Wild Flowers of Sicily

Naturetrek Tour Report

3 – 10 May 2017





Cretan Scabious

Pale Ophrys





Borage

Ragusa's Nine-spotted Moth

Report and images by Jessica Turner



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Tour Report Wild Flowers of Sicily

Tour participants: Jessica Turner and Julia Quinonez (leaders) with 14 Naturetrek clients

Summary

Sicily is a fascinating island with a great range of plants. Mount Etna dominates the north-east of the island, resulting in some very specific habitats and endemic plants. The eruptions of Spring 2017 gave us the opportunity to experience a very recent lava flow, as well as seeing how the vegetation starts to colonise the older areas. In the Madonies and the Bosco di Ficuzza, the orchids were particularly fine, despite some confusing variations or hybrids! The birds, insect life and other wildlife were also enjoyed, along with delicious food and comfortable hotels. Thanks to the group members for their contributions too, towards a great week in a delightful location.

Day 1

Wednesday 3rd May

Gatwick to Catania; slopes of Mount Etna

Twelve group members met Jessica and Julia at Gatwick Airport for our 6.35am flight to Catania. Despite some delay in take-off, we made up time in the flight. As we came into land, we could see very clearly the towering cone of Mount Etna, above its ring of cloud. Having collected our luggage, we met the final two group members, who had joined us from the 'Spring Birding in Sicily' tour. We sorted the vehicles, loaded up, and soon joined the north-bound A18. We stopped for a snack lunch at a service station, with smart Spanish or Spanish-Italian hybrid Sparrows hopping around. We left the autostrada at the Giarre exit and made our way up to our hotel, the Case Perrotta on the outskirts of Sant'Alfio, where we received a warm welcome from Valentina. The hotel was once a monastery, then a winery, and has some fascinating and quite quirky buildings. We settled into our rooms and, after a short break, met to start our exploration of the area.

We drove up the road from Case Perrotta, stopping by a little chapel above Milo. Here, we noted the lava which was starting to be colonised by vegetation. The Mount Vesuvius lichen (Stereocaulon vesuvianum) is the first coloniser, followed later by plants such as Red Valerian (Centranthus ruber), Etna Sorrel (Rumex scutatus forma aetnensis) and Woad (Isatis tinctoria subsp. canescens). Etna Broom (Genista aetnensis) was common, although not in flower. We also found some Narrow-leaved Lupins (Lupinus angustifolium), a tiny pink Petrorhagia dubia, a pale form of Fodder Vetch (Vicia villosa subsp. ambigua), and Jersey Fern (Anogramma leptophylla). We found several Clovers, including Hare's-foot (Trifolium arvensis), Starry (T. stellatum) and T. cherleri. A tiny speciality was the Perennial Knawel Scleranthus perennis subsp. vulcanicus. Neighbouring established woodland held Downy Oak (Quercus pubescens). Being under Etna's ring of cloud, we could not see the summit. A Nightingale sang from some scrub, but we could not see it.

We then drove back to Case Perrotta, where we explored the extensive grounds, finding beautiful shows of Woad and Narrow-leaved Lupins, the 'usual'-coloured Fodder Vetch (*Vicia villosa*), and the two-tone pea *Lathyrus clymenum*. Grasses included Hare's-foot Grass (*Lagurus ovatus*) and Large Quaking Grass (*Briza maxima*).

We met again after a break to discuss plans for the week and to start our checklists, before enjoying a delicious dinner. After such an early start for most, we then retired for some much-needed sleep.

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Day 2

Thursday 4th May

Eastern slopes of Etna

Today we travelled from sea to mountain, ascending the eastern slopes of Mount Etna. Early birders reported good sightings of Subalpine Warblers in the grounds plus other species, including the ever-present Hoopoe and Nightingales. After a good breakfast, and with picnic supplies bought, we descended to the coast near Cottone, where the Fiumefreddo River enters the sea. Here, early finds included Three-horned Stock (Matthiola tricuspidata), Sea Stock (Matthiola sinuata), Sea Rocket (Cakile maritima) and Yellow Horned-poppy (Glaucium flavum). We were able to compare Crown Daisy with Corn Marigold (Glebionis coronarium and G. segetum). Tree Sparrows were flitting around the Eucalyptus trees and a Yellow-legged Gull flew by. Some of the group tested the sea temperature and enjoyed a paddle. We then moved on a short distance inland, to the Fiumefreddo Nature Reserve. Fiumefreddo means 'cold river', and the river carries the snow-melt from Etna. The low water temperature allows a number of different species to thrive which are rare elsewhere in Sicily. We parked in the shade and looked at a wall which bore many plants of Phagnalon (Phagnalon rupestre) and Annual Bellflower (Campanula erinus), before walking down the narrow path to the reserve. We were immediately struck by the lushness of the vegetation. Giant Reed (Arundo donax), White Willow (Salix alba) and White Poplar (Populus alba) towered above us, but so did Yellow Flag (Iris pseudacorus), Stinging Nettles (Urtica dioica) and Cretan Thistles (Cirsium creticum). Other plants included Water Mint (Mentha aquatica) and False Fox Sedge (Carex cuprina, formerly C. otrubae). One of the specialities of the reserve is Papyrus (Cyperus papyrus siculus). Cetti's Warbler and a Nightingale were singing, a flock of Bee-eaters passed overhead, and Italian Wall Lizards were enjoying the morning sun. Insects included Lesser Emperor dragonfly, Copper Demoiselle and Speckled Wood. In the adjacent meadow, we found Lythrum hyssopifolia, Lesser Swine-cress (Coronopus didymus) and plenty of Scarlet Pimpernel (Anagallis arvensis), though only the red form. Clouded Yellow and Large White butterflies were seen.

We then started to ascend the slopes of Etna, stopping for lunch above Linguaglossa, in what proved to be a very floristically-rich spot. Here we found forms of Green-winged Orchids (*Anacamptis morio* subsp. *morio* and the sparser subsp. *picta*), Toothed Orchids (*Neotinea tridentata*), Roman Orchids (*Dactylorhiza romana*), most of which had gone over but some were in good condition, a spike of Elder-flowered Orchid (*Dactylorhiza sambucina*), Dense-flowered Orchid (*Neotinea maculata*), emerging Pink Butterfly Orchid (*Anacamptis papilionacea*) and Violet Bird's-nest Orchid (*Limodorum arbortivum*). We also found a Green-winged x Pink Butterfly hybrid (*Anacamptis x gennarii*). A shady quarry held carpets of Spring Sowbread (*Cyclamen repandum*), and other plants included Cornflower (*Cyanus segetum*), bright pink Fedia (*Fedia cornucopiae*), and yellow *Biscutella didyma*.

Eventually we continued our climb, with our final main stop being Piano Provenzana (1785 metres) where we saw the 2002/3 lava flow, still very stark and black, but starting to be colonised in places. Here, we found many of the specialised and endemic species which survive in the hostile conditions of the volcano, which we had already seen elsewhere. In areas not affected by this flow, Juniper (Juniperus communis subsp. hemisphaerica), Etna Barberry (Berberis aetnensis), and Etna Milk-vetch (Astracantha sicula) sheltered quantities of Etna Pansy (Viola aethnensis), in shades from deep purple, through blue, lilac and yellow, to cream. Other plants here included Potentilla calabra and Etna Stonecrop (Sedum aetnensis), while birds feeding on the larva included Black Redstart, and Northern and Black-eared Wheatears. After a stop for refreshments at one of the bars, we returned to Sant' Alfio. After a break, we met to discuss the day, update our lists, and enjoy another delicious

dinner, before retiring after a long but fascinating day. As part of the feast of Sant'Alfio, local houses, including Case Perrotta, lit small bonfires at their gates at 8pm.

Day 3 Friday 5th May

Mount Etna

Today dawned fine, with some cloud around the summit of Etna. Bee-eater, Cuckoo, Hoopoe and Great Spotted Woodpecker were amongst the early morning birds, while Moorish Geckos and Italian Wall Lizard were seen on building walls. After a delicious breakfast, we set off through Zafferana, where we stopped to buy the picnic. While Jessica and Julia were shopping, group members saw Serin, and many Common plus a few Pallid Swifts. We then continued westwards, climbing the southern slopes of the volcano to reach the Rifugio Sapienza, the starting point for our ascent. Here, at 1900 metres, it was rather more chilly than at lower altitudes.

The first part of our journey was by cablecar to the Piccolo Rifugio at 2500 metres, where we transferred to the 4-wheel drive buses for the climb further, to c.2800 metres, the summit currently being 3340 metres, but changing with any eruption. Etna had been rather active this spring and the landscape had changed, with new lava flows and much new ash and dust coating everything. We climbed through banks of permanent snow and ice but, in general, there was relatively little lying snow, testament both to the warm weather and the volcanic activity. We could see a fumarole above, steaming away. Where we stopped, we were given the opportunity to walk across a lava flow to view an old, collapsed caldera. The lava on which we were walking was only 15 days old – surely the youngest piece of mountain underfoot for any of us! With a small lava flow, it only needs to cool for a few days before it is safe to walk on but, in places, we could feel the heat radiating around us. We had hazy but amazing views in all directions, and a Raven was spotted in the caldera. The wind was stirring the volcanic dust, so we were pleased to have refreshments at the half-way rifugio, before completing our descent to the car park. The whole group agreed it had been an amazing experience.

We then drove down south-westwards, finding a picnic spot in the shade by the Astrophysics Observatory. Exploring the area, we saw again species we'd seen the previous day such as Etna Tansy (Tanacetum siculus), Etna Barberry (Berberis aetnensis) and the leaves of the Ragwort Senecio ambiguus. We found a couple of plants with very tiny but beautiful flowers: the vetch Vicia lathyroides, and the Forget-me-not Myosotis incrassata. A Queen of Spain Fritillary was seen. Moving on, we stopped by an area of scrubby trees in a lava flow, finding a few spikes of Elder-flowered Orchid (Dactylorhiza sambucina) in shades of salmon-pink. Two Rock Buntings were seen on the lava flow, and a Blue Tit was nesting in a hole in the lava. We then drove back past the Rifugio Sapienza, stopping at a more extensive area of Sweet Chestnut woodland. Under the trees were carpets of the golden Leopard's-bane Doronicum orientale, plus Southern Daisy (Bellis sylvestris). There were more Elder-flowered Orchids here, in the more usual magenta and lemon shades. We also found many emerging spikes of Greater Broomrape (Orobanche rapum-genistae) parasitising the Etna Broom (Genista aetnensis). Common Blue and Small Heath butterflies were noted.

We then returned to Sant'Alfio. Along the way we passed several specimens of Manna Ash (*Fraxinus ornus*) and extensive stands of the yellow Thorny Broom (*Calicotome infesta*). A band was playing at several localities, including Case Perrotta, as part of the feast of Sant'Alfio, and another small bonfire was lit at the hotel gate at 8pm.

Day 4

Saturday 6th May

Transfer to Madonie Mountains

Today we moved on to our second destination, in the Madonie Mountains, further west, towards the north coast of the island. The geology of the Madonies is predominantly Carboniferous and Dolomitic limestone, and so provides a very different habitat and flora to that of Mount Etna.

We stopped to shop in Sant'Alfio, where everyone was preparing for the feast of their saints, and we were serenaded by another band. We then dropped down to the A18 towards Catania, then turning west on the A19. Along the way we noted Spotless Starlings, perched on the barriers on the edge of the autostrada, and some beautiful stretches of Blue Stonecrop (Sedum caeruleum), a reddish plant with pale blue flowers, and a Sicilian speciality. As we continued westwards, we saw large areas of Italian Sainfoin (Hedysarum coronarium), a native plant which is also cultivated as a fodder crop. We stopped for a break near Enna, where the blue form of Scarlet Pimpernel was found. We turned off the autostrada at Tremonzelli, towards Castellana Sicula, stopping after a few kilometres to look at the verges and field margins. Here we admired the wild Sweet Pea (Lathyrus odoratus), Italian Gladiolus (Gladiolus italicus), Yellow Asphodel (Asphodeline lutea), and Borage (Borago officinalis), amongst other species. A strange musty smell was linked to a tree infested with bright green beetles, later identified as the blister beetle Spanish Fly, which emits this odour. Corn Buntings were singing their jangly songs.

We stopped for lunch on the edge of Castellana Sicula, where Horse-chestnut trees provided some shade. We then took the road towards Petralia Soprana, stopping just below a hairpin bend to explore the grassy area. Here, we found many spikes of Sombre Bee Orchid (Ophrys fusca agg.), together with Pink Butterfly Orchids (Anacamptis papilionacea var. grandiflora), Long-spurred orchids (Anacamptis morio subsp. longicornu), dark Ophrys (Ophrys sphegodes subsp. atrata), Bertoloni's Bee Orchid (Ophrys bertoloni), Plough-share and Common Tongue Orchids (Serapias vomeracea and S. lingua), and a hybrid between them, S. x intermedia. We had to be very careful where we put our feet! Other plants included Bithynian Vetch and a pale blue form of Fodder Vetch (Vicia bithynica and V. villosa), Field Eryngo (Eryngium campestre) and big patches of Yellow Asphodel, while the sculptural Carthamus pinnatus and Red Star Thistle (Centaurea calcitrapa) were in the layby. Butterflies included Common Blue, Brown Argus and Clouded Yellow, a bright red Ladybird Spider was photographed and we found caterpillars of two moths, a Lackey and of Grass Eggar. Swallows were swooping low, and a male Stonechat showed well.

Eventually, we had to tear ourselves away from this beautiful place. We continued to climb up into the mountains, enjoying the views down to the sea to our north, and the late-afternoon sun. We soon arrived at our hotel, the Pomieri, which is perched on a hill with all-round views of the mountains, and was our base for the next four nights. We received a warm welcome from Ezio, Jacopo and Giuseppe, and soon settled into our rooms before meeting to discuss the day and enjoy a good dinner.

Day 5 Sunday 7th May

Vallone Madonna degli Angeli and Piano Battaglia

We woke to another fine, sunny and breezy day. Our main objective was to visit the Vallone Madonna degli Angeli, below Monte San Salvatore, which holds the last remaining site for the very rare Nebrod or Sicilian

Fir (Abies nebrodensis). About forty or so mature trees remain in the world, although there are a number of seedlings (all carefully tagged and recorded). Most of the group were dropped at the start of the walk, with time to explore, while a couple, plus Jessica and Julia, went on to the hill-top village of Polizza Generosa, where Jessica and Julia shopped for the picnic. As we were driving, a black Western Whip Snake crossed the road in front of us. Retracing our steps a little, we then parked in an area of Corsican Pine (Pinus nigra subsp. laricio), by the gates marking the start of the walk. A small hillock to the right of the path immediately drew our attention, with Iris pseudopumila, and several different Ophrys. The Ophrys species are quite confusing, as differences between them are slight, and they hybridise readily. While some botanists class them as separate species, there is a move now, with DNA analysis, only to recognise them as, at best, subspecies or only as varietal forms. We found an endemic variant of the Yellow Bee Orchid (Ophrys lutea subsp. galilea), recognised by some as Ophrys archimedea. More straightforward was Brancifort's Orchid (Orchis brancifortii).

We set off up the path, initially through trees; a Short-toed Treecreeper and Coal Tit were seen, while others reported Firecrest. Near the first bend we found Naked Man Orchid (Orchis italica), Man Orchid (Orchis anthropophora), more Brancifort's Orchid, Yellow Bee Orchid (Ophrys lutea) and Ophrys tenthredinifera var. grandiflora, a Sicilian form of Sawfly Orchid. The track began to rise, becoming stonier, and with scree and cliffs to the sides. In this apparently very dry habitat, we found Golden Drops (Onosma echioides subsp. canescens), Candytuft (Iberis pruitii), mauve Sicilian Sad Stock (Matthiola fruticulosa var. sicula), the stunning blue flax, Linum punctatum, an endemic Alison, Alyssum nebrodense, and Amelanchier (Amelanchier ovalis) in full flower. Further up was the bellflower Edraianthus (Edraianthus graminifolium), Spring Cyclamen (Cyclamen repandum) were growing under the trees and bushes, and a surprise was a large and flowering spike of Violet Bird's-nest Orchid (Limodorum abortivum). Butterflies included Little Blue, and we also noted a couple of Humming-bird Hawk-moths. Where the path divided, we scanned the hillsides opposite, seeing a number of the trees. Some of us then took the right hand 'Sentiero Abies', and soon found a specimen tree and several seedlings, although surrounding vegetation made photography quite challenging.

We ate our picnic on the low walls by the start of the walk before driving back up the road and stopping by some rocky meadows. Here we found many more Brancifort's Orchids, together with two forms of Yellow Bee Orchid (*Ophrys lutea* subsp. *lutea*, and one spike of *Ophrys lutea* subsp. *galilea*, formerly known as *Ophrys sicula*), and some fine Bertoloni's Bee Orchid (*Ophrys bertolonii*). We also noted the sculptural basal-leaf rosettes of *Jurinea bocconii* and *Carthamus pinnatus*. Unfortunately, the rifugio where we had planned to stop for coffee was closed, so we moved on.

We then explored the top of Piano Battaglia. This is an area of boulder-strewn hillsides, at 1600 metres above sea level, with streams leading to a sink hole. We walked through the Daisies (*Bellis perennis* var. *strobliana*) and white stars of Mountain Star of Bethlehem (*Ornithogalum montanum*), with patches of Yellow Star of Bethlehem (*Gagea liotardii*). By the sink hole, where snow had lain longer, we found the deep blue Alpine Squill (*Scilla bifolia*) and pink Bird-in-a-bush (*Corydalis solida*) together with Lesser Celandine (*Ficaria verna* agg.) A large patch of Tazetta or Bunch-flowered Narcissi (*Narcissus tazetta*) was found by a stream, but the flowers were pretty well over. A flock of Red-billed Choughs were playing about, along with Hooded Crows, while Cirl Buntings were heard. We returned to the hotel, with time for a break or for local exploration, before meeting to go through our lists, discuss plans, and enjoy another excellent meal.

Day 6

Monday 8th May

Bosco di Ficuzza

Today, we set out to explore the Bosco di Ficuzza, some distance from Pomieri, but known to be a good place for orchids. We set off over Piano Battaglia and down towards Piano Torre. We stopped to admire some fine white Peonies (*Paeonia mascula*) by the road, along with carpets of Spring Sowbread (*Cyclamen repandum*), then in Collesano to shop for our picnic. A little further on, we stopped just after a bend to explore a rough field. Here we found a spiked Star of Bethlehem, *Ornithogalum narbonense*, tall, pinkish and some white heads of *Allium nigrum*, Rosy Garlic (*Allium roseum*) and an *Allium* with white starry flowers, *Allium subhirsutum*. Further exploration of the meadow showed quantities of the beautiful Blue Convolvulus (*Convolvulus tricolor*), the golden thistle-like Oyster Plant (*Scolymus grandiflora*), and the blue thistle-like *Carthamus caeruleus*. We found two different Yellow Star-thistles, not quite in flower: the usual *Centaurea solstitialis*, which has a winged stem, and *Centaurea sicula*, which does not. As we were about to leave, we also found some large spikes of *Ornithogalum arabicum* and Blue Hound's-tongue (*Cynoglottis creticum*). Turtle Doves were purring, and amongst the insect life we found Red-veined Darter dragonflies and Aetherie Fritillary, the latter a very localised species of southern Iberia, Sicily and north Africa.

We continued down to Campofelice where we stopped for fuel, and towards Palermo before continuing on to the Villabate exit, shortly before the outskirts of the city. From here we drove south-west down as far as Bolognetta, where we joined the SS118. After the town of Marineo we passed the Lago dello Scanzano and turned up towards Ficuzza, where King Fernando III (of Sicily, but IV of Naples) had a grand hunting lodge. We stopped for refreshments in this tiny village before continuing to climb into the woodland, which lies underneath the imposing Rocca Busambra.

We drove further up the hillside, finding a pull-in with magnificent views. The group explored while Jessica and Julia prepared lunch and, afterwards, we explored together. Here we found our target species, Pale Ophrys (Ophrys fusca subsp. pallida), of which most of the world population grows only in this area. Once we had got our eyes tuned to this small Ophrys, we found quite a number of spikes, some very fresh. We also found Provence Orchid (Orchis provincialis), a few spikes of Sombre Bee Orchid (Ophrys fusca agg.), Long-spurred Orchid (Anacamptis morio subsp. longicornu) and Tongue Orchids (Serapias lingua). A patch of the small blue iris Barbary Nut (Moraea sisyrhincium) was nice to see, as they only flower in the afternoon. Other species included Pink Hawk's-beard (Crepis rubra), some specimens of which had a very yellowish tinge, indicating hybridisation, probably with the yellow Smooth Hawk's-beard (Crepis capillaris), and plenty of starry-flowered Allium subhirsutum. Insects included the strange-looking Ascalaphids, and we had excellent views of the Sicilian subspecies of Long-tailed Tit. Eventually we moved back down towards the village where we explored another area, finding Beaked Ophrys (Ophrys fuciflora subsp. oxyrrhyncos) and Naked Man Orchid (Orchis italica). It was then time to set out on the long journey home, returning via Castellana Sicula. We enjoyed the evening light and beautiful views, until these were obscured by low cloud which enveloped the hotel. We all agreed that it had been a very enjoyable day.

Some of the group had opted to walk from the hotel, climbing the mountain opposite the hotel. They reported, amongst other sightings, Peonies, Nebrod Thrift (*Armeria canescens* subsp. *nebrodense*), Choughs and Glanville Fritillary butterfly. They too had had an excellent day.

Day 7

Tuesday 9th May

Isnello; Gibilmanna; Isnello Gorge

It was cooler and cloudier today, as we set off, up over Piano Battaglia. Our first stop was at below Piano Torre, where we found several spikes of the beautiful Lacaita's Ophrys (Ophrys fuciflora subsp. lacaitae). There was a good patch of Round-leaved Birthwort (Aristolochia rotunda) on the verge as well. We then moved down to the hillside village of Isnello, where we parked and explored the narrow streets and the market, while Jessica and Julia shopped for the picnic.

Our main destination for the morning was an area around the Sanctuary of Gibilmanna, on the north-facing slope of the Madonies. We parked below the church and set off along a footpath. Very soon we were finding spikes of Violet Limodore (*Limodorum abortivum*), with several growing close together in the light shade of Holm Oaks (*Quercus ilex*). Nearby were large, dark red spikes of a Broomrape, *Orobanche variegata*. Three species of Cistus: Sage-leaved (*Cistus salviflorus* with large white flowers), Narrow-leaved (*Cistus monspeliensis* with small white flowers) and the pink *Cistus creticus* were all abundant, indicating a more Mediterranean feel to the flora. As the path progressed, we also found Spotted Rock-rose (*Tuberaria guttata*), French Lavender (*Lavendula stoechas*) and Tree Heather (*Erica arborea*). It was pleasantly warm in the sun. We returned along the same path, overlooking a turquoise sea, so different from the mountains we had left.

We descended to a shady meadow for our final picnic, where Nuthatches were feeding amongst the Oak trees. We then retraced our steps towards Isnello, stopping at the river gorge before the village. On the rock faces were Cretan Scabious (*Scabiosa cretica*) with beautiful seedheads, while other plants above the gorge included Tree Spurge (*Euphorbia dendroides*), Crupina (*Crupina crupinastrum*), Bladder Vetch (*Tripodion tetraphyllum*) and Dodder (*Cuscuta epithymum*), together with an endemic Genista (*Genista ephedroides*). House Martins were nesting under the road bridge and a few Sand Martins were also seen, while Sicilian Wall Lizards and a Ragusa's Nine-spotted moth (a more southern species than the usual Nine-spotted, which is not in Sicily) gave prolonged views.

We decided then to return to Isnello, for a genuine 'gelato', which we enjoyed in the afternoon sun. A Fox walked down the pavement before disappearing through a fence, while on the return journey a group of Fallow Deer were seen. After a break, we met to complete our lists and enjoy our last dinner together, comparing notes on the highlights of an excellent week...

Day 8

Wednesday 10th May

Hotel Pomieri to Catania, to London Gatwick

We had a very early start this morning, in order to be at Catania for our morning flight back to Gatwick. The hotel staff were all there to give us an early breakfast and to wish us well. We said our farewells and thanks, travelling along a newly-opened route to the autostrada. We had excellent views of Mount Etna, with its steam hanging in the clear air. The journey went smoothly and we made good time, returning home with many memories and photographs of an enjoyable week, exploring the Wild Flowers (plus birds, butterflies and other insects, and reptiles!) of Sicily.

Species Lists:

Pinus pinea

Plants (** = Endemic to Sicily; * = Endemic to Italy and Sicily

The layout of the plant list, and plant names have been updated in line with current taxonomy (mainly based on DNA studies)

studies)		
Scientific name	Common name	Location/Notes
PTERIDOPHYTES	FERNS & ALLIES	
Lycophytes		
Selaginellaceae	Lesser Clubmoss Family	
Selaginella denticulata	Mediterranean Clubmoss	Gibilmanna
Calamophytes		
Equisetaceae	Horsetail Family	
Equisetum telmateia	Giant Horsetail	Fiumefreddo
Leptosporangiate Ferns	True Ferns	
Aspleniaceae	Spleenwort Family	
Asplenium adiantum-nigrum	Black Spleenwort	Gibilmanna
Asplenium ceterach	Rustyback	Above Milo
Asplenium onopteris	Irish Spleenwort	Above Linguaglossa
Asplenium septentrionale	Forked Spleenwort	Below Etna
Asplenium trichomanes	Maidenhair Spleenwort	Case Perrotta
Cystopteraceae	Bladder-fern Family	
Cystopteris fragilis	Brittle Bladder-fern	Above Linguaglossa
Dennstaedtiaceae	Bracken Family	
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	Fiumefreddo
Dryopteridaceae	Male-fern Family	
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male-fern	Gibilmanna
Polypodiaceae	Polypody Family	
Polypodium cambricum	Southern Polypody	Case Perrotta
Pteridaceae	Ribbon Fern Family	
Anogramma leptophylla	Jersey Fern	Above Milo
GYMNOSPERMS	CONIFERS	
Cupressaceae	Juniper Family	
Juniperus communis (ssp. hemisphaericum)	Juniper	Piano Provenzana
Juniperus oxycedrus	Prickly Juniper	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Pinaceae	Pine Family	
Abies nebrodensis**	Sicilian Fir (Nebrod Pine)	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Pinus halepensis	Aleppo Pine	Lower slopes of Etna
Pinus nigra subsp. laricio	Corsican Pine	Piano Provenzana
5		

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Roadsides near Catania

Stone or Umbrella Pine

Scientific name Common name Location/Notes

ANGIOSPERMS FLOWERING PLANTS
Pre-dicots Primitive Angiosperms

Aristolochiaceae Birthwort Family

Aristolochia rotunda Birthwort Piano Torre

Eu-dicots True Dicotyledons
Acanthaceae Bear's-breech Family

Acanthus mollis Bear's-breech Fiumefreddo and roadsides

Adoxaceae Moschatel Family

Sambucus ebulus Dwarf Elder Fiumefreddo

Sambucus nigra Elder Roadsides nr Castellana Sicula

Anacardiaceae Sumach Family

Pistacia terebinthusTurpentine TreeIsnello GorgePistacia lentiscusLentiskGibilmanna

Apiaceae Carrot Family

Anthriscus nemerosa A Cow Parsley Nr Zafferana

Cachrys ferulacea - Common round Piano Battaglia

Conium maculatum Hemlock Nr Castellana Sicula

Daucus carota Wild Carrot Isnello Gorge

Elaeoselinum asclepiumElaeoselinumBosco di Ficuzza (leaves)Eryngium campestreField EryngoBelow Petralia Soprana

Ferula communis subsp. communis Giant Fennel Roadsides

Foeniculum vulgare Fennel Case Perrotta

Laserpitium siler subsp. garganicum A Sermountain Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Oenanthe globulosa Water Dropwort Below Petralia Soprana

Opoponax chironium Hercules All-heal Vallone Madonna degli Angeli (leaves)

Orlaya kochii An Orlaya Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Scandix pecten-veneris Shepherd's Needles Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Smyrnium perfoliatum ssp.

rotundifolium

Perfoliate Alexanders

Above Linguaglossa

Thapsia garganica

Thapsia

Above Milo (leaves)

Apocynaceae Periwinkle Family

Nerium oleander Oleander Planted

Aquifoliaceae Holly Family

Ilex aquifolia Holly Bosco di Ficuzza

Araliaceae Ivy Family

Hedera helix Ivy Above Linguaglossa

Berberidaceae Barberry Family

Berberis aetnensis Etna Barberry Piano Provenzana

Betulaceae Birch Family

Betula aetnensis** Etna Birch Piano Provenzana
Corylus avellana Hazel Above Linguaglossa

Boraginaceae Borage Family

Anchusa cretica Cretan Alkanet Above Milo

Scientific name

Borago officinalis Cerinthe majus Cynoglossum creticum Echium italicum Echium plantagineum Myosotis incrassata Myosotis sylvatica Onosma echioides subsp. canescens

Brassicaceae

Aetheonema saxatile Alyssum nebrodense** Arabidopsis thaliana

Symphytum gussonei**

Arabis alpina subsp. caucasica

Arabis turrita Arabis verna Aubrieta deltoidea Barbarea bracteosa Biscutella didyma Bunias erucago Cakile maritima Capsella bursa-pastoris

Coronopus didymus

Erophila verna Erysimum bonannianum**

Hirschfeldia incana Iberis pruitii

Isatis tinctoria subsp. canescens Lepidium hirtum subsp. nebrodense

Matthiola fruticulosa var. sicula**

Matthiola sinuata Matthiola tricuspidata Sisymbrium officinale

Campanulaceae

Campanula dichotoma Campanula erinus Edraianthus graminifolius

Legousia falcata

Caprifoliaceae

Centranthus ruber Dipsacus fullonum Fedia cornucopiae Lonicera etrusca Scabiosa cretica Valeriana tuberosa

Caryophyllaceae

Arenaria grandiflora Cerastium tomentosum

Common name

Nr Castellana Sicula Borage Nr Castellana Sicula Honeywort Nr Collesano

Blue Hound's-tongue

Pale Bugloss Below Petralia Soprana

Case Perrotta Purple Viper's-bugloss a Forget-me-not Below Etna

Wood Forget-me-not Piano Battaglia roadside Golden Drops Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Location/Notes

A Comfrey Near Hotel Pomieri

Cabbage Family

Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Burnt Candytuft An Alyssum Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Case Perrotta Thale Cress Alpine Rockcress Piano Battaglia **Tower Cress** Above Linguaglossa

Spring Rockcress Vallone Madonna degli Angeli an Aubrieta Piano Battaglia roadside

A Wintercress Piano Battaglia A Buckler-mustard Above Linguaglossa **Bunias** Case Perrotta Sea Rocket Cottone Shepherd's-purse Case Perrotta Fiumefreddo Lesser Swine-cress Whitlow Grass Below Etna A Treacle-mustard Above Milo Hoary Mustard Roadsides

A Candytuft Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Woad Above Milo Piano Battaglia

Sad Stock Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Sea Stock Cottone Three-horned Stock Cottone Hedge Mustard Case Perrotta

Bellflower Family

Near Case Perrotta a Bellflower Annual Bellflower Fiumefreddo

Edraianthus Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Spicate Venus's Looking-Meadows nr V. Madonna degli Angeli

glass

Honeysuckle Family

Red Valerian Above Milo Teasel Roadsides

Fedia Above Linguaglossa Etruscan Honeysuckle Near Hotel Pomieri Isnello Gorae

A Valerian Below Piano Battaglia

Pink Family

Large-flowered Sandwort Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Snow-in-Summer Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Scientific name

Petrorhagia dubia (velutina) Petrorhagia saxifraga Saponaria sicula

Scleranthus aetnensis** Scleranthus marginatus Scleranthus perennis subsp.

vulcanicus* Silene conica Silene fuscata Silene gallica Silene italica

Silene latifolia

Silene vulgaris Spergularia rubra Stellaria media Stellaria neglecta

Cistaceae

Cistus creticus Cistus monspeliensis Cistus salvifolius Fumana thymifolia Helianthemum nummularium ssp.

grandiflorum

Helianthemum oelandicum ssp.

italicum

Tuberaria guttata

Compositae (Asteraceae)

Andryala integrifolia Anthemis aetnensis** Anthemis arvensis

Anthemis cretica (montana)

Artemisia alba

Artemisia arborescens

Bellis annua

Bellis perennis (var. strobliana**)

Bellis sylvestris Calendula arvensis Carduus pycnocephalus Carduus macrocephalus (subsp.

siculus)

Carduus tenuiflorus Carlina nebrodensis**

Carthamus (Carducellus) caeruleus Carthamus (Carduncellus) pinnatus

Centaurea busambarensis**

Centaurea calcitrapa Centaurea cyanus Centaurea napifolia Centaurea sicula Centaurea solstitialis Cirsium creticum Crepis capillaris Crepis rubra

Common name

Above Milo A Childing Pink Tunic Flower Isnello Gorge

Sicilian Soapwort Piano Provenzana (leaves)

Location/Notes

a Knawel Piano Provenzana a Knawel Piano Battaglia a Perennial Knawel Above Milo

Sand Catchfly Above Milo

Nr Castellana Sicula A Catchfly

Small-flowered Catchfly Above Milo Italian Catchfly Gibilmanna White Campion Case Perrotta Bladder campion Case Perrotta Sand Spurrey Below Etna Common Chickweed Case Perrotta

Greater Chickweed

Rockrose Family

Gibilmanna Cretan Cistus Narrow-leaved Cistus Gibilmanna Gibilmanna Sage-leaved Cistus Thyme-leaved Fumana Isnello Gorge

Rock-rose Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Hoary Rock-rose Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Spotted Rock-rose Gibilmanna

Daisy Family

Andryala Gibilmanna

Nr Piano Provenzana Etna Daisy

Corn Chamomile Above Milo

Vallone Madonna degli Angeli A Wormwood Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

A Wormwood Isnello Gorge **Annual Daisy** Gibilmanna

Daisy Above Linguaglossa

Southern Daisy **Below Etna**

Field Marigold Nr Castellana Sicula

Plymouth Thistle

Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Slender Thistle Nr Collesano

Nebrod Carline Thistle Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Carduncellus Nr Collesano

Below Petralia Soprana

a grey-leaved Knapweed Isnello Gorge

Red Star-thistle Below Petralia Soprana Cornflower Above Linguaglossa a Knapweed Nr Collesano

a Yellow Star-thistle Nr Collesano Yellow Star-thistle Nr Collesano Cretan Thistle Fiumefreddo Smooth Hawk's-beard Bosco di Ficuzza Pink Hawk's-beard Bosco di Ficuzza

Scientific name

Crepis capillaris x C.rubra Crupina crupinastrum

Dittrichia viscosa

Doronicum orientale Filago (Evax) astericifolia Filago (Evax) pygmaea

Filago vulgaris Galactities tomentosa Glebionis coronarium Glebionis segetum

Helichrysum nebrodensis** Helichrysum stoechas

Hyoseris radiata

Jacobea ambigua (Senecio

ambiguus)**

Jacobea candida (Senecio

candidus)**
Jurinea bocconii
Launaea resedifolia
Notobasis syriaca
Pallenis spinosa
Phagnalon rupestre
Ptilostemon stellatus
Ragadiolus edulis
Scolymus grandiflorus

aethnensis**
Senecio vulgaris
Silybum marianum
Tanacetum siculum
Tragapogon hybridum
Tragopogon porrifolius
Tussilago farfara

Senecio squalidus subsp.

Urospermum dalechampii

Convolvulaceae

Calystegia silvatica
Convolvulus althaeoides
Convolvulus arvensis
Convolvulus tricolor
Cuscuta epithymum

Cuscuta campestris

Crassulaceae

Sedum aetnense**
Sedum caeruleum
Sedum forsterianum
Sedum hispanicum
Sedum rubens

Sedum rupens
Sedum stellatum
Umbilicus horizontalis
Umbilicus rupestris

Common name Location/Notes

a hybrid Hawk's-beard Bosco di Ficuzza Crupina Isnello Gorge

Woody Fleabane (Stink

Aster)

a Leopard's-bane Above Linguaglossa Greater Evax Bosco di Ficuzza

Evax Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Common Cudweed Above Milo
Galactites Roadsides
Crown Daisy Cottone
Corn Marigold Cottone

An Everlasting Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Curry Plant Above Milo

Hyoseris Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

A Ragwort Above Milo (lvs)

A Ragwort Vallone Madonna degli Angeli (Ivs)

Jurinea Meadows nr Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

- Above Milo
Syrian Thistle Isnello Gorge
Pallenis Isnello Gorge
Phagnalon Fiumefreddo
Annual Ptilostemon Isnello Gorge
- Gibilmanna

- Gibilmanna
Oyster Plant Nr Collesano
A Ragwort Piano Provenzana

A Ragwort Piano Provenzana

Groundsel Fiumefreddo

Milk Thistle Case Perrotta

Etna Tansy Piano Provenzana

Hybrid Goat's-beard Nr Collesano Salsify Isnello

Colt's-foot Piano Battaglia Urospermum Fiumefreddo

Bindweed Family

Large Bindweed Case Perrotta
Mallow-leaved Bindweed Roadsides
Field Bindweed Roadsides
- Nr Collesano

Common Dodder Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Field Dodder Isnello Gorge

Stonecrop Family

Etna Stonecrop Piano Provenzana (Ivs)

Blue Stonecrop Roadsides
Rock Stonecrop Above Milo

Spanish Stonecrop Vallone Madonna degli Angeli (Ivs)

Red Stonecrop Below Etna
Starry Stonecrop Above Milo (Ivs)
A Wall Pennywort Gibilmanna
Wall Pennywort Above Milo

Scientific name Common name Location/Notes

Ericaceae Heather Family

Erica arborea Tree Heather Gibilmanna

Euphorbiaceae Spurge Family

Euphorbia characiasLarge Mediterranean SpurgeGibilmannaEuphorbia dendroidesTree SpurgeIsnello GorgeEuphorbia helioscopiaSun SpurgeCase PerrottaEuphorbia maculataSpotted SpurgeFiumefreddo

Euphorbia rigida Narrow-leaved Glaucous Spurge Below Petralia Soprana

Ricinus communis Castor Oil Plant Above Milo

Fagaceae Beech Family

Castanea sativaSweet ChestnutSlopes of EtnaFagus sylvaticaBeechPiano Provenzana

Quercus ilex Holly Oak Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Quercus petraeaDurmast OakNr Hotel PomieriQuercus pubescensDowny OakSlopes of EtnaQuercus suberCork OakNr Piano Torre

Gentianaceae Gentian Family

Blackstonia perfoliata Yellow-wort Isnello

Geraniaceae Geranium Family

Erodium cicutarium Common Stork's-bill Case Perrotta Geranium lucidum Above Milo Shining Crane's-bill Geranium molle Dove's-foot Crane's-bill Above Milo Geranium purpureum Little Robin Above Milo Geranium pyrenaicum Hedgerow Crane's-bill Nr Piano Torre Geranium sanguineum Bloody Crane's-bill Nr Pollizzi Generosa

Hypericaceae St. John's Wort Family

Hypericum perfoliatuma St. John's-wortBosco di FicuzzaHypericum perforatumPerforate St. John's-wortGibilmanna

Lamiaceae Dead-nettle Family

Ajuga orientalis Oriental Bugle Nr Gibilmanna

Clinopodium (Acinos) alpinum Alpine Basil Thyme Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Lamium amplexicaule Henbit Dead-nettle Fiumefreddo

Lamium maculatum Spotted Dead-nettle Gibilmanna
Lavandula stoechas French Lavender Gibilmanna
Melittis melissophyllum Bastard Balm Gibilmanna
Mentha aquatica Water Mint Fiumefreddo

Mentha arvensis Corn Mint Below Petralia Sporana

Mentha pulegiumPennyroyalCase PerrottaMicromeria graeca (M. consentina*)-Above MiloOriganum vulgareMarjoramGibilmannaPrasium majusPrasiumIsnello GorgeSalvia verbenacaWild ClaryCase Perrotta

Sideritis romana - Cottone

Thymus vulgaris Wild Thyme Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Teucrium scorodonia Wood Sage Gibilmanna

Scientific name	Common name	Location/Notes
Leguminosae (Fabaceae)	Pea Family	
Anthyllis vulneraria agg.	Kidney Vetch	Below Petralia Sporana
Astragalus depressus	Sprawling Milk-vetch	Piano Battaglia
Astragalus hamosus	-	Near Castellana Sicula
Astracantha (Astragalus) nebrodensis**	-	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Astracantha (Astragalus) siculus**	Etna Milk-vetch	Piano Provenzana
Bitumaria bituminosa	Pitch Trefoil	Isnello Gorge
Calycotome infesta	Thorny Broom	Above Linguaglossa
Calycotome villosa	-	Gibilmanna
Cytisus villosus	Hairy Broom	Above Linguaglossa
Genista aetnensis**	Etna Broom	Slopes of Etna
Genista cupanii**	an endemic Greenweed	Hotel Pomieri
Genista ephedroides*	an endemic Greenweed	Isnello Gorge
Hedysarum coronarium	Italian Sainfoin	Common in west
Hippocrepis emerus subsp. emeroides	A Scorpion-vetch	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Lathyrus aphaca	Yellow Vetchling	Fiumefreddo
Lathyrus clymenum	-	Case Perrotta
Lathyrus odoratus**	Sweet Pea	Near Castellana Sicula
Lathyrus setifolius	Red Vetchling	Above Milo
Lotus ornithopodioides	-	Bosco di Ficuzza
Lotus pedunculatus	Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil	Fiumefreddo
Lotus tetragonolobus (T. purpureus)	Asparagus Pea	Below Petralia Sporana
Lupinus angustifolius	Narrow-leaved Lupin	Case Perrotta
Medicago lupulina	Black Medick	Piano Battaglia
Medicago orbicularis	Disc Medick	Near Castellana Sicula
Melilotus italicus	a Melilot	Near Castellana Sicula
Ornithopus compressus	Compressed Bird's-foot	Case Perrotta
Robinia pseudoacacia	False Acacia	Roadsides
Spartium junceum	Spanish Broom	Roadsides
Trifolium arvense	Hare's-foot Clover	Above Milo

Trifolium arvense Hare's-foot Clover Above Milo Trifolium campestre Above Milo Hop Trefoil Above Milo Trifolium cherleri Trifolium incarnatum subsp. molinieri Above Milo White Clover Fiumefreddo

Trifolium repens Near Collesano Trifolium resupinatum **Reversed Clover** Trifolium stellatum Starry Clover Above Milo Trifolium subterraneum **Burrowing Clover** Above Linguaglossa

Trifolium tomentosum Woolly Trefoil Near Castellana Sicula

Bladder Vetch Tripodion (Anthyllis) tetraphyllum Isnello Gorge

Vicia bithynica Below Petralia Sporana Broad Bean Vicia faba Fields

Vicia hybrida Hairy Yellow Vetch Above Linguaglossa

Vicia lathyroides Below Etna

Small Common Vetch Vicia sativa subsp. nigra Above Linguaglossa

Smooth Tare Vicia tetrasperma Below Etna Vicia villosa Fodder Vetch Case Perrotta Vicia villosa subsp. ambigua Fodder Vetch (pale) Above Milo

Flax Family Linaceae

Linum bienne Biennial Flax Near Collesano

Linum punctatum A Flax Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Linum strictum Near Collesano Upright Yellow Flax

Scientific name Common name Location/Notes

Lythraceae Loosestrife Family

Lythrum hyssopifolia - Fiumefreddo

Malvaceae Mallow Family

Lavatera arboreaTree MallowRoadsidesLavatera trimestrisAnnual MallowNear CollesanoMalva sylvestrisCommon MallowCase Perrotta

Moraceae Mulberry Family

Ficus carica Fig Scattered

Oleaceae Olive Family

Fraxinus angustifoliaNarrow-leaved AshBosco di FicuzzaFraxinus ornusFlowering AshNear ZafferanaOlea europaeaOliveCommon

Orobanchaceae Broomrape Family

Bartsia (Bellardia) trixagoBellardiaBelow Petralia SporanaOdontites bocconii**A perennial BartsiaVallone Madonna degli AngeliOrobanche minorCommon BroomrapeBelow Petralia Sporana

Orobanche ramosaBranched BroomrapeBosco di FicuzzaOrobanche rapum-genistaeGreater BroomrapeBelow EtnaOrobanche variegataA BroomrapeGibilmanna

Parentucellia latifoliaSouthern Red BartsiaBelow Petralia SporanaParentucellia viscosaYellow BartsiaBelow Petralia Sporana

Oxalidaceae Wood-sorrel Family

Oxalis corniculata Procumbent Yellow Sorrel Fiumefreddo
Oxalis pres-caprae Bermuda Buttercup Cottone

Paeoniaceae Peony Family

Paeonia mascula Peony Piano Torre

Papaveraceae Poppy Family

Corydalis solidaBird-in-a-bushPiano BattagliaFumaria capreolataWhite Ramping FumitoryCase PerrottaFumaria officinalisCommon FumitoryAbove Linguaglossa

Glaucium flavumYellow Horned-poppyCottonePapaver rhoeasCommon PoppyFields

Papaver somniferum Opium Poppy Near Castellana Sicula

Plantaginaceae Plantain Family

Antirrhinum majusSnapdragonGibilmannaLinaria purpureaPurple ToadflaxAbove MiloMisopates orontiumWeasel-snoutFiumefreddoPlantago bellardiiAbove Milo

Plantago cupani

A Plantain (pinnatisect leaves)

Vallone Madonna degli Angeli (meadow)

Plantago lanceolataRibwort PlantainHotel PomieriPlantago majorGreater PlantainHotel PomieriPlantago serrariaA Plantain (toothed leaves)Bosco di FicuzzaVeronica beccabungaBrooklimeNear Hotel Pomieri

Veronica cymbalaria White Speedwell Gibilmanna

Scientific name Common name Location/Notes Fiumefreddo Veronica peregrina Neckweed Common Field Speedwell Fiumefreddo Veronica persica **Thrift Family** Plumbaginaceae Armeria canescens subsp. Nebrod Thrift Above Hotel Pomieri nebrodensis Polygonaceae **Dock Family** Persicaria hydropiper Fiumefreddo Waterpepper Rumex acetosa Sorrel Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Rumex bucephaliflorus Horned Dock Above Milo Rumex scutatus French Sorrel Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Rumex scutatus forma aetnensis** Etna Sorrel Above Milo Portulacaceae **Blinks Family** Portulaca oleracea Fiumefreddo Primulaceae Primrose Family Fiumefreddo Anagallis arvensis Scarlet Pimpernel Scarlet Pimpernel (Blue-Anagallis arvensis (var. caerulea) **Enna Services** flowered) Anagallis arvensis subsp. foemina Near Castellana Sicula Blue Pimpernel Cyclamen hederifolium Common Sowbread Gibilmanna Cyclamen repandum Spring Sowbread Above Linguaglossa Primula vulgaris Near Hotel Pomieri Primrose Samolus valerandi Brookweed Fiumefreddo Ranunculaceae **Buttercup Family** Anemone apennina Blue Anemone Piano Battaglia Anemone hortensis An Anemone Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Clematis vitalba Traveller's Joy Fiumefreddo Ficaria verna agg. Lesser Celandine Piano Battaglia Nigella damascena Love-in-a-mist Near Collesano Ranunculus arvensis Corn Buttercup Fiumefreddo Ranunculus millefoliatus Million-leaved Buttercup Piano Battaglia Ranunculus monspeliacus subsp. Below Etna saxatilis Great Meadow-rue Thalictrum aquilegifolium Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Resedaceae **Mignonette Family** Reseda alba White Mignonette Cottone Rhamnaceae **Buckthorn Family** Rhamnus alaternus Mediterranean Buckthorn Idsnello Gorge Rosaceae Rose Family Amelanchier ovalis Juneberry Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Crataegus orientalis (C. laciniata) A Hawthorn Near Piano Torre Hawthorn Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Crataegus monogyna Geum urbanum Wood Avens Case Perrotta Potentilla calabra A Cinquefoil Piano Provenzana Potentilla reptans Creeping Cinqufoil Fiumefreddo

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Bosco di Ficuzza

Below Petralia Sporana

Blackthorn

Almond-leaved Pear

Prunus spinosa

Pyrus amygdaliformis

Scientific name Common name Location/Notes Wild Pear Near Hotel Pomieri Pyrus communis Rosa canina agg. Dog Rose Above Milo Rubus fruticosus agg. **Bramble** Above Milo Sanguisorba minor Salad Burnet Above Milo Sorbus aria Whitebeam Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Rubiaceae **Bedstraw Family** Galium aparine Cleavers Above Linguaglossa Rubia peregrina Madder Fiumefreddo Sheradia arvensis Field Madder Fiumefreddo Galium murale Above Milo Salicaceae Willow Family Fiumefreddo Populus alba White Poplar Salix alba White Willow Fiumefreddo Sandalwood Family Santalaceae Osyris alba Osyris Viscum album subsp. album Mistletoe Roadside trees Sapindaceae **Maple Family** Acer campestre Field Maple Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Montpelier Maple Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Acer monspessulanum Saxifragaceae Saxifrage Family Saxifraga bulbifera **Bulbous Saxifrage** Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Saxifraga carpetana Piano Battaglia Saxifraga granulata Meadow Saxifrage Above Linguaglossa Scrophulariaceae **Figwort Family** Fiumefreddo Scrophularia canina French Figwort Fiumefreddo Scrophularia peregrina Verbascum sinuatum Wavy-leaved Mullein Isnello Simaroubaceae Tree of Heaven family Ailanthus altissima Tree of Heaven Roadsides Solanaceae **Nightshade Family** Solanum dulcemara Woody Nightshade Fiumefreddo Solanum nigrum Black Nightshade Isnello Gorge Urticaceae **Nettle Family** Parietaria judacea Fiumefreddo Pelitory-of-the-Wall Parietaria officinalis Fiumefreddo Urtica dioica Nettle Fiumefreddo Urtica membranacea Mediterranean Nettle Fiumefreddo Urtica urens Small Nettle Fiumefreddo Thymelaeaceae Daphne Family Daphne laureola Spurge Laurel Below Etna Verbenaceae Verbena Family

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Enna Services (planted)

Lantana

Lantana camara

Scientific name Common name Location/Notes Violaceae **Violet Family** Viola aethnensis** Etna Pansy Piano Provenzana Viola odorata Sweet Violet Near Hotel Pomieri Viola riviniana Common Dog Violet Near Hotel Pomieri Monocots Monocotyledons Amaryllidaceae **Daffodil Family** Allium nigrum Bosco di Ficuzza Allium roseum Rosy Garlic Isnello Gorge Hairy Garlic Bosco di Ficuzza Allium subhirsutum Allium triquetrum Three-cornered Leek Fiumefreddo Narcissus tazetta **Bunch-flowered Narcissus** Piano Battaglia Asparagaceae **Asparagus Family** Agave or Century Plant Near Collesano Agave americana Asparagus acutifolius Prickly Asparagus Gibilmanna Bellevalia dubia (blue) Below Petralia Sporana Bellevalia romana (white) Below Petralia Sporana Drimia (Urginea) maritima Sea Squill Isnello Gorge Tassel Hyacinth Leopoldia comosa Above Linguaglossa Muscari neglectum Grape Hyacinth Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Ornithogalum arabicum A Star of Bethlehem Near Collesano Mountain Star of Bethlehem Ornithogalum montanum Piano Battaglia Ornithogalum narbonense A Spiked Star of Bethlehem Near Collesano Ornithogalum umbellatum Star of Bethlehem Below Petralia Sporana Ruscus aculeatus Butcher's-broom Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Scilla bifolia Alpine Squill Piano Battaglia Sedge Family Cyperaceae Carex caryophyllea Spring Sedge Below Etna Fiumefreddo Carex cuprina (otrubae) False Fox Sedge Cyperus papyrus (subsp. siculus**) **Papyrus** Fiumefreddo Dioscoraceae Yam Family Fiumefreddo Dioscorea (Tamus) communis Black Bryony Iridaceae Iris Family Gladiolus italicus Italian Gladiolus Near Castellana Sicula Hermodactylus tuberosus Snake's-head Iris Above Linguaglossa, in seed Iris pseudacorus Yellow Flag Fiumefreddo Iris pseudopumila (Purple form) An Iris Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Iris pseudopumila (Yellow two-tone An Iris Vallone Madonna degli Angeli form) Moraea sisyrinchium **Barbary Nut** Bosco di Ficuzza Juncaceae **Rush Family** Juncus bufonius Toad Rush Fiumefreddo Luzula forsteri Southern Woodrush Bosco di Ficuzza

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Piano Battaglia

A Yellow Star of Bethlehem

Lily Family

Liliaceae

fistulosa)

Gagea liotardii (G. fragifera, G.

Scientific name Common name Location/Notes

Orchidaceae Orchid Family

Note: The Orchidaceae are an evolving group, and subject to debate between 'splitters' (eg. Delforge) and 'lumpers' (eg Kew). This list follows the Kew classification.

Anacamptis morio subsp. morio Green-winged Orchid Above Linguaglossa Anacamptis morio subsp. longicornu Long-spurred Orchid Below Petralia Soprana Anacamptis morio subsp. picta a Green-winged Orchid Above Linguaglossa Anacamptis papilionacea Pink Butterfly Orchid Above Linguaglossa (var.grandiflora) A. x gennarii (A. papilionacea x A. a hybrid Orchid Above Linguaglossa

morio) Above Linguagiossa

Dactylorhiza romana subsp. romana Roman Orchid Above Linguagiossa

 Dactylorhiza sambucina
 Elder-flowered Orchid
 Below Etna

 Limodora abortivum
 Violet Bird's-nest Orchid
 Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

 Neotinea maculata
 Dense-flowered Orchid
 Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Neotinea maculataDense-flowered OrchidVallone Madonna degli AngeliNeotinea tridentataToothed OrchidAbove Linguaglossa

Ophrys apifera Bee Orchid Gibilmanna

Ophrys bertoloniiBertoloni's Bee OrchidBelow Petralia SopranaOphrys fuciflora subsp. lacaitaeLacaita's OphrysBelow Piano Torre

Ophrys fucifiora subsp. acaitae Lacaita's Ophrys
Ophrys fucifiora subsp.
Ophrys fucification subsp.
Ophrys fucifiora subsp.
Ophrys fucification subsp.

Ophrys fusca agg.Sombre Bee OrchidBelow Petralia SopranaOphrys fusca subsp. pallidaPale OphrysBosco di FicuzzaO. f. subsp. fusca x pallidaa hybrid OphrysBosco di Ficuzza

O. lutea ssp.galilea (formerly archimedea)**

- Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

 Ophrys lutea subsp. lutea
 Yellow Bee Orchid
 Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

 Ophrys sphegodes subsp. atrata
 Dark Ophrys
 Polov Potralia Soprana

(incubacea)

Dark Ophrys

Below Petralia Soprana

O. tenthredinifera (formerly

or tentified (former) a Sawfly Orchid Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Orchis anthroporphora Man Orchid Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Orchis brancifortii* Brancifort's Orchid Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Orchis italica Naked Man Orchid Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Orchis provincialisProvence OrchidBosco di FicuzzaSerapias linguaTongue OrchidBelow Petralia SopranaSerapias vomeraceaPlough-shareTongue OrchidBelow Petralia SopranaSerapias x intermediaA hybrid Tongue OrchidBelow Petralia Soprana

Poaceae Grass Family

Aegilops ovalis Aegilops Near Castellana Sicula

Aira caryophyllea Silver Hair-grass Above Milo

Ampelodesmos mauritanicus Mauritanian Grass Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Anthoxanthum odorata Sweet Vernal Grass Above Milo
Arundo donax Giant Reed Fiumefreddo

Avena sterilis Winter Wild-oat Near Castellana Sicula

Briza maximaGreat Quaking-grassAbove MiloCatapodium rigidumFern GrassFiumefreddo

Cynosurus echinatus Rough Dog's-tail Near Castellana Sicula

Dactylis glomerataCock's FootGibilmannaFestuca viviparaViviperous FescueAbove Milo

Hordeum murinumWall BarleyNear Castellana SiculaLagurus ovatusHare's-tail GrassAbove LinguaglossaLolium perennePerennial Rye-grassNear Castellana Sicula

Melica unifloraWood MelickGibilmannaPhragmites australisCommon ReedRoadsides

Scientific name Common name Location/Notes

Sesleria nitida - Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Sparganiaceae Bur-reed Family

Sparganium erectum Branched Bur-reed Fiumefreddo

Xanthorrhoeaceae Asphodel Family

Asphodeline lutea Yellow Asphodel Below Etna
Asphodelus aestivus Common Asphodel Widespread

FUNGI

Lecanoromycetes LICHENS

Stereocaulon vesuvianum Mount Vesuvius Lichen Slopes of Etna

Birds (✓= recorded but not counted; H = heard, LO = leader only)

Ma									
	Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Black Kite	Milvus migrans				✓			
2	Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Yellow-legged Gull	Larus michahellis	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
4	Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	Columba livia (feral)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Common Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	European Turtle Dove	Streptopelia turtur						Н	
7	Eurasian Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
8	Common Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	✓	✓	✓	✓	Н	Н	Н
9	Tawny Owl	Strix aluco	✓				Н		
10	Common Swift	Apus apus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	Pallid Swift	Apus pallidus			✓				
12	European Bee-eater	Merops apiaster	✓	✓	✓				
13	Eurasian Hoopoe	Upupa epops	Н	✓	✓	✓			
14	Great Spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos major			✓		✓	✓	✓
15	Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	Eurasian Golden Oriole	Oriolus oriolus				2			
17	Eurasian Jay	Garrulus glandarius	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	Eurasian Magpie	Pica pica	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19	Red -billed Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax					✓	✓	✓
20	Western Jackdaw	Coloeus monedula				✓		✓	✓
21	Hooded Crow	Corvus cornix	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22	Northern Raven	Corvus corax			✓	✓	✓	✓	
23	Coal Tit	Periparus ater			✓		✓	✓	
24	Eurasian Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	Great Tit	Parus major	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
26	Woodlark	Lullula arborea					✓	✓	✓
27	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	Sand Martin	Riparia riparia							✓
29	Common House Martin	Delichon urbicum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30	Long-tailed Tit	Aegithalos caudatus siculus					✓	✓	✓
31	Cetti's Warbler	Cettia cetti		Н	✓			Н	Н
32	Common Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
33	Wood Warbler	Phylloscopus sibilatrix			✓				
34	Zitting Cisticola	Cisticola juncidis		✓					
35	Eurasian Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

						May			
	Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
36	Subalpine Warbler	Sylvia cantillans		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Sardinian Warbler	Sylvia melanocephala		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
38	Common Firecrest	Regulus ignicapilla		Н	✓		✓	✓	✓
39	Eurasian Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	Н	Н	✓	Н	✓	✓	Н
40	Eurasian Nuthatch	Sitta europaea			✓		✓	✓	✓
41	Short-toed Treecreeper	Certhia brachydactyla			✓		✓		✓
42	Spotless Starling	Sturnus unicolor	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
43	Common Blackbird	Turdus merula	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
44	Mistle Thrush	Turdus viscivorus						✓	✓
45	European Robin	Erithacus rubecula	✓				Н	✓	✓
46	Common Nightingale	Luscinia megarhynchos	Н	✓	Н	✓		Н	Н
47	Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros		✓					
48	European Stonechat	Saxicola torquata				✓			
49	Northern Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe		✓	✓				
50	Black-eared Wheatear	Oenanthe hispanica		✓					
51	Blue Rock Thrush	Monticola solitarius					Н		Н
52	Italian Sparrow	Passer italiae	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
53	Spanish Sparrow	Passer hispaniolensis	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
54	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus		✓	✓				
55	Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea		✓				✓	✓
56	White Wagtail	Motacilla alba		✓	✓	✓			✓
57	(a Blue-headed) Yellow Wagtail	Motacilla flava ssp.		✓					
58	Tree Pipit	Anthus trivialis			Н				
59	Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
60	European Greenfinch	Chloris chloris		Н					✓
61	Common Linnet	Linaria cannabina		✓					
62	European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
63	European Serin	Serinus serinus	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
64	Corn Bunting	Emberiza calandra				✓		✓	Н
65	Rock Bunting	Emberiza cia			✓		✓		
66	Cirl Bunting	Emberiza cirlus					✓	✓	Н

Mammals (D=dead; S=signs of)

1	Western Hedgehog	Erinaceus europaeus	D			
2	Red Fox	Vulpes vulpes			S	LO
3	Fallow Deer	Dama dama			S	✓
4	Rabbit	Oryctolagus cuniculus		✓		
5	Feral 'Wild' Pig				✓	✓

Amphibians & Reptiles

1	Moorish Gecko	Tarentola mauritanica	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
2	Western Green Lizard	Lacerta bilineata		✓		D			
3	Italian Wall Lizard	Podarcis sicula	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Sicilian Wall Lizard	Podarcis wagleriana					✓	✓	✓
5	Italian Three-toed Skink	Chalcides chalcides						✓	
6	Western Whip Snake	Hierophis viridiflavus					✓		

Butterflies

1	Swallowtail	Papilio machaon		✓			✓		✓
2	Large White	Pieris brassicae	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

			May								
	Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
3	Small White	Pieris rapae		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
4	Orange Tip	Anthocharis cardamines					✓	✓			
5	Eastern Bath White	Pontia edusa				✓					
6	Clouded Yellow	Colias crocea		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
7	Small Copper	Lycaena phlaeas					✓	✓			
8	Little Blue	Cupido minimus					✓				
9	Holly Blue	Celastrina argiolus						✓			
10	Brown Argus	Aricia agestis				✓	✓				
11	Common Blue	Polyommatus icarus			✓	✓	✓	✓			
12	Red Admiral	Vanessa atalanta			✓			✓			
13	Painted Lady	Vanessa cardui						✓			
14	Queen of Spain Fritillary	Issoria lathonia			✓	✓					
15	Glanville Fritillary	Melitaea cinxia					✓	✓			
16	Aetherie Fritillary	Melitaea aetherie						✓			
17	Meadow Brown	Maniola jurtina				✓					
18	Southern Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria aegeria		✓					✓		
19	Wall Brown	Lasiommata megera			✓	✓		✓	✓		
20	Small Heath	Coenonympha pamphilus		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

Macros Moths (C=caterpillar)

1	Forester	Adscita statices				✓	
2	Grass Eggar	Lasiocampa trifolii			С	С	
3	A Lackey (not found in UK)	Malacosoma franconica			С		
4	Humming-bird Hawk-moth	Macroglossum stellatarum				✓	
5	Pine Processionary Moth - tent	Thaumetopoea pityocampa	✓	✓	✓		
6	Ragusa's Nine-spotted Moth	Amata kruegeri					✓
7	Burnet Companion	Euclidia glyphica					✓
8	Four-spotted	Tyta luctuosa					✓

Other Invertebrates

Copper Demoiselle, Calopteryx haemorrhoidalis

Azure Damselfly, Coenagrion puella

Red-veined Darter, Sympetrum fonscolombii

Groundhopper sp., Tetrigidae sp.

Ascalaphid, Libelloides coccajus

Wasp sp., Vespa sp.

Honey Bee, Apis mellifera

Chafer, Oxythyria funesta

Spanish Fly (a blister beetle), Lytta vesicolaria

Musk Beetle (a long-horn), Aromia moschata

A Sand Beetle, Pimelia sp.

Island Bluetail, Ischnura genei

Lesser Emperor, Anax parthenope

Black-and-red Bug, Lygaeus sp.

Froghopper, Cercopis vulnerata

Beefly, Bombylius sp.

Carpenter Bee, Xylocopa violacea

White-tailed Bumblebee, Bombus lucorum

7-Spot Ladybird, Coccinella 7-punctata

Fat-thigh Beetle, Oedemera nobilis

A black long-horn with white stripe, Agapanthia suturalis

Ladybird Spider, Eresus kollari

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Italian Sainfoin



Sweet Pea