately, something had happened there, because the lake was completely empty except for a few tens of Greater Flamingos.

We walked back more slowly, noticing insects like *Lophyra flexuosa*, *Gryllotalpa quindecim*, Beewolf (*Philanthus triangulum*) and also a nervous Least Weasel (*Mustela nivalis*), that appeared and disappeared three times in the dunes, possibly hunting Rabbits.

The northern lake had more bird activity, with two Spoonbills, four Audouin's Gull's, Great Crested Grebe, Kingfisher, Zitting Cisticola, but in general much lower numbers than usual, possibly because of the unusually high water level.

We explored the Suebian Tower area and the former Tuna Factory, discovering crabs (*Eriphia verrucosa* and *Pachygrapsus marmoratus*), Big-scale Sand Smelt (*Atherina boyeri*) and Giant Goby (*Gobius cobitis*) in the canal that connects the lake with the sea.

The picnic was arranged in the back of the minivan, then we could sit in the shade of the Giant Reeds.

A number of people have asked Luca to visit the Syracuse city centre, so we drove to the Ortigia island and our guide led us to admire the main city monuments, from the Apollo temple, to Archimedes Square, Duomo Square and Santa Lucia church.

Then we had some spare time to wander, have a *gelato* and have a look the picturesque Aretusa freshwater spring, with Thick-lipped Grey Mulletts (*Chelon labrosus*), domestic ducks and Papyrus (*Cyperus papyrus*).

There was still time to transfer to the Murro di Porco peninsula, to visit the fascinating headland. We walked in fact in a rich maquis of Mediterranean Dwarf Palm (*Chamaerops humilis*), Tree Spurge (*Euphorbia dendroides*), Myrtle (*Myrtus communis*), Thorny Broom (*Calicotome infesta*) and Mastic (*Pistacia lentiscus*) in the warm light of the afternoon as far as the white lighthouse.

There were a few signs of migration with the presence of Whinchats, Yellow Wagtails, Spotted Flycatcher and Northern Wheatear. Some sea-watching produced Sandwich Terns, Yelkouan Shearwaters, Audouin's and Yellow-legged Gulls, while in the eroded limestone costal rocks we noticed the endemic *Limonium syracusanum*, Golden and Rock Samphire (*Crithmum maritimum*).

The supper was basically made of fish, with swordfish pasta and *paranza* of fresh fish like Dolfinfish, Poor Cods, Sardines and Red Mulletts, all delicious.

## Day 5

## Saturday 16th September

### Southern lakes

In the moth-trap the best catch was a pink-spotted Cone Tortrix (*Blastesthia tessulatana*), while in the garden it was nice to see a Wood Warbler on a Peruvian Pepper Tree (*Schinus molle*).

We went for the second time to the southern corner of Sicily, to visit some more brackish water lakes called *pantani*, the first of which were the former Marzamemi salt pans. The first access, quite unofficial, offered a flock of Shovelers and Teals. To reach the second, we went alongside the harbour, having a look to the flowerbeds of Lantana (*Lantana camara*): there were in fact many butterflies like Mediterranean Skipper (*Gegenes nostradamus*),

Painted Lady, Long-tailed Blue, Hummingbird Hawk Moth (*Macroglossum stellatarum*) and *Amegilla*. In the sand, partially covered by Neptune's Grass (*Posidonia oceanica*), there were lovely Sacred Datura (*Datura wrightii*), Sea Daffodils and Sea Rocket (*Cakile maritima*).

Through a tunnel under a building, we arrived at a view point that was surprisingly empty: not a single bird. So we soon forgot about that having a refreshing ice-cream in an awarded *gelateria*: definitely an highlight of the trip!

We visited later the Pantano Morghella, not far to the south of Marzamemi: most of the lake was dry, but there was some water in former square salt pans. There gathered tens of Greater Flamingos, Black-headed Gulls, Grey Herons and Little Egrets, among which we noticed Slender-billed Gull and a few waders like Temminck's Stint, Ruff and Little Stints.

Sand Martins, Barn and Red-rumped Swallows were flying in the sky, while in the dry grassland, with scattered non-native cacti (*Austrocylindropuntia subulata* and *Opuntia stricta*), Noel found the skin of a snake, David caught a Lamenting Grasshopper (*Eyprepocnemis plorans*) and Luca found a female Black Pennant (*Selysiothemis nigra*).

At 13.00, we were again at Paolo's hut in Pantano Cuba for lunch, where we saw a rufous juvenile Montagu's Harrier on passage. Later we stopped along the road south of Pantano Longarini: most of the lake was dry, but there was water in the canals with small numbers of herons, egrets, Spoonbills and waders. In one of those were feeding some tame young Flamingos, still brownish-grey, while a pale morph Booted Eagle crossed in flight in the distance.

A few members of the group decided to face the early afternoon heat and to follow Luca and David to scan Pantano Bruno, while the others recovered in the minivans with the air-conditioning. It was a shame, because the deepest water lake of the area hosted 35 Spoonbills, Purple Swamp-hen, Ferruginous Duck, Whiskered and Gull-billed Tern and several Marbled Ducks.

In 15 minutes of driving among the greenhouses of the Pachino Tomatoes, we reached the last lake, Pantano Baronello: here all the group enjoyed a stunning view of hundreds of Greater Flamingos, Coots, Little Egrets and Little Grebes.

On the opposite side were walking Glossy Ibises, Great Egrets and Purple Swamphen, while on a closer shore were preening a Dunlin and a Red Knot, together with Wood Sandpiper and Little Ringed Plovers.

The journey to Pozzo di Mazza lasted about an hour, during which Luca stopped to show us a Woodchat Shrike on a wire and a few Spotless Starlings not far from the Roman Villa del Tellaro.

Chef Marco this evening tempted us with chickpea *panelle*, *pasta capuliatu*, meat and cheese rolls and *tiramisù*, to end perfectly a wonderful day.

## Day 6

## Sunday 17th September

### Penisola Magnisi, Saline di Priolo and Syracuse Archaeological Park

In the moth trap the new ones this morning were extremely tiny but colourful: Purple Marbled (*Eublemma ostrina*), *Phaiogramma etruscaria* and *Cosmopterix pulchrimella*.

After breakfast, we drove half an hour northwards to Penisola Magnisi, a fascinating flat and prairie area surrounded by chimneys and rusty refineries. The dead thistles were feeding Goldfinches, Northern Wheatears and Zitting Cisticolas, while a Hoopoe was on the roadside and a Blue Rock-thrush flew overhead.

The commonest flowers were the European Heliotropes (*Heliotropium europaeum*), but we were surprised in finding still in bloom a single Onion-Leafed Asphodel (*Asphodelus fistulosus*) and a stunning Autumn Mandrake (*Mandragora autumnalis*) with huge purple flowers. Butterflies included Eastern Bath White, Swallowtail and several Pale-shoulder (*Acontia lucida*) and Four-spotted Moths. Tens of cows with young calves were grazing in the dry meadows, while in the distance, despite the haze, we could observe scattered Stone Curlews, running in the grass.

Flat limestone rocks hosted Sicilian Wall Lizards, Short-toed Larks and a single Tawny Pipit, all quite similar in their general brown colour.

After almost three hours in the sunshine, we were definitely needing some shade to recover: we found it in the Lipu oasis of Saline di Priolo, where we could sit under the Carob Trees (*Ceratonia siliqua*) while Luca and Dave prepared our last delicious picnic.

A trail among the Golden Wreath Wattles led us later to the only surviving hide from the fire of 2019. From there we could scan the wetland that was almost all dry, with few mirrors of water here and there. 90 Grey Herons had gathered there to chase the trapped fish, while the mud was swarming with Little Ringed and Ringed Plovers, Little and Temminck's Stints and other waders.

We had a break in a café later, when Luca and Dave went to buy the tickets to the Syracuse archaeological park, coming back with an irresistible baby Hermann's Tortoise (*Testudo hermanni*), found inverted belly up in the middle of the path.

We were pleased by more welcome shade when we started our visit to the Latomie del Paradiso. The artificial caves, all dug by generations of prisoners, were covered in Maidenhair Ferns (*Adiantum capillus-veneris*), while in the crevices were breeding Feral Pigeons and Jackdaws.

The stones of Greek Theatre were mainly covered by wooden seats and by the stage of a contemporaneous show about Ulysses, but the visible ones had rich crevices with tiny plants like Sicilian Snapdragon (*Antirrhinum siculus*), Sand Bugloss (*Echium arenarium*) and False Orpine (*Andrachne telephioides*). In a small pool we found tens of Painted Frog (*Discoglossus pictus*) tadpoles.

Later we went around the Ara di Gerone and the Roman amphitheatre, where Luca told us about the differences from the Greek Theatre. A Keeled Skimmer was perched side by side with an Eastern Bath White, while along a ditch we found an unexpected Copper Demoiselle.

The last dinner offered another rich menu with *pasta alla norma*, chicken skewers and *cassatelle*, but also the occasion to thank our guides and the staff of the hotel that made this holiday special.

## Day 7

Monday 18th September

### Foce del Simeto and Catania airport

Garry heard once again the Stone Curlew before dawn, then Dave opened for the last time his moth-trap, finding a Devonshire Wainscot (*Leucania putrescens*) and the attractive micro *Dichomeris lamprostoma*.

After another rich breakfast, well looked after by Carmen, we loaded the minivans with our suitcases and we left Pozzo di Mazza to drive for about an hour northwards, to the Simeto estuary. A couple of Northern Banded Groundlings were perching in the car park, then we walked a few hundred metres to the mouth of the second longest river in Sicily.

A big flock of gulls had selected a sandy island as a rest point: among the Yellow-legged we spotted by telescope, despite the backlight, Lesser Black-backed, Mediterranean and Audouin's Gull, plus a single Caspian Tern.

But the best surprise was a large bird of prey mobbed by a much smaller Common Buzzard: it was revealed to be a 2nd-calendar year Bonelli's Eagle, with tawny underparts, black carpal patch, white back patch and long tail! Apparently this year the Sicilian population recovered from the past low records, numbering maybe 70 pairs on all the island: possibly our bird was a wandering individual from the central Sicily breeding grounds.

After 15 minutes in the Catania traffic we were safely in front of the airport to say goodbye to Luca and Dave who with such an enthusiasm and dedication led us to discover a land full of contrasts and extremes.

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## Species lists

Birds (h = Heard only, s = sign, LO = leader only)

Common name	Scientific name	September 2023						
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		20				2	
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>		4			50		
Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>		1			4		
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>		1					
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		5		4	100		
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>		2					
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>		250			30		20
Marbled Duck	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>					4		
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>					1		
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>					200		
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				2	2		
Yelkouan Shearwater	<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>				2			
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				1			
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	8		13		20		
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		400		5	200	20	1
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>					2		
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		20		8	50	90	
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	s		s				s
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>		5			7		
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>		50		2	40		
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>		100		250	250	6	
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	2	3	2	3	5		
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>			1		1		
Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>							1
Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		2		1	1	2	
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>					1	1	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	3	3	1	3	6		2
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	3?						
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>		h			2h		
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					5		
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		200			200		
Purple Swamp-hen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>		2			3		
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>		40					
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		20			3	5	
Stone Curlew	<i>Burhinus oediconemus</i>		h		h		10	h
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>		50		1	15	5	
Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		20				15	
Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>		3					
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>		1					
Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>		1					
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>		5			1		
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		20			1	1	
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>		30					
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>		2			2	1	
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>		50			3	10	
Broad-billed Sandpiper	<i>Calidris falcinellus</i>		1					
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>		20			4	1	

Common name	Scientific name	September 2023						
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		5			1		
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		20				5	
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>		1					
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		50		1	3		
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatalis</i>		3					
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		1			2		
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>		2					
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>		15					
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		5			7		
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		200		1	30		
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>		100		2	1		
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>							2
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>				5	30	1	400
Audouin's Gull	<i>Larus audouinii</i>				5		1	3
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>							10
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>				7			
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>		1			2		
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>							1
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>					1		
Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i> var. <i>domestica</i>	15	10	1	5	20	10	5
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	10	5	10	5	50	10	
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	2	5	1	1	20	5	5
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	d						
Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>		h				h	
Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>						h	
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		5				2	
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>				1	2	h	
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	20	10	h	20	5		
Great-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major italiae</i>			1				
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		5	2	h	h	15	2
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	1	1	1				
Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>						2	
Common Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		10			3		
Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>			5				
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	3	50	10	1	20	5	
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>					5		
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	5		10				
Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>						1	
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba alba</i>			4	1		1	1
Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>		2	2	2h	h	3	1
Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>						1	
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			2	1	1	5	
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>			1	3		1	
Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	1		1				
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	2	1		1	2	2	
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>			1				
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>						1	
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>	3	3		3	5	2	
Subalpine Warbler	<i>Curruca cantillans</i>				1			
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		3		3	2	5	2h
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	h	2h		5h	3h	h	

Common name	Scientific name	September 2023						
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>				1	1		1
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>			2h				
Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>			h				
Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			2h				
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		1	1	2			
Great Tit	<i>Parus major aphrodite</i>	h		2h		2	2	
Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>			5				
European Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	3		h				
Sicilian Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus siculus</i>			5				
Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>			3				
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>					1		
Common Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	5	5	3	3	10	5	3
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	3	h	1		h	5	h
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>						7	
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	2	2	30	10	1	h	
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	6		h				
Eurasian Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>						1	
Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	10	30	20	2	20	10	5
Italian Sparrow	<i>Passer italiae</i>	5	10	5		10	5	3
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>					1	1	
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	1						
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	h	h			3	15	2
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>						h	
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>						1	
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>			h				
Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>			3				

## Other vertebrates

		September 2023						
Common name	Scientific name	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
MAMMALS:								
Western Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>					d		
Kuhl's Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus kuhlii</i>	h	1	h	h		h	
Least Weasel	<i>Mustela nivalis</i>				1			
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>					s		
Brown Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>		1?					
House Mouse	cfr. <i>Mus musculus</i>				1			
Italian Hare	<i>Lepus corsicanus</i>			s				
Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>				s		s	
AMPHIBIANS:								
Painted Frog	<i>Discoglossus pictus</i>						t	
REPTILES:								
Hermann's Tortoise	<i>Testudo hermanni</i>						1	
Italian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis siculus</i>	10	5	20	20	10	30	2
Sicilian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis waglerianus</i>	3				1	10	
Moorish Gecko	<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>	1	1	3	1	2	1	
Western Whip Snake	cfr. <i>Hierophis viridiflavus carbonarius</i>					s		

Common name	Scientific name	September 2023						
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>FISH:</b>								
Big-scale Sand Smelt	<i>Atherina</i> cfr. <i>boyeri</i>				1			
Thicklip Grey Mullet	<i>Chelon labrosum</i>				20			
Giant Goby	<i>Gobius cobitis</i>				1			

## Invertebrates (T = Caught in moth trap)

Common name	Scientific name	September 2023						
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>BUTTERFLIES:</b>								
	<b>Papilionidae</b>							
Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	2	1	1		1	4	
	<b>Pieridae</b>							
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	1		1	1			
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>		1	10	1		1	
Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>				1	2	2	
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	1	2	1			2	
Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>				3		2	
	<b>Lycaenidae</b>							
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			3				
Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>	5	1	2		5	1	
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	1	2	5	1	5	3	
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>		1	1				
Southern Blue	<i>Polyommatus celina</i>	1	1	1			1	
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>			1				
	<b>Nymphalidae</b>							
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	1				2	1	
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	1	1		1	2	2	
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>			1				
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>			10				
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	3	1	2			1	
Southern Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia cecilia</i>	1						
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	1	1					
Great Banded Grayling	<i>Brintesia circe</i>	1						
Sicilian Grayling	<i>Hipparchia blachieri</i>	2		10				
Tree Grayling	<i>Hipparchia statilinus</i>	10	1					
Woodland Grayling	<i>Hipparchia</i> cfr. <i>fagi</i>			2				
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	3	1					
Plain Tiger	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>				1	1		
	<b>Hesperiidae</b>							
Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>			1			1	
Mediterranean Skipper	<i>Gegenes</i> cfr. <i>nostrodamus</i>	1	3			10	1	
<b>MACRO MOTHS:</b>								
Pale Shoulder	<i>Acontia lucida</i>	1					10	
Dark Sword-grass	<i>Agrotis ipsilon</i>		1T	2T		2T	1T	1T
Turnip Moth	<i>Agrotis segetum</i>				1T	1T		
Porter's Rustic	<i>Athetis hospes</i>		1T	1T	1T	2T	1T	
Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	1		1T				

		September 2023						
Common name	Scientific name	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Pale Mottled Willow	<i>Caradrina clavipalpis</i>				1T			
A noctuid	<i>Cryphia</i> cfr. <i>pallida</i>		1T	1T	1T		1T	1T
Blair's Mocha	<i>Cyclophora puppillaria</i>				1T		1T	2T
Amah	<i>Dysauxes famula</i>	1		1T	3T	3T		
Passenger	<i>Dysgonia algira</i>		1T					
Hoary Footman	<i>Eilema</i> cfr. <i>caniola</i>				1T	1T	1T	
Spotted Sulphur	<i>Emmelia trabealis</i>		1T	1T	6T	3T	2T	2T
Pink-barred Eublemma	<i>Eublemma cochylioides</i>					1T		
Purple Marbled	<i>Eublemma ostrina</i>						1T	
Scarce Bordered Straw	<i>Helicoverpa armigera</i>		2T					1T
Vine's Rustic	<i>Hoplodrina ambigua</i>						1T	
Portland Ribbon Wave	<i>Idaea degeneraria</i>			1T		1T		
Lustrous Least Carpet	<i>Idaea filicata</i>				1T	1T	1T	1T
Satin Wave	<i>Idaea subsericeata</i>					1T		
Cosmopolitan	<i>Leucania loreyi</i>		2T	1T				1T
Devonshire Wainscot	<i>Leucania putrescens</i>							1T
Hummingbird Hawk Moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	2		1		1		
Large Yellow Underwing	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>		2T	1T	1T			
An erebid	<i>Nodaria nodosalis</i>					1T		
A geometrid	<i>Phaiogramma etruscaria</i>						1T	
Twoband Ozarba	<i>Pseudozarba bipartita</i>		1T	5T	2T			1T
Vestal	<i>Rhodometra sacraria</i>		30T	50T	20T	20T	20T	10T
A geometrid	<i>Scopula minorata</i>		1T			2T	1T	
Dark Mottled Willow	<i>Spodoptera ciliium</i>		1T	1T	2T	2T	1T	
Small Mottled Willow	<i>Spodoptera exigua</i>		5T	1T	3T	7T	5T	5T
Mediterranean Brocade	<i>Spodoptera littoralis</i>		3T	5T	10T	10T	10T	10T
Pine Processionary Moth	<i>Thaumetopoea pityocampa</i>			s				
Ni Moth	<i>Trichoplusia ni</i>			1T				
Four-spotted	<i>Tyta luctuosa</i>				1T	4T	5	1T
Cream Drab	<i>Xanthodes albago</i>			1T				
A burnet	<i>Zygaena</i> sp						1c	
<b><u>MICRO MOTHS</u></b>								
A crambid	<i>Achyra nudalis</i>		1T			1T	1T	1T
A crambid	<i>Aporodes floralis</i>		1T			1		
Cone Tortrix	<i>Blastesthia tessulatana</i>					2T		
A pyralid	<i>Bostra</i> cfr. <i>obsoletalis</i>					1T		
Privet Tortrix	<i>Clepsis</i> cfr. <i>consimilana</i>							1T
Beautiful Cosmopterix Moth	<i>Cosmopterix pulchrimella</i>						1T	
A gelechid	<i>Dichomeris lamprostoma</i>							1T
Locust Bean Moth	<i>Ectomyelois ceratoniae</i>				1T	1T		
Viper's Bugloss Moth	<i>Ethmia bipunctella</i>			3T	6T	1T	2T	2T
Old World Webworm	<i>Hellula undalis</i>						1T	
Grass Webworm Moth	<i>Herpetogramma licarsisalis</i>				2T		1T	1T
Ornate Hydriris Moth	<i>Hydriris ornatalis</i>				1T			
Theresian Moth	<i>Lamoria anella</i>		1T	2T	2T	3T	1T	1T
Spiderling Plume Moth	<i>Megalorhipida leucodactylus</i>		✓✓				✓✓	
A pyralid	<i>Maradana fuscolimbialis</i>		1T	5T	10T	2T	5T	5T
Rush Veneer	<i>Nomophila noctuella</i>			2T	1T	1T	3T	
An autostichid	<i>Oegoconia</i> sp.					1T		
Olive-tree Pearl	<i>Palpita vitrealis</i>		2T	3T	5T	1T	2T	

Common name	Scientific name	September 2023						
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
A tortricid	<i>Phalonidia contractana</i>		1T	1T				1T
Diamond-backed Moth	<i>Plutella xylostella</i>			1T				
Plume moth sp.	<i>Pterophorinae sp.</i>		✓✓	1T	1T			
Scarce Crimson and Gold	<i>Pyrausta sanguinalis</i>					1T		
Hawaiian Beet Webworm Moth	<i>Spoladea recurvalis</i>						1T	
Rusty-dot Pearl	<i>Udea ferrugalis</i>			1T				
<b><u>OTHER INVERTEBRATES</u></b>								
Copper Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx haemorrhoidalis</i>						1	
Migrant Spreadwing	<i>Lestes barbarus</i>		3					
Island Bluetail	<i>Ischnura genei</i>		3		1	3		
Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>	1	1		3	2	2	
Keeled Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>						1	
Northern Banded Groundling	<i>Brachythemis impartita</i>							2
Southern Darter	<i>Sympetrum meridionale</i>		10		5	5		
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>		1					
Scarlet Darter	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	1	15			2		
Violet Dropwing	<i>Trithemis annulata</i>	1	1					
Black Pennant	<i>Selysiothemis nigra</i>					1		
Nosed Grasshopper	<i>Acrida ungarica</i>	2	3	1	1		3	
Common Digging Grasshopper	<i>Acrotylus insubricus</i>			1				
Yellow-winged Digging Grassh.	<i>Acrotylus longipes</i>				1			
Slender Digging Grasshopper	<i>Acrotylus patruelis</i>	1					1	
Puissant's Green-winged Grassh.	<i>Aiolopus puissanti</i>		1					
Broad Green-winged Grassh.	<i>Aiolopus strepens</i>		1					
Egyptian Grasshopper	<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>				1			
Eurasian Pincer Grasshopper	<i>Calliptamus cfr. barbarus</i>	10				2		
Common Field Grasshopper	<i>Chorthippus cfr. brunneus</i>			1				
White-lined Straw Grasshopper	<i>Euchorthippus albolineatus</i>	1						
Verge Cricket	<i>Eumodicogryllus bordigalensis</i>			2T				1T
Lamenting Grasshopper	<i>Eyprepocnemis plorans</i>	1				1	5	
A mole cricket	<i>Gryllotalpa quindecim</i>				1			
Southern Field Cricket	<i>Gryllus bimaculatus</i>		2T	1T	2T			
Migrant Locust	<i>Locusta migratoria</i>	1					1	
Blue-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda caerulea</i>	✓						
Green-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda fuscocincta</i>	✓✓				1	1	
Scarlet-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda miniata</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	
Blue-winged Sand Grasshopper	<i>Sphingonotus caeruleus</i>			10				
Grey Mantis	<i>Ameles decolor</i>				1T			1T
European Dwarf Mantis	<i>Ameles spallanzania</i>			1				
Mediterranean Mantis	<i>Iris oratoria</i>			1T	2T	1T		
Larva-like Ground Mantis	<i>Geomantis larviformis</i>						1	
A bug	<i>Acrosternum millierei</i>		1T	1T	1T	5T		1T
Red Shield-bug	<i>Carpocoris mediterraneus</i>		1					
A bug	<i>Creontiades pallidus</i>			1T				
Striped Shieldbug	<i>Graphosoma lineatum</i>						5	
Bindweed Seedeating Bug	<i>Graptostethus servus</i>			1T				
Brown Marmorated Shield-bug	<i>Halyomorpha halys</i>			1				
Cretan Seed Bug	<i>Lygaeus cfr. creticus</i>					1		
A bug	<i>Remauiereana annulipes</i>			1T				

Common name	Scientific name	September 2023						
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Mediterranean Red Bug	<i>Scantius aegyptius</i>		1					
Lyon Antlion	<i>Creoleon</i> cfr. <i>lugdunensis</i>	5						
A robber fly	<i>Asilidae</i> sp.		1	1				
A fly	<i>Chrysomya</i> sp.					1		
A hover fly	<i>Chrysotoxum</i> cfr. <i>intermedium</i>				1			
Four-striped Digger Bee	<i>Amegilla</i> cfr. <i>quadrifasciata</i>		5			5		
An ant	<i>Aphaenogaster</i> sp.				✓			
Honey Bee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>	✓✓		✓✓	✓	✓		
A bee	<i>Bembix</i> cfr. <i>olivacea</i>				1			
Common Carder Bumble Bee	<i>Bombus pascuorum</i>			1				
An ant	<i>Camponotus nylanderii</i>					✓		
An ant	<i>Lasius</i> sp.		✓					
Browsing Ant	<i>Lepisiota frauenfeldi</i>			✓✓				
A wasp	<i>Leucospis</i> sp.		1					
An ant	<i>Messor</i> sp.	✓✓						✓✓
Pallid Big-headed Ant	<i>Pheidole pallidula</i>						✓✓	
European Beewolf	<i>Philanthus triangulum</i>				3			
A paper wasp	<i>Polistes</i> sp.	1	✓					
A velvet ant	<i>Ronisia brutia</i>	1						
A wasp	<i>Sceliphron spirifex</i>		1					
Hairy Scoliid Wasp	<i>Scolia hirta</i>				3			1
An ant	<i>Tapinoma magnum</i>					1		
German Yellowjacket	<i>Vespula germanica</i>						1	
Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>	1			1			
A darkling beetle	<i>Alphasida grossa</i>						1	
A weevil	<i>Curculio</i> sp.			1				
A tiger beetle	<i>Lophyra flexuosa</i>				2			
Seven Spot Ladybird	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>			3				
A weevil	<i>Coniocleonus</i> sp.						1	
A weevil	<i>Otiorhynchus</i> sp.						1	
A leaf beetle	<i>Timarcha</i> sp.						1	
A cucumber spider	<i>Araniella</i> sp.				1			
A jumping spider	<i>Menemerus semilimbatus</i>		1					
Pink Crab Spider	<i>Thomisus onustus</i>			1				
A pill woodlice	<i>Armadillidium</i> sp.				1			
Warty Crab	<i>Eriphia verrucosa</i>				1			
Marbled Crab	<i>Pachygrapsus marmoratus</i>				10			
Yellow-legged Millipede	<i>Pachyiulus flavipes</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Small Pointed Snail	<i>Cochlicella barbara</i>		✓✓					
Garden Snail	<i>Cornu aspersum</i>					d		
Chocolate-band Snail	<i>Eobania vermiculata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		
A snail	<i>Monacha</i> sp.	✓						
Decollate Snail	<i>Rumina decollata</i>		d				d	
Mediterranean Snail	<i>Theba pisana</i>		✓			✓		
T = caught in Moth Trap								

## Plants

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<b>** = Endemic to Sicily</b>			
<b>* = Endemic to Italy and Sicily</b>			
<b>PTERIDOPHYTES</b>	<b>FERNS &amp; ALLIES</b>		
<b>Lycophytes</b>			
<b>Selaginellaceae</b>	<b>Lesser Clubmoss Family</b>		
<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	Mediterranean Clubmoss	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Leptosporangiate Ferns</b>	<b>True Ferns</b>		
<b>Aspleniaceae</b>	<b>Spleenwort Family</b>		
<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Rustyback	3	Etna
<b>Dennstaedtiaceae</b>	<b>Bracken Family</b>		
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	3	Etna
<b>Polypodiaceae</b>	<b>Polypody Family</b>		
<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>	Southern Polypody	3	Etna
<b>Pteridaceae</b>	<b>Ribbon Fern Family</b>		
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair Fern	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<b>GYMNOSPERMS</b>	<b>CONIFERS</b>		
<b>Cupressaceae</b>	<b>Juniper Family</b>		
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Juniper	3	Etna
<i>Juniperus macrocarpa</i>	Large-berried Juniper	4	Vendicari
<b>Pinaceae</b>	<b>Pine Family</b>		
<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo Pine	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Pinus nigra laricio</i>	Corsican Pine	3	Etna
<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Stone or Umbrella Pine	3	Etna
<b>ANGIOSPERMS</b>	<b>FLOWERING PLANTS</b>		
<b>Eu-dicots</b>	<b>True Dicotyledons</b>		
<b>Acanthaceae</b>	<b>Bear's-breech Family</b>		
<i>Acanthus mollis</i>	Bear's-breech (dead stems)	4	Vendicari
<b>Amaranthaceae</b>	<b>Amaranth Family</b>		
<i>Amaranthus</i> sp.	An amaranth	5	Marzamemi
<i>Arthrocaulon macrostachyum</i>	Glaucous Glasswort	4	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i>	Sea-purslane	2	Pantano Cuba
<i>Atriplex prostrata</i>	Creeping Saltbush	6	Saline di Priolo
<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Common Lambsquarters	3	Etna
<i>Dysphania pumilio</i>	Clammy Goosefoot	3	Etna

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<i>Salicornia</i> sp.	A saltwort	4	Vendicari
<i>Salsola squarrosa</i>	A saltwort	4	Vendicari
<i>Suaeda vera</i>	Shrubby Sea-blite	4	Capo Murro di Porco
<b>Anacardiaceae</b>	<b>Sumach Family</b>		
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Lentisc or Mastic	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>	Turpentine Tree	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
[ <i>Schinus molle</i> ]	Peruvian Pepper Tree	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<b>Apiaceae</b>	<b>Carrot Family</b>		
<i>Apium nodiflorum</i>	Fool's Watercress (leaves)	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<i>Bupleurum fruticosum</i>	Shrubby Hare's-ear	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Rock Samphire	4	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Echinophora spinosa</i>	Prickly Samphire	6	Saline di Priolo
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo (dead stems)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Ferula communis</i>	Giant Fennel (dead stems)	3	Etna
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Seseli tortuosum</i>	-	4	Vendicari
<i>Smyrniolum perfoliatum rotundifolium</i>	Perfoliate Alexanders (dead stems)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Apocynaceae</b>	<b>Periwinkle Family</b>		
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander	1	Catania
<b>Araliaceae</b>	<b>Ivy Family</b>		
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<b>Asteraceae (Compositae)</b>	<b>Daisy Family</b>		
<i>Achillea ligustica</i>	Southern Yarrow	3	Etna
<i>Anthemis aetnensis</i> **	Etna Daisy	3	Etna
<i>Artemisia arborescens</i>	A Wormwood (leaves)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field Marigold	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Carlina</i> cfr. <i>corymbosa</i>	Clustered Carlina-Thistle	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Carlina hispanica globosa</i>	A carline thistle (dead stems)	4	Etna
<i>Centaurea giardinae</i> **	A knapweed	3	Etna
<i>Centaurea seridis</i>	A knapweed	6	Saline di Priolo
<i>Chamaeleon gummifer</i>	Pine Thistle	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Rush Skeletonweed	3	Etna
<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	Artichoke Thistle (dead stems)	4	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Stink Aster (leaves)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Erigeron bonariensis</i>	Argentine Fleabane	2	Pantano Cuba
<i>Erigeron sumatrensis</i>	Tropical Horseweed	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<i>Galactites tomentosus</i>	Galactites (dead stems)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Helichrysum italicum</i>	An Everlasting	3	Etna
<i>Helminthotheca echioides</i>	Bristly Oxtongue	4	Vendicari
<i>Jacobaea ambigua</i>	A ragwort	3	Etna
<i>Lactuca</i> cfr. <i>viminea</i>	Pliant Lettuce	3	Etna

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<i>Limbarda crithmoides</i>	Golden Samphire	2	Pantano Cuba
<i>Onopordum illyricum</i>	Illyrian Thistle (dead stems)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>	Spiny Starwort (dead stems)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>	Common Fleabane	4	Vendicari
<i>Reichardia picroides</i>	Brighteyes	2	Pozzo di Mazza?
<i>Senecio squalidus aethnensis</i> **	A Ragwort	3	Etna
<i>Sonchus</i> cfr. <i>oleraceus</i>	Sow Thistle	5	Pozzo di Mazza?
<i>Symphotrichum subulatum</i>	Annual Saltmarsh Aster	2	Pantano Cuba
<i>Tanacetum siculum</i>	Etna Tansy	3	Etna
<i>Xanthium orientale</i>	Common Cocklebur	7	Foce del Simeto
<b>Berberidaceae</b>	<b>Barberry Family</b>		
<i>Berberis aetnensis</i>	Etna Barberry	3	Etna
<b>Boraginaceae</b>	<b>Borage Family</b>		
<i>Echium arenarium</i>	Sand Bugloss	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<i>Echium italicum</i>	Pale Bugloss (dead stems)	4	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's-bugloss	3	Etna
<i>Echium vulgare pustulatum</i>	Viper's Bugloss	3	Etna
<i>Heliotropium europaeum</i>	European Heliotrope	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Heliotropium suaveolens</i>	A heliotrope	3	Etna
<b>Brassicaceae</b>	<b>Cabbage Family</b>		
<i>Brassica</i> cfr. <i>fruticulosa</i>	Mediterranean Cabbage	3	Etna
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea Rocket	5	Marzamemi
<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	Woad	3	Etna
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	Sweet Alyssum	6	Penisola Magnisi
<b>Cactaceae</b>	<b>Cactus Family</b>		
[ <i>Austrocylindropuntia subulata</i> ]	Eve's Needle Cactus	5	Pantano Morghella
[ <i>Opuntia stricta</i> ]	Shell Mound Pricklypear	5	Pantano Morghella
<b>Campanulaceae</b>	<b>Bellflower Family</b>		
<i>Jasione montana</i>	Sheep's-bit	3	Etna
<b>Capparaceae</b>	<b>Caper Family</b>		
<i>Capparis orientalis</i>	Rock Caper (leaves)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Caprifoliaceae</b>	<b>Honeysuckle Family</b>		
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Sixalix atropurpurea</i>	Sweet Scabious	2	Pantano Cuba
<b>Caryophyllaceae</b>	<b>Pink Family</b>		
<i>Cerastium tomentosum</i> var. <i>aetnaeum</i>	Snow-in-Summer	3	Etna
<i>Petrorhagia saxifraga</i>	Tunic Flower	3	Etna
<i>Saponaria sicula</i>	Sicilian Soapwort	3	Etna
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder campion (dead stems)	3	Etna

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<b>Cistaceae</b>	<b>Rockrose Family</b>		
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	Cretan Cistus (leaves)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Convolvulaceae</b>	<b>Bindweed Family</b>		
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	2	Pantano Cuba
<i>Convolvulus cantabrica</i>	Cantabrian Morning-glory	5	Pantano Morghella
<i>[Ipomoea indica]</i>	Blue Dawnflower	2	Cassibile
<b>Crassulaceae</b>	<b>Stonecrop Family</b>		
<i>Petrosedum amplexicaule</i>	A stonecrop (leaves)	3	Etna
<i>Phedimus stellatus</i>	Starry Stonecrop (dead stems)	3	Etna
<i>Sedum hispanicum</i>	Spanish Stonecrop (dead stems)	3	Etna
<i>Umbilicus horizontalis</i>	A Wall Pennywort (dead stems)	4	Vendicari
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Wall Pennywort (dead stems)	3	Etna
<b>Ericaceae</b>	<b>Heather Family</b>		
<i>Erica multiflora</i>	Mediterranean Heath (leaves)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Euphorbiaceae</b>	<b>Spurge Family</b>		
<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	Large Mediterranean Spurge	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Euphorbia dendroides</i>	Tree Spurge	4	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Euphorbia maculata</i>	Spotted Spurge	4	Vendicari
<i>Euphorbia prostrata</i>	Prostrate Sandmat	5	Marzamemi
<i>Euphorbia segetalis</i>	Grainfield Spurge	4	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Castor Oil Plant	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Fabaceae (Leguminosae)</b>	<b>Pea Family</b>		
<i>Acacia saligna</i>	Golden Wreath Wattle	6	Saline di Priolo
<i>Astragalus siculus**</i>	Etna Milk-vetch (leaves)	3	Etna
<i>Bitumaria bituminosa</i>	Pitch Trefoil (leaves)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Calicotome infesta</i>	Thorny Broom (fruits)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Carob Tree	4	Vendicari
<i>Genista aetnensis**</i>	Etna Broom	3	Etna
<i>Laburnum</i> sp.	A laburnum (leaves)	3	Etna
<i>Lotus</i> cfr. <i>cytisoides</i>	Grey Bird's-Foot-Trefoil	2	Pantano Cuba
<i>Lupinus angustifolius</i>	Narrow-leaved Lupine (leaves)	3	Etna
<i>Ononis natrix ramosissima</i>	Spanish Restharrow	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>[Robinia pseudoacacia]</i>	False Acacia	3	Etna
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom	3	Etna
<i>[Vachellia karroo]</i>	Sweet Thorn	4	Capo Murro di Porco
<b>Fagaceae</b>	<b>Beech Family</b>		
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut	3	Etna
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holly Oak	3	Etna
<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy Oak	3	Etna

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<b>Hypericaceae</b>	<b>St. John's Wort Family</b>		
<i>Hypericum triquetrfolium</i>	Pyramidal St John's-wort	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Juglandaceae</b>	<b>Walnut Family</b>		
<i>Juglans regia</i>	Persian Walnut	3	Etna
<b>Lamiaceae</b>	<b>Dead-nettle Family</b>		
<i>Clinopodium nepeta</i>	Lesser Calamint	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Mentha</i> cfr. <i>suaveolens</i>	Apple Mint	4	Vendicari
<i>Micromeria</i> cfr. <i>graeca</i>	A whitweed	3	Etna
<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Jerusalem Sage (leaves)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Salvia fruticosa</i>	Greek Sage (leaves)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Teucrium capitatum</i>	Felty Germander (leaves)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Teucrium flavum</i>	Yellow Germander (leaves)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Thymbra capitata</i>	Spanish Oregano	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Lilac Chaste Tree	4	Vendicari
<b>Malvaceae</b>	<b>Mallow Family</b>		
<i>Lavatera arborea</i>	Tree Mallow (leaves)	2	Pantano Cuba
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow	3	Etna
<b>Moraceae</b>	<b>Mulberry Family</b>		
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Myrtaceae</b>	<b>Myrtle Family</b>		
<i>[Eucalyptus camaldulensis]</i>	River Redgum	4	Vendicari
<i>Myrtus communis</i>	Myrtle	4	Vendicari
<b>Nyctaginaceae</b>	<b>Four o' Clock Family</b>		
<i>[Boerhavia coccinea]</i>	Scarlet Spiderling	4	Pozzo di Mazza
<i>[Bougainvillea sp.]</i>	A bougainvillea	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<i>[Mirabilis jalapa]</i>	Marvel of Peru	4	Pozzo di Mazza
<b>Oleaceae</b>	<b>Olive Family</b>		
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Onagraceae</b>	<b>Willowherb family</b>		
<i>Chamaenerion angustifolium</i>	Rosebay Willowherb	3	Etna
<i>Chamaenerion dodonaei</i>	Rosemary-leaved Willowherb	3	Etna
<i>Epilobium</i> cfr. <i>parviflorum</i>	Hoary Willowherb	5	Marzamemi
<b>Orobanchaceae</b>	<b>Broomrape Family</b>		
<i>Orobanche</i> cfr. <i>rapum-genistae</i>	A broomrape (dead stems)	3	Etna
<b>Papaveraceae</b>	<b>Poppy Family</b>		
<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	Yellow Horned-poppy (leaves)	6	Saline di Priolo

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<b>Phyllanthaceae</b>	<b>Leaf-flower Family</b>		
<i>Andrachne telephioides</i>	False Orpine	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<b>Plantaginaceae</b>	<b>Plantain Family</b>		
<i>Antirrhinum siculus</i>	a Snapdragon	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<i>Kickxia spuria</i>	Round-leaved Fluellen	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Linaria multicaulis</i>	A toadflax	3	Etna
<i>Linaria purpurea</i>	Purple Toadflax	3	Etna
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Stag's-horn Plantain	2	Pantano Cuba
<i>Plantago crassifolia</i>	Fleshy Plantain	4	Vendicari
<i>Plantago serraria</i>	A Plantain (toothed leaves)	6	Penisola Magnisi
<b>Plumbaginaceae</b>	<b>Thrift Family</b>		
<i>Plumbago europaea</i>	Common Leadwort	6	Penisola Magnisi
<i>Limonium narbonense</i>	Narrow-leaved Sea-lavender	2	Pantano Cuba
<i>Limonium sinuatum</i>	Blue Statice (leaves)	4	Vendicari
<i>Limonium syracusanum</i>	A sea-lavender	4	Capo Murro di Porco
<b>Polygonaceae</b>	<b>Dock Family</b>		
<i>Rumex scutatus ssp. aetnensis**</i>	Etna Sorrel	3	Etna
<b>Portulacaceae</b>	<b>Blinks Family</b>		
<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Common Purslane	3	Etna
<b>Primulaceae</b>	<b>Primrose Family</b>		
<i>Samolus valerandi</i>	Brookweed	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<b>Resedaceae</b>	<b>Mignonette Family</b>		
<i>Reseda alba</i>	White Mignonette	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<b>Rosaceae</b>	<b>Rose Family</b>		
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn (fruits)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Potentilla calabra</i>	A Cinquefoil (leaves)	3	Etna
<i>Pyrus spinosa</i>	Almond-leaved Pear (fruits)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Rosa cfr. canina</i>	Dog Rose	3	Etna
<i>Rubus ulmifolius agg.</i>	Bramble	3	Etna
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Spiny Burnet	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Rubiaceae</b>	<b>Bedstraw Family</b>		
<i>Galium aetnicum**</i>	A bedstraw	3	Etna
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Madder	5	Pantano Bruno
<b>Rutaceae</b>	<b>Citrus Family</b>		
<i>Ruta chalepensis</i>	Fringed Rue (leaves)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Salicaceae</b>	<b>Willow Family</b>		
<i>Populus nigra</i>	Black Poplar	3	Etna

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<i>Populus tremula</i>	European Aspen	3	Etna
<b>Santalaceae</b>	<b>Sandalwood Family</b>		
<i>Osyris alba</i>	Osyris (fruits)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Sapindaceae</b>	<b>Maple Family</b>		
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycomore Maple	3	Etna
<b>Scrophulariaceae</b>	<b>Figwort Family</b>		
<i>Scrophularia canina</i>	French Figwort (fruits)	3	Etna
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	Wavy-leaved Mullein	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Great Mullein	3	Etna
<b>Simaroubaceae</b>	<b>Tree of Heaven family</b>		
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of Heaven	3	Etna
<b>Solanaceae</b>	<b>Nightshade Family</b>		
<i>[Datura wrightii]</i>	Sacred Datura	5	Marzamemi
<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Common Thorn-apple	3	Etna
<i>Hyoscyamus albus</i>	White Henbane (dead stems)	4	Vendicari
<i>Mandragora autumnalis</i>	Autumn Mandrake	6	Penisola Magnisi
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Bittersweet Nightshade	4	Vendicari
<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	Black Nightshade	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Urticaceae</b>	<b>Nettle Family</b>		
<i>Parietaria judacea</i>	Pelitory-of-the-Wall	3	Etna
<b>Thymelaeaceae</b>	<b>Daphne Family</b>		
<i>Daphne gnidium</i>	Flax-leaved Daphne	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Verbenaceae</b>	<b>Verbena Family</b>		
<i>[Lantana camara]</i>	Lantana	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<i>[Phyla nodiflora]</i>	Turkey Tangle Fogfruit	1	Pozzo di Mazza
<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	Common Vervain	2	Pantano Cuba
<b>Vitaceae</b>	<b>Grape Family</b>		
<i>[Parthenocissus quinquefolia]</i>	Virginia Creeper	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Zygophyllaceae</b>	<b>Caltrop Family</b>		
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	Puncture Vine	2	Pozzo di Mazza
<b>Monocots</b>	<b>Monocotyledons</b>		
<b>Amaryllidaceae</b>	<b>Daffodil Family</b>		
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	Sea Daffodil	6	Saline di Priolo
<b>Arecaceae</b>	<b>Palm Family</b>		
<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	Mediterranean Dwarf Palm	4	Capo Murro di Porco

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<b>Asparagaceae</b>	<b>Asparagus Family</b>		
[ <i>Agave americana</i> ]	Agave or Century Plant	5	Pantano Morghella
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	Prickly Asparagus	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Asparagus albus</i>	White Asparagus	4	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Drimia (Urginea) pancrati</i>	Sea Squill	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
[ <i>Yucca gloriosa</i> ]	Spanish-dagger	4	Capo Murro di Porco
<b>Asphodelaceae</b>	<b>Asphodel Family</b>		
<i>Asphodeline lutea</i>	King's-Spear (leaves and fruits)	3	Etna
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	Onion-Leafed Asphodel	6	Penisola Magnisi
<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i>	Branched Asphodel (dead stems)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>Cyperaceae</b>	<b>Sedge Family</b>		
<i>Bolboschoenus maritimus</i>	Sea Clubrush	2	Pantano Cuba
<i>Cyperus longus</i> complex	Sweet Galingale	3	Etna
[ <i>Cyperus papyrus</i> ]	Papyrus	4	Syracuse
<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	Black Bog-rush	4	Vendicari
<b>Juncaceae</b>	<b>Rush Family</b>		
<i>Juncus acutus</i>	Spiny Rush	6	Penisola Magnisi
<b>Poaceae</b>	<b>Grass Family</b>		
<i>Ampelodesmos mauritanicus</i>	Mauritanian Grass	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed	3	Syracuse
<i>Cenchrus setaceus</i>	Fountain Grass	3	Syracuse
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Bermuda Grass	5	Pozzo di Mazza
<i>Digitaria</i> sp.	A crab-grass	5	Marzamemi
<i>Echinochloa</i> sp.	A barnyard grass	5	Pozzo di Mazza
<i>Eleusine indica</i>	Goose Grass	5	Marzamemi
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Hare's-tail Grass	3	Etna
<i>Paspalum dilatatum</i>	Dallis Grass	4	Vendicari
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed	2	Pantano Cuba
<i>Polypogon viridis</i>	Water Beard Grass	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<i>Saccharum spontaneum</i>	Wild Cane	2	Pantano Cuba
<i>Setaria adhaerens</i>	Bur Bristle Grass	2	Pantano Cuba
<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	Johnson Grass	6	Syracuse archaeological park
<b>Smilacaceae</b>	<b>Smilax Family</b>		
<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Smilax (fruits)	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile
<b>LICHENS</b>			
<b>Lecanoromycetes</b>	LICHENS		
<i>Stereocaulon vesuvianum</i>	Mount Vesuvius Lichen	3	Etna
<i>Xanthoria parietina</i>	Common Sunburst Lichen	1	Cava Grande del Cassibile