

# Wild Flowers of Sicily

Naturetrek Tour Report

27th April – 4th May 2022



Western Green Lizard



“Longhorn” Bees



Mount Etna – ash covering snow



A Peony

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Participants: Jessica Turner (leader) with seven Naturetrek clients

## Summary

It was lovely to be in Sicily, although the season was unusually cold and dry, so the scenery in many places still looked wintery and several of the expected species, especially orchids, were not yet flowering. However, the Bunch-flowered Narcissi (*Narcissus tazetta*) at Piano Battaglia were exceptionally fine, as were the *Iris pseudopumila*. We found plenty of orchids in Bosco di Ficuzza, especially the rare Pale Ophrys (*Ophrys fusca* subsp. *pallida*), and the Violet Limodore in full flower near Gibilmanna was a superb specimen. Birds included a couple of parties of Lesser Kestrels, new for the trip, and although the cooler weather meant that reptiles and insects were generally rather sparse, but we enjoyed those we did see. Both hotels served wonderful food and we enjoyed the local wines and general ambience of the historic buildings. With good company and plenty of laughter, we all enjoyed an excellent week.

## Day 1

Wednesday 27th April

### Gatwick to Catania; transfer to Madonie Mountains

Seven group members met Jessica at Gatwick Airport for our 7am flight to Catania. We made good time, and could see the summit of Mount Etna above the clouds as we came in to land. Jessica organised the minibus and we loaded up, heading west across the island on the A19 Palermo road, which still had plenty of roadworks happening. We passed through a lot of Orange groves, but these gradually gave way to grassy meadows, as the landscape became more undulating. Spotless Starlings, Swallows, Jackdaws, a couple of Kestrels, and a few Swifts were seen along the way.

We stopped for a break at Enna Services, enjoying panini in the warm sun, with Italian Sparrows, Goldfinches and a Clouded Yellow butterfly around. Refreshed, we continued to the west side of the Madonie massif. The autostrada was completely closed at Resuttano, so we drove into the hills from there, soon stopping to admire a lovely patch of purple-and-blue Sweet Peas (*Lathyrus odoratus*); these are the wild form of all modern cultivars, seed of which was sent by a Sicilian monk, Cupani, to an English schoolmaster in 1699. We had started to note the presence of crimson Italian Sainfoin (*Sulla*, formerly *Hedysarum coronarium*), both on the verges and as a fodder crop, and some was growing here. There were also the yellow-and-purple bells of Honeywort (*Cerintho major*) and blue Borage (*Borago officinalis*), among other species. Smaller plants included Large Disc Medick (*Medicago orbicularis*), with spiral 'Chinese Lantern' pods, and Toothed Medick (*Medicago polymorpha*) with more rounded, spiky pods. We passed a field full of Wild Gladiolus (*Gladiolus italicus*).

After a trip to the supermarket at Madonuzza to stock up on picnic supplies, we continued up to the hilltop village of Petralia Soprana. On a bend in the road out of the village we stopped to look at a grassy area. We quickly found flowering Sombre Bee Orchids (*Ophrys fusca* agg.), Bertoloni's Bee Orchids (*Ophrys bertolonii*), with its 'ski-slope' lip and large speculum, a few spikes of Yellow Bee Orchids (*Ophrys lutea* subsp. *lutea*), spikes of *Bellevalia dubia* (pale-blue) and *Bellevalia romana* (white flowers), and the velvety red Asparagus Pea (*Lotus tetragonolobus*) just by the layby! On the other side of the road were Long-spurred Orchids (*Anacamptis*

*morio* subsp. *longicornu*), many more Bertoloni's Bee Orchids, and a few more Sombre Bee Orchids. As we were leaving, we also found a spike of Provence Orchid (*Orchis provincialis*).

We cut across to Polizzi Generosa. The road there was closed and although it may have been possible to drive through the back of the village, we were told by the Carabinieri that we had to return to the autostrada, a longer way round. We left the main road at Scillato, climbing up past the village, and we soon reached the access road to our hotel, Il Vecchio Frantoio, the first time we have stayed here. This narrow track climbed for about a kilometre through Olive groves before revealing the property, a converted Olive mill. We arrived at about 6pm and were shown to our rooms, set in a separate courtyard, by the chef, Antonio. After a break and time to settle in, we met for a drink in a lounge area by some enormous millstones, before an excellent meal. Afterwards, having had a very early start, we were more than ready for our beds.

## Day 2

Thursday 28th April

### Vallone Madonna degli Angeli and Piano Battaglia

We woke to a fine but hazy morning, and those out early were recording Blackbird, Goldfinches and Great Tit, while Jessica went to Scillato for bread. After a good breakfast (with fry-your-own eggs!), we set off at 9am. Due to the road closure at Scillato, we dropped down to the autostrada, retracing our route of the previous evening. As we climbed, we encountered a flock of about 10 Lesser Kestrels, hunting together over a grassy slope. From Polizzi Generosa we drove north, negotiating very poor roads, into the mountains. 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 40 or so mature trees remain in the world, although there are a number of seedlings, all carefully tagged and recorded. As we approached, we passed several patches of both lemon-yellow and purple *Iris pseudopumila*, a dwarf Iris.

We parked in an area of Corsican Pine (*Pinus nigra* subsp. *laricio*), by the gates marking the start of the walk. We paused to look at the stony mound near the gates, enjoying the good numbers of pink *Anemone hortensis*. We also started finding a few Small Yellow Bee Orchid (*Ophrys lutea* subsp. *galilea*), formerly known as *O. sicula*, with its 'bunny-ear' brown markings on the lip, and Sombre Bee Orchid types (*Ophrys fusca* agg.), with a very narrow yellow margin to the lip. The *Ophrys* here are extremely difficult as there are many variants held by some to be endemic species, but DNA studies show few differences. They hybridise readily, and show, in effect, evolution in action. We also found 'true' Yellow Bee Orchids. Other plants included Dark Grape Hyacinth (*Muscari neglectum*) and a tiny toadflax *Linaria reflexa*, with yellow and orange flowers, and Bulbous Saxifrage (*Saxifraga bulbosa*).

We set off along the path, finding a couple of spikes of Widow Iris (*Iris tuberosa*, formerly *Hermodactylus tuberosus*), another very early flowerer, usually over by now. Golden Oriole was singing but, together with a calling Hoopoe, remained elusive. Where the trees became sparser, we started finding more *Iris pseudopumila*, in both colour forms. There was also a large-flowered form of Rock-rose (*Helianthemum nummularium* subsp. *obscurum*).

The track began to rise, becoming stonier, and with scree and cliffs to the sides. In this apparently very dry habitat, we found, among other species, the tiny, pink Burnt Candytuft (*Aethionema saxatile*), the larger-

flowered, white, 'true' Candytuft (*Iberis carnosae*, formerly *I. pruitii*), mauve Sicilian Stock (*Matthiola fruticulosa* subsp. *fruticulosa*), and the stunning blue flax, *Linum punctatum* subsp. *punctatum* (an endemic subspecies). There was also an endemic subspecies of Hoary Rock-rose (*Helianthemum oelandicum* subsp. *nebrodense*), Caucasian Rock-cress (*Arabis caucasica*) and the cushion-plants of spiny Nebrod Milk-vetch (*Astragalus nebrodensis*) which flowers later. The higher we went, the more flowers were out, and we eventually found some Golden-drops (*Onosma echioides* subsp. *canescens*, an endemic subspecies) in flower. We also enjoyed the fantastic views and Raven overhead, and Italian Wall Lizards closer at hand. Orange Tip butterflies were flying, and Rock Bunting was glimpsed briefly. We could look across the valley and see a few Sicilian Firs on the far side, looking like Christmas trees. Where the path divided, we took the right hand 'Sentiero Abies', finding an endemic Alison, *Abyssum nebrodense*. Patches of Spring Cyclamen (*Cyclamen repandum*) were growing under the scattered trees and bushes on the otherwise steep and gravelly slopes. We soon found a specimen Sicilian Fir with several seedlings and could see their short needles.

Retracing our steps, we ate our late, but delicious, picnic on the low walls by the start of the walk. We then drove further up the road, passing carpets of *Iris pseudopumila*. We stopped in the open, rocky meadows under Monte Quacella, as a Rock Bunting posed in a bramble by the layby. Here, with careful searching, we added *Valeriana tuberosa* and a single Mirror Orchid (*Ophrys speculum*). We also found the tiny grey rosettes of Evacidium (*Evacidium discolor*), the sculptural rosettes of *Carthamus pinnatus*, and larger grey rosettes of *Jurinea bocconii*. The Irises here were not yet in flower. A Cirl Bunting was singing from the top of a bare bush and Cuckoo was calling but couldn't be located. By the layby we found Fedia (*Valeriana*, formerly *Fedia*, *cornucopiae*) and a single mauve flower of *Romulea bulbocodium*.

We moved on to explore Piano Battaglia and an area of boulder-strewn hillsides, at 1600 metres above sea level, with streams leading to a sink hole. Here the turf was starred with masses of purple *Romulea bulbocodium*, as well as some Daisies (*Bellis perennis*), Million-leaved Buttercup (*Ranunculus millefoliata*) and a tiny white Pennycress (*Lepidium hirtum* subsp. *nebrodense*). *Prangos ferulacea* was just emerging, looking almost like broccoli as the leaves broke through. We soon found a Yellow Star-of-Bethlehem, *Gagea foliosa*. There were fine displays of the deep-blue Alpine Squill (*Scilla bifolia*) and pink Bird-in-a-bush (*Corydalis solida*), and we also found Lesser Celandine (*Ficaria verna* agg.). Raven circled overhead, along with massive flocks of Common Swifts, several hundred, probably on migration. Snow was still lying in large patches. The highlight was areas of tiny Tazetta or Bunch-flowered Narcissi (*Narcissus tazetta*) by a stream, each plant only a few inches tall, dwarfed by the cold weather but flowering beautifully.

We wandered back to the minibus and set off to drive back to the hotel, via Collesano. We stopped just under Portello Colla (below Piano Battaglia) to admire swathes of Primroses (*Primula vulgaris*), Apennine Anemones (*Anemone apennina*), mainly white but with some blue ones, the violet *Viola alba* subsp. *denhardtii* and Ramsons (*Allium ursinum*), the latter not yet out. A herd of Fallow Deer were sheltering under trees near Piano Zucchi. As we descended, we also saw Peonies (*Paeonia mascula*), both pink and white. We got back to the hotel at 6.10pm, with time for a break before meeting to go through our lists, discuss plans, and enjoy another excellent meal. We agreed it had been an excellent first day in the field.

## Day 3

Friday 29th April

### Bosco della Ficuzza

Today, we woke to a cloudy morning, and it remained cloudy but mild all day. After another good breakfast, we set out at 8.30am to explore the Bosco della Ficuzza, some distance from Scillato, but known to be a good place for orchids. We stopped first in the ancient village of Scillato to top up picnic supplies before dropping down to the autostrada, heading north and then west towards Palermo. A slow queue near our junction gave us time to see the delicate Hollow-stemmed Asphodel (*Asphodelus fistulosus*). Turning off past Villabate, we drove south-west down as far as Bolognetta, where we joined the SS118. After the town of Marineo, with its imposing rock and plenty of Sweet Peas on the verges, 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, and where we stopped for coffee. The imposing Rocca Busambra cliff towers above the wood.

We first explored a patch of open woodland of Narrow-leaved Ash (*Fraxinus angustifolius*) just above the village, finding a wealth of orchids and other species. We soon found our target species, Pale Ophrys (*Ophrys fusca* subsp. *pallida*), of which most of the world population grows only in this area, but also plenty of Naked Man Orchids (*Orchis italica*), Provence Orchids (*Orchis provincialis*), Milky Orchids (*Neotinea lactea*), Long-spurred Orchids (*Anacamptis morio* subsp. *longicornu*), Bertoloni's Bee Orchid (*Ophrys bertolonii*), Bumblebee Orchids (*Ophrys bombyliflora*), Tongue Orchids (*Serapias lingua*) showing a range of shape and lip colour, Yellow and Small Yellow Bee Orchids (*Ophrys lutea* subsp. *lutea* and subsp. *galilea*) – orchid paradise! Further searching revealed some fine Sawfly Orchids, showing why some have called the Sicilian race var. *grandiflora*, Early Spider Orchid types (*Ophrys sphegodes* agg.), and some that were hybrids with Sawfly Orchid (*Ophrys* x *grampinii*), a spike of Sword-leaved Helleborine (*Cephalanthera longifolia*) and an emerging Violet Limodore (*Limodorum abortivum*). Other plants included a spike of Italian Gladiolus (*Gladiolus italicus*), the multi-headed pink or yellow-pink *Crepis vesicaria* subsp. *bivoniana*, found only in Sicily, and the very white-marked leaves of the thistle-like *Scolymus maculata*.

We then drove further up the hillside, where we had great views of a Hoopoe on a fence post and then feeding on the verge, and there were plenty of beautiful white Peonies (*Paeonia mascula*). We enjoyed another tasty picnic before exploring the slopes where cattle grazed. We found similar species to the previous stop, more scattered up here and with no new orchids, but still plenty of the Pale Ophrys. We looked at the Almond-leaved Pear (*Pyrus spinosa*, formerly *P. amygdaliformis*), Hairy Thorny Broom (*Calicotome infesta*) which was scenting the air and, as well as the usual Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), there was *Crataegus orientalis*, with larger flowers and less-lobed leaves. An Eastern Subalpine Warbler was singing but remained elusive.

Back in the village, we enjoyed genuine 'gelati' and coffee. We made another stop on the road out of the village to look at *Convolvulus tricolor*, with blue, white and yellow flowers, Dragon's Teeth (*Lotus biflorus*) and the plantain *Plantago serraria*. Turtle Dove was purring. We had a smooth and easy journey back to the hotel. After a break, we met to update our lists before another excellent dinner. We all agreed that it had been a very enjoyable day.

## Day 4

Saturday 30th April

## Collesano, Gibilmanna, Isnello Gorge,

We woke to a beautiful morning, with the early sun lighting the buildings and hills. After breakfast we left at 9am, driving north-east towards Collesano. En route a Crested Lark perched on a fencepost, and a group of Lesser Kestrels were flying around and perching on wires. After a visit to the supermarket, where an Eastern Subalpine Warbler was seen in a nearby bush, and then a short drive further to top up with fuel, we stopped on the edge of the town to look at an area of verge with some magnificent, blue-flowered thistles *Carthamus caeruleus*. Here there were also the Christmas-tree-like Pale Bugloss (*Echium italicum* subsp. *siculum*), Mallow-leaved Bindweed (*Convolvulus althaeoides*) and Woolly Clover (*Trifolium tomentosum*). A Swallowtail butterfly sadly remained behind a chain-link fence, a Ragusa's Nine-spotted Moth posed nicely, and a Nightingale was singing.

We continued back through Collesano and on past Isnello, enjoying the views of the little towns on the hillsides, turning off up to the Sanctuary of Gibilmanna, a large church. We parked up and made our way through a wedding group to reach a small path nearby. This wound down through some woodland, where we found Black and Maidenhair Spleenworts (*Asplenium adiantum-nigrum* and *A. trichomanes*), then opened into more Mediterranean vegetation. Here we added the three species of Cistus, the pink flowered Cretan Cistus (*Cistus creticus*), Sage-leaved Cistus (*Cistus salvifolius*), with larger white flowers, and Narrow-leaved Cistus (*Cistus monspeliensis*) with smaller white flowers, all just starting to bloom, and some magnificent French Lavender (*Lavendula stoechas*), much loved by the bees. We also had some great views of a pair of Western Green Lizards, the male with a blue head. The path was rough and stony, so we decided to head back down, seeing the southern form of Speckled Wood butterflies en route. Cuckoo and distant Turtle Dove were heard.

We drove a short distance to a grassy meadow with some large Downy Oak trees (*Quercus pubescens*), where we had our picnic. A walk down a lane opposite gave us several spikes of Violet Limodore (*Limodorum abortivum*), one with flowers fully open: a quite unusual sight. The scent from the Hairy Thorny Broom (*Calicotome infesta*) was almost overpowering, and several bushes hosted large spikes of dark-red *Orobanche variegata*, a very robust Broomrape.

Outside Isnello, we stopped by the road bridge across the large gorge. There were many House Martins swooping around. On the rock faces were Cretan Scabious (*Lomelosia cretica*), with beautiful seedheads, while other plants above the gorge included Tree Spurge (*Euphorbia dendroides*), Shrubby Wormwood (*Artemisia arborescens*) and Mediterranean Buckthorn (*Rhamnus alaternus*). Along the road edge and nearby, we added Terebinth tree (*Pistacia terebinthus*), with reddish young leaves, Wild Carrot (*Daucus carota*), Pink Bindweed (*Convolvulus cantabrica*) and Blue Stonecrop (*Sedum caeruleum*). We also noted Pitch Trefoil (*Bituminaria bituminosa*), some being parasitised by a beautiful mauve Broomrape *Orobanche lavandulacea*, and a small branched pale-mauve broomrape was *Orobanche mutelii*. Other plants included an endemic grey-leaved Knapweed (*Centaurea busambarensis*), Crupina (*Crupina crupinastrum*), Bladder Vetch (*Tripodion tetraphyllum*), the yellow form of Bellardia (*Bartsia trixago*, with narrower leaves than the similar Yellow Bartsia), and Golden Drops (*Onosma echioides* subsp. *canescens*) flowering well. A special here was a beautiful yellow endemic Genista

(*Genista demarcoi*, split from the similar *G. ephedroides*), only known from this gorge. Ravens flew close by, and we noted Green-underside Blue butterfly and a Six-spot Burnet moth resting on *Helichrysum nebrodense*.

Eventually we gathered for refreshments and then set off home, stopping above Isnello when Jessica noticed some spikes on a road verge. These turned out to be a mass of Plough-share Tongue Orchids (*Serapias vomeracea*) with some Dark Ophrys (*Ophrys sphegodes* subsp. *atrata*) as well.

We got back to the hotel at 6pm, meeting at 7pm to discuss the day before another truly delicious meal.

## Day 5

## Sunday 1st May

Near Piano Zucchi & P. Torre; near Petralia Sottana; transfer to Sant' Alfio

Today we had to say goodbye to Il Vecchio Frantoio and to Stefano and the others who had looked after us so well. After breakfast we loaded the minibus and settled up, before taking the road towards Collesano. Amongst birds seen as we went were a pair of Little Owls. We then turned up into the mountains, climbing steadily. Near Piano Zucchi we stopped to photograph some delightful pink Peonies (*Paeonia mascula*) and below Piano Torre, another stop revealed some beautiful Birthwort (*Aristolochia rotunda*) on the verge. We were looking for Lacaita's Bee Orchid (*Ophrys fuciflora* subsp. *lacaitae*), known to grow here, but it is a relatively late flowerer and all we could find this year was a single stem in tight bud which was probably it. There was, however, a stem of the Sicilian form of Toothed Orchid (*Neotinea commutata*) just starting to open. We stopped again to look for orchids, but everywhere was still looking very wintery. A stop near Petralia Sottana, near a road bridge, showed a couple of spikes of Early Spider Orchid (*Ophrys sphegodes*), but little else, apart from rosettes of the plantain *Plantago cupanii*. It was cloudy and hazy, so we could not see the distant views, but the mountains around us were impressive.

We dropped down through Madonuzza, checking with a local man whether the autostrada was open (Google said no, he said yes, but with contra-flows) so we continued to the Irosa junction, passing masses of Sweet Peas. A Black Kite was seen and a Bee-eater was heard close by, but the bird flew, giving a frustratingly brief glimpse, but leading to a report of two seen near the supermarket the first day. We stopped for lunch at Enna Services as the weather turned showery, although the rain didn't amount to much. We then continued towards Catania and then north on the A18 towards Messina. We left at Giarre exit, taking a route via Zafferana Etnea to approach our hotel from the north-west. We wanted to avoid going through Sant' Alfio, as today was the feast of the town's saint and, with processions and other festivities, the roads were busy or closed.

As it was only about 4pm, we had time to drive north, stopping at a little chapel near Fornazzo which was built to commemorate the village not being destroyed by lava from some of the eruptions. There was a lot of volcanic ash and 'sand' around, testament to the recent activity. Here, we noted the lava from the 1971 eruption, 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 a pale form of Fodder Vetch (*Vicia villosa* subsp. *ambigua*),



the tiny pink *Petrorhagia dubia*, Hare's-foot Clover (*Trifolium arvensis*) and the pale form of Crimson Clover (*Trifolium incarnatum* subsp. *molinerii*).

We soon reached the Case Perrotta on the outskirts of Sant'Alfio, where we received a warm welcome. 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 discuss the day and future plans, before an excellent dinner. The end of the day was punctuated by fireworks in honour of the local saint.

## Day 6

Monday 2nd May

### Eastern slopes of Etna

Today we woke to a sunny morning, with early views of the summit of Mount Etna. Those out early heard Nightingale and found Bifid Dead-nettle (*Lamium bifidum*). After a delicious breakfast, we set off to explore the range of habitats on the eastern flanks of Etna, from sea to summit. The volcanic habitat is very different from the Carboniferous and Dolomitic limestone of the Madonie Mountains where we had been. We drove down the slopes, through small villages and past vineyards, stopping briefly near the sea to look back at Etna. Lamarck's Golden Grass (*Lamarckia aurea*) was growing along the road edge.

We reached the coast at Cottone, where the Fiumefreddo River enters the sea. We crossed a little bridge and drove along a track, with a Hoopoe flying over. At the end, we explored the much drier beach-edge. Among the coastal species, we found Three-horned Stock (*Matthiola tricuspidata*) and Sea Rocket (*Cakile maritima*). Out to sea, a couple of Sandwich Terns were fishing, and Yellow-legged Gulls flew past. A Cetti's Warbler gave its explosive call from the Giant Reeds (*Arundo donax*), and Italian Wall lizards were seen. Other species here included Large Blue Anchusa (*Anchusa azurea*), the knapweed *Centaurea napifolia*, Yellow Bartsia (*Parentucellia viscosa*) and some spikes of Plough-share Tongue Orchid (*Serapias vomeracea*).

Next, we moved inland a short distance, to the Fiumefreddo Nature Reserve. We parked by a wall which bore many plants of Phagnalon (*Phagnalon rupestre*), Weasel-snout (*Misopates orontium*) and several ferns. A flock of about a dozen Bee-eaters flew over, calling. We walked down the path to the visitor centre, only to be told that most of the reserve was still closed after a bad fire; however, there was limited access to the first section. 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, and we could walk through paths in the Giant Reeds, noting the lush, tall vegetation, with Stinging Nettles (*Urtica dioica*) being taller than us! There were also towering clumps of Papyrus (*Cyperus papyrus*). A couple of the southern form of Speckled Wood butterflies were on the wing.

Next, we left the coastal plain, ascending through Linguaglossa, climbing into the zone of deciduous woodland of Sweet Chestnut and Downy Oak. We parked on a stony track at about 950 metres above sea level. Here we found many fine Roman Orchids (*Dactylorhiza romana*), mainly purple, but with some pale lemon, and also intermediate colour forms, including one with red throat patches. There were also Green-winged Orchids (*Anacamptis morio*) and eventually we found a single Pink Butterfly Orchid (*Anacamptis papilionacea* subsp. *expansa*) and a single Sicilian Toothed Orchid (*Neotinea commutata*), and a couple of

emerging spikes of Violet Limodore (*Limodorum abortivum*). A shady quarry held carpets of Spring Sowbread (*Cyclamen repandum*), and other plants included Perfoliate Alexanders (*Smyrniium perfoliatum* subsp. *rotundifolium*), Cornflower (*Centaurea cyanus*), Leopard's-bane (*Doronicum orientale*) and two red vetches: *Lathyrus setifolius* with small flowers and *Lathyrus cicera* with larger ones. We enjoyed our picnic sitting on old terraces. The sun had disappeared and there were a few drops of rain, but they didn't amount to much.

We then continued climbing, passing into the zone of Corsican Pine, before reaching Piano Provenzana (about 1750 metres), where the wind was cold and the temperature about 6°C. We could see here the 2002/3 lava flow which destroyed all the previous buildings, now being replaced by small wooden huts holding bars and shops. The lines of the flow, and the surviving woodland to the sides were very obvious, and the lava is only just starting to be colonised. Here, in an area not affected by the 2002/3 flow, we found many of the specialised and endemic species that survive in these conditions, including Etna Barberry (*Berberis aetnensis*), a fairly prostrate form of Juniper (*Juniperus communis* var. *hemisphaerica*), Etna Milk-vetch (*Astragalus siculus*), Etna Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare* subsp. *siculum*), the Perennial Knawel *Scleranthus perennis* subsp. *vulcanicus*, and the annual one *Schleranthus aetnensis*, and the Cinquefoil *Potentilla calabra*, with a first flower. As well as the Corsican Pines, there were also some Beech trees (*Fagus sylvatica*) here, and snow patches. The main delight though, were the numerous patches of Etna Pansy (*Viola aethnense*) in shades of deep purple, through mauve to cream. After our exploration, we were glad to drive a little further to the restaurant Monte Conca, where we warmed up with hot drinks.

We drove then back down towards Sant' Alfio, passing through an area of Etna Birch (*Betula aetnensis*), with its very white trunks, and back through deciduous woodland. We soon reached the little chapel where we had been the previous afternoon, and from there it was not far back to the hotel.

We met later to update our lists and enjoy another excellent, leisurely meal. A Scops Owl was calling after dark.

## Day 7

Tuesday 3rd May

### Mount Etna

Today dawned fine, with the summit of Etna clear, although cloud soon started to build. After a delicious breakfast, we set off at 8.30am through Zafferana, where we stopped top up supplies for the picnic. 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 chillier than at lower altitudes, and the cloud seemed continuous.

The first part of our journey was by cable car, climbing through the cloud and out into the sun, to reach the upper station at 2500 metres. Here we transferred to the 4-wheel drive buses for the climb further; this year, due to the recent major volcanic activity, we were taken to about 2750 metres, the summit currently being 3357 metres, having increased in height over the last year. We climbed through ash-covered banks of permanent snow and ice, seeing fresh white snow, mainly from the weekend. We were taken to an area from where we could see the south-east cone, with steam coming from a fumarole, as well as that from the main

cone. We walked to the edge of the Valle de Bove, formed as a caldera and where most of the recent lava has gone; however, the caldera was full of cloud. We then returned, with some going straight back to the cable car station for coffee, while others climbed the 2001 crater. We reconvened to travel back down in the cable car, meeting up with Jackie and enjoying a coffee together. We agreed it had been a fascinating experience.

We then drove down south-westwards, finding a sheltered picnic spot by the Astrophysics Observatory, where we enjoyed a delicious, final picnic. Exploring the area afterwards, we saw again species we'd seen the previous day such as Etna Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare* subsp. *siculum*) and Etna Barberry (*Berberis aetnensis*). Coal Tits were singing loudly, and we also heard a hooting which can only have been Long-eared Owl. Several orchids found in bud were probably Elder-flowered Orchid (*Dactylorhiza sambucina*).

We drove on down the road, gradually making our way back round to the east on the lower flanks of Etna. We stopped to look at Elder-flowered Orchids fully out at this slightly lower altitude, also finding plenty of Tassel Hyacinths (*Muscari comosum*, formerly *Leopoldia comosa*) and the tiny pansy, *Viola parvula*. Leopard's-bane (*Doronicum orientale*) was abundant in Sweet Chestnut woodland, along with cream-coloured Yellow Vetch (*Vicia lutea*) and Roman Orchids. Thanks to Martin's excellent map-reading, we reached the main road to Zafferana Etnea and from there followed the familiar route back to Case Perrotta, getting back before 5pm.

We met again at 6.45pm to complete our lists and enjoy our last, excellent dinner together, comparing notes on the highlights of an excellent week.

## Day 8

Wednesday 4th May

### Case Perrotta to Catania, and onwards to the UK

We had a slightly earlier start this morning, in order to be at Catania for our morning flight back to Gatwick. After another lovely breakfast, we said our farewells and thanks, leaving at 8.15am and dropping down to the autostrada, where we faced some busy morning traffic. We checked in easily but faced some delays with Passport Control and boarding. However, the journeys went smoothly, and we made good time, returning home with many memories and photos of an enjoyable week, exploring the Wild Flowers (plus birds, butterflies and other insects, and reptiles!) of Sicily.

A group is only as good as its members, so my thanks to you all for your enthusiasm and good company – I hope we meet again!

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## Species lists

### 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	4	Gibilmanna
<b>Calamophytes</b>			
<b>Equisetaceae</b>		<b>Horsetail Family</b>	
<i>Equisetum telmateia</i>	Giant Horsetail	6	Fiumefreddo
<b>Leptosporangiate Ferns</b>		<b>True Ferns</b>	
<b>Aspleniaceae</b>		<b>Spleenwort Family</b>	
<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Black Spleenwort	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Rustyback	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Asplenium onopteris</i>	Irish Spleenwort	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort	4	Gibilmanna
<b>Cystopteraceae</b>		<b>Bladder-fern Family</b>	
<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>	Brittle Bladder-fern	6	Above Linguaglossa
<b>Dennstaedtiaceae</b>		<b>Bracken Family</b>	
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	2	Roadsides
<b>Dryopteridaceae</b>		<b>Male-fern Family</b>	
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male-fern	4	Gibilmanna
<b>Polypodiaceae</b>		<b>Polypody Family</b>	
<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>	Southern Polypody	4	Gibilmanna
<b>Pteridaceae</b>		<b>Ribbon Fern Family</b>	
<i>Anogramma leptophylla</i>	Jersey Fern	5	Above Milo

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<b>GYMNOSPERMS</b>		<b>CONIFERS</b>	
<b>Cupressaceae</b>		<b>Juniper Family</b>	
<i>Cedrus atlantica</i>	Cedar	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Juniperus communis</i> (ssp. <i>hemisphaericum</i> )	Juniper	6	Piano Provenzana
<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i>	Prickly Juniper	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Pinaceae</b>		<b>Pine Family</b>	
<i>Abies alba</i>	Silver Fir	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Abies nebrodensis</i> **	Sicilian Fir (Nebro Pine)	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Pinus nigra</i> subsp. <i>laricio</i>	Corsican Pine	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Stone or Umbrella Pine	1	Roadsides
<b>ANGIOSPERMS</b>		<b>FLOWERING PLANTS</b>	
<b>Pre-dicots</b>		<b>Primitive Angiosperms</b>	
<b>Aristolochiaceae</b>		<b>Birthwort Family</b>	
<i>Aristolochia rotunda</i>	Birthwort	5	Piano Torre
<b>Eu-dicots</b>		<b>True Dicotyledons</b>	
<b>Acanthaceae</b>		<b>Bear's-breech Family</b>	
<i>Acanthus mollis</i>	Bear's-breech	4	Roadsides
<b>Adoxaceae</b>		<b>Moschatel Family</b>	
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	2	Roadsides
<b>Anacardiaceae</b>		<b>Sumach Family</b>	
<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>	Turpentine Tree	4	Isnello Gorge
<b>Apiaceae</b>		<b>Carrot Family</b>	
<i>Anthriscus nemorosa</i>	A Cow Parsley	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot	1	Roadsides
<i>Elaeoselinum asclepium</i>	Elaeoselinum	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Ferula communis</i> subsp. <i>communis</i>	Giant Fennel	1	Roadsides
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Laserpitium siler</i> subsp. <i>garganicum</i>	A Sermountain	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Oenanthe globulosa</i>	Round-headed Water-dropwort	1	Below Petralia Soprana
<i>Opoponax chironium</i>	Hercules All-heal	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Prangos (Cachrys) ferulacea</i>	-	2	Piano Battaglia
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's Needles	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Smyrniium perfoliatum</i> ssp. <i>rotundifolium</i>	Perfoliate Alexanders	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Thapsia garganica</i>	Thapsia	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Tordylium apulum</i>	Tordylium	1	Below Petralia Soprana
<b>Apocynaceae</b>		<b>Periwinkle Family</b>	
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander	4	Roadsides
<i>Vinca major</i>	Greater Periwinkle	3	Roadsides

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<b>Aquifoliaceae</b>	<b>Holly Family</b>		
<i>Ilex aquifolia</i>	Holly	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Araliaceae</b>	<b>Ivy Family</b>		
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<b>Asteraceae (Compositae)</b>	<b>Daisy Family</b>		
<i>Anthemis aetnensis</i> **	Etna Daisy	6	Below Piano Provenzana
<i>Anthemis arvensis</i>	Corn Chamomile	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Artemisia alba</i>	A Wormwood	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Artemisia arborescens</i>	A Wormwood	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Bellis perennis</i> (var. <i>strobliana</i> **)	Daisy	2	Piano Battaglia
<i>Bellis sylvestris</i>	Southern Daisy	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>	Plymouth Thistle	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Carlina nebrodensis</i> **	Nebrodo Carlina Thistle	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Carthamus (Carducellus) caeruleus</i>	Carduncellus	4	Verge near Collesano
<i>Carthamus (Carduncellus) pinnatus</i>	-	2	Below Monte Quacella (leaf rosettes)
<i>Centaurea busambarensis</i> **	a grey-leaved Knapweed	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Centaurea cyanus (Cyanus segetum)</i>	Cornflower	6	Above Linguaglossa
<i>Centaurea napifolia</i>	a Knapweed	6	Cottone
<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	Smooth Hawk's-beard	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Crepis rubra</i>	Pink Hawk's-beard	5	Nr Piano Torre
<i>Crepis vesicaria</i> subsp. <i>bivoniae</i>	a multi-headed pinkish Hawk's-beard	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Crupina crupinastrum</i>	Crupina	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	Cardoon	4	Near Piano Battaglia
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Woody Fleabane	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Doronicum orientale</i>	a Leopard's-bane	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Evacidium discolor</i>	Evacidium	2	Below Monte Quacella
<i>Filago (Evax) astericifolia</i>	Greater Evax	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Filago (Evax) pygmaea</i>	Evax	3	Near Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Galactites	1	Widespread at lower altitudes
<i>Glebionis coronarium</i>	Crown Daisy	1	Widespread at lower altitudes
<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	Corn Marigold	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Helichrysum italicum</i>	An Everlasting	5	Below Petralia Sottana
<i>Helichrysum nebrodensis</i> **	An Everlasting	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Hyoseris radiata</i>	Hyoseris	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Jacobea ambigua (Senecio ambiguus)**</i>	A Ragwort	5	Above Milo
<i>Jacobea candida (Senecio candidus)**</i>	A Ragwort	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Jurinea bocconii</i>	Jurinea	2	Below Monte Quacella
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>	Pallenis	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Phagnalon rupestre</i>	Phagnalon	6	Fiumefreddo
<i>Scolymus maculata</i>		3	Bosco della Ficuzza (leaves)
<i>Senecio squalidus</i> ssp. <i>chrysanthemifolius</i> **	A Ragwort (Etna, lower, pinnate lvs)	6	Below Piano Provezana (lvs)
<i>Senecio squalidus</i> subsp. <i>rupestris</i>	Rock / Oxford Ragwort	2	Piano Battaglia
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel	5	Case Perrotta
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i> subsp. <i>siculum</i>	Etna Tansy	5	Above Milo
<i>Taraxacum</i> spp.	Dandelion		Various

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<i>Tragopogon porrifolius</i>	Salsify	6	Cottone
<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	Colt's-foot	2	Piano Battaglia
<i>Urospermum dalechampii</i>	Urospermum	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Urospermum picroides</i>	-	4	Isnello Gorge
<b>Berberidaceae</b>	<b>Barberry Family</b>		
<i>Berberis aetnensis</i>	Etna Barberry	6	Piano Provenzana
<b>Betulaceae</b>	<b>Birch Family</b>		
<i>Betula aetnensis</i> **	Etna Birch	6	Piano Provenzana
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	6	Above Linguaglossa
<b>Boraginaceae</b>	<b>Borage Family</b>		
<i>Anchusa azurea</i>	Large Blue Alkanet	6	Cotone
<i>Anchusa cretica</i>	Cretan Alkanet	5	Above Milo
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Borage	1	Near Resuttano
<i>Buglossoides purpureocaerulea</i>	Blue Gromwell	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Cerintho majus</i>	Honeywort	1	Near Resuttano
<i>Cynoglossum</i> sp.		4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Echium italicum</i>	Pale Bugloss	4	Collesano
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's-bugloss	3	Nr Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Echium vulgare</i> subsp. <i>pustulatum</i>	Viper's-bugloss	7	Etna lower slopes
<i>Myosotis incrassata</i>	a Forget-me-not	2	Piano Battaglia and below Etna
<i>Myosotis ramosissima</i>	Early forget-Me-Not	6	Above Linguaglossa
<i>Onosma echioides</i> subsp. <i>canescens</i> **	Golden Drops	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Brassicaceae</b>	<b>Cabbage Family</b>		
<i>Aetheonema saxatile</i>	Burnt Candytuft	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Alyssum nebrodense</i> **	An Alyssum	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Arabis caucasica</i>	an Alpine Rockcress	2	Below Piano Battaglia
<i>Arabis hirsuta</i>	Hairy Rock-cress	7	Below Etna
<i>Arabis collina</i>	-	6	Above Linguaglossa
<i>Arabis verna</i>	Spring Rockcress	4	Nr Piano Zucchi
<i>Biscutella didyma</i>	A Buckler-mustard	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea Rocket	6	Cottone
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Coronopus didymus</i>	Lesser Swine-cress	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Erophila verna</i>	Whitlow Grass	7	Below Etna
<i>Erysimum bonannianum</i> **	A Treacle-mustard	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Iberis carnosa</i> (formerly <i>pruitii</i> )	A Candytuft	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Isatis tinctoria</i> subsp. <i>canescens</i>	Woad	5	Etna area
<i>Lepidium hirtum</i> subsp. <i>nebrodense</i>	-	2	Piano Battaglia
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	Sweet Alyssum	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Matthiola fruticulosa</i> subsp. <i>fruticulosa</i> *	Sad Stock	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i>	Three-horned Stock	6	Cottone
<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	Charlock	2	Below Piano Battaglia
<b>Campanulaceae</b>	<b>Bellflower Family</b>		
<i>Campanula erinus</i>	Annual Bellflower	4	Gibilmanna

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<b>Caprifoliaceae</b>	<b>Honeysuckle Family</b>		
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian	5	Widespread, especially on Etna
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Teasel	3	Nr Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Lonicera etrusca</i>	Etruscan Honeysuckle	3	Bosco della Ficuzza (leaves)
<i>Lomelosia (Scabiosa) cretica</i>	-	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Valeriana (Fedia) cornucopiae</i>	Fedia	2	Below Monte Quacella
<i>Valeriana tuberosa</i>	A Valerian	2	Piano Battaglia
<i>Valerianella lacustris</i>	Common Cornsalad	5	Piano Soprana
<b>Caryophyllaceae</b>	<b>Pink Family</b>		
<i>Arenaria grandiflora</i>	Large-flowered Sandwort	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Cerastium tomentosum</i>	Snow-in-Summer	2	Piano Battaglia (leaves)
<i>Petrorhagia dubia (velutina)</i>	A Childing Pink	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Saponaria sicula</i>	Sicilian Soapwort	6	Piano Provenzana (leaves)
<i>Scleranthus aetnensis**</i>	a Knawel	6	Piano Provenzana
<i>Scleranthus perennis</i> subsp. <i>vulcanicus**</i>	a Perennial Knawel	6	Piano Provenzana
<i>Silene colorata</i>	A pink Catchfly	7	Etna lower slopes
<i>Silene conica</i>	Sand Catchfly	6	Above Linguaglossa
<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-flowered Catchfly	3	Near Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Silene latifolia</i>	White Campion	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed	2	Piano Battaglia
<b>Cistaceae</b>	<b>Rock-rose Family</b>		
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	Cretan Cistus	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i>	Narrow-leaved Cistus	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	Sage-leaved Cistus	4	Gibilmanna
<i>H. nummularium</i> ssp. <i>obscurum</i>	Rock-rose	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Helianthemum oelandicum</i> ssp. <i>nebrodense</i>	An endemic Hoary Rock-rose	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Helianthemum salicifolium</i>	A Rock-rose	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Convolvulaceae</b>	<b>Bindweed Family</b>		
<i>Calystegia silvatica</i>	Large Bindweed	6	Fiumefreddo
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Bindweed	1	Roadsides
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Convolvulus cantabricus</i>	Pink Bindweed	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Convolvulus tricolor</i>	-	3	Near Bosco della Ficuzza
<b>Crassulaceae</b>	<b>Stonecrop Family</b>		
<i>Sedum aetnense**</i>	Etna Stonecrop	6	Piano Provenzana
<i>Sedum album</i>	White Stonecrop	1	Near Resuttano
<i>Sedum caeruleum</i>	Blue Stonecrop	4	Isnello Gorge & roads
<i>Sedum cepaea</i>	Flat-leaved Stonecrop	7	Zafferana Etnea
<i>Sedum forsterianum</i>	Rock Stonecrop	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Sedum hispanicum</i>	Spanish Stonecrop	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Sedum stellatum</i>	Starry Stonecrop	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Umbilicus horizontalis</i>	A Wall Pennywort	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Wall Pennywort	5	Piano Zucchi
<b>Ericaceae</b>	<b>Heather Family</b>		



Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree Heather	4	Gibilmanna
<b>Euphorbiaceae</b>	<b>Spurge Family</b>		
<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	Large Mediterranean Spurge	2	Roadsides
<i>Euphorbia dendroides</i>	Tree Spurge	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun Spurge	1	Near Resuttano
<i>Euphorbia rigida</i>	Narrow-leaved Glaucous Spurge	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Fabaceae (Leguminosae)</b>	<b>Pea Family</b>		
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i> agg.	Kidney Vetch	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Astragalus (Astracantha) nebrodensis</i> **	Nebro Milk-vetch	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Astragalus (Astracantha) siculus</i> **	Etna Milk-vetch	6	Piano Provenzana
<i>Bitumaria bituminosa</i>	Pitch Trefoil	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Calycotome infesta</i>	Hairy Thorny Broom	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Coronilla valentina</i>	Scorpion-vetch	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Cytisus villosus</i>	Hairy Broom	6	Above Linguaglossa
<i>Genista aetnensis</i> **	Etna Broom	5	Widespread on Etna
<i>Lathyrus cicera</i>	-	6	Above Linguaglossa
<i>Lathyrus clymenum</i>	-	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Lathyrus ochrus</i>	Cyprus Pea/Winged Pea	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Lathyrus odoratus</i> **	Sweet Pea	1	Near Resuttano
<i>Lathyrus setifolius</i>	Red Vetchling	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Lathyrus sphaericus</i>	A Red Vetchling	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Lotus (Tetragonolobus) biflorus</i>	Dragon's Teeth	3	Near Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Lotus creticus</i>	Southern Bird's-foot Trefoil	6	Cottone
<i>Lotus edulis</i>	Edible Lotus	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Lotus ornithopodioides</i>	-	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Lotus tetragonolobus (T. purpureus)</i>	Asparagus Pea	1	Near Resuttano
<i>Lupinus angustifolius</i>	Narrow-leaved Lupin	5	Near Petralia Sottana
<i>Medicago arabica</i>	Spotted Medick	6	Cottone
<i>Medicago disciformis</i>	a Medick	1	Castellana Sicula
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Medicago orbicularis</i>	Disc Medick	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>	Toothed Medick	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Melilotus indicus</i>	Small Melilot	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Ornithopus compressus</i>	Compressed Bird's-foot	5	Above Milo
<i>Pisum sativum</i> subsp. <i>elatius</i>	Wild Pea	4	Roadsides
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	False Acacia	1	Roadsides
<i>Scorparius muricatus</i>	Scorpion Vetch	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom	1	Roadsides
<i>Sulla (Hedysarum) coronarium</i>	Italian Sainfoin	1	Roadsides
<i>Trifolium arvense</i>	Hare's-foot Clover	5	Above Milo
<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	Alsike Clover	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Trifolium incarnatum</i> subsp. <i>molineri</i>	Upright Clover	5	Above Milo
<i>Trifolium nigrescens</i>	A white clover (smaller flowers)	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Trifolium resupinatum</i>	Reversed Clover	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Starry Clover	4	Near Collesano
<i>Trifolium subterraneum</i>	Burrowing Clover	4	Gibilmanna

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<i>Trifolium tomentosum</i>	Woolly Trefoil	4	Near Collesano
<i>Tripodion (Anthyllis) tetraphyllum</i>	Bladder Vetch	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Vicia bithynica</i>	-	4	Near Collesano
<i>Vicia lathyroides</i>	Spring Vetch (tiny flower)	7	Below Etna
<i>Vicia lutea</i>	Yellow Vetch	7	Lower slopes of Etna
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common Vetch	7	Lower slopes of Etna
<i>Vicia villosa</i>	Fodder Vetch	1	Near Petralia Sottana
<i>Vicia villosa</i> subsp. <i>ambigua</i>	Fodder Vetch (pale)	5	Above Milo
<b>Fagaceae</b>	<b>Beech Family</b>		
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut	5	Above Milo
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	2	Widespread
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holly Oak	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak	2	Below Portella Colla
<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy Oak	2	Below Portella Colla
<i>Quercus suber</i>	Cork Oak	2	Collesano road junction
<b>Geraniaceae</b>	<b>Geranium Family</b>		
<i>Erodium acaule</i>	Stemless Stork's-bill	2	Widespread
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork's-bill	2	Widespread
<i>Erodium malacoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Stork's-bill	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	Shining Crane's-bill	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	4	Isnello
<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	Little Robin	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	3	Near Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved crane's-bill	5	Near Pianon Torre
<b>Hypericaceae</b>	<b>St. John's Wort Family</b>		
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	a St. John's-wort	4	Near Gibilmanna (leaves)
<b>Lamiaceae</b>	<b>Dead-nettle Family</b>		
<i>Clinopodium (Acinos) alpinum</i>	Alpine Basil Thyme	5	Near Petralia Sottana
<i>Clinopodium nepeta</i>	Lesser Calamint	3	Near Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	Henbit Dead-nettle	5	Near Petralia Sottana
<i>Lamium bifidum</i>	Bifid Dead-nettle	6	Case Perrotta
<i>Lamium garganicum</i>	Large Red Dead-nettle	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	French Lavender	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water Mint	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Mentha pulegium</i>	Pennyroyal	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Micromeria graeca (M. consentina*)</i>	-	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Marjoram	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Prasium majus</i>	Prasium	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Wild Clary	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Sideritis romana</i>	Common Sideritis	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Thymus vulgaris</i>	Wild Thyme	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Linaceae</b>	<b>Flax Family</b>		
<i>Linum bienne</i>	Biennial Flax	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Linum punctatum</i> subsp. <i>punctatum**</i>	A Flax	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<i>Linum strictum</i>	Upright Yellow Flax	4	Gibilmanna
<b>Malvaceae</b>	<b>Mallow Family</b>		
<i>Lavatera trimestris</i>	Annual Mallow	4	Near Collesano
<i>Malva parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Mallow	4	Near Collesano
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<b>Moraceae</b>	<b>Mulberry Family</b>		
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig	4	Near Collesano
<b>Oleaceae</b>	<b>Olive Family</b>		
<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved Ash	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	Flowering or Manna Ash	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive (wild)	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Orobanchaceae</b>	<b>Broomrape Family</b>		
<i>Bartsia (Bellardia) trixago</i>	Bellardia	4	Isnello Gorge (yellow form)
<i>Orobanche lavandulacea</i>	A Broomrape on Pitch Trefoil	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Orobanche mutelii</i>	Dwarf Broomrape	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Orobanche rapum-genistae</i>	Greater Broomrape	7	Below Etna (dead stems)
<i>Orobanche variegata</i>	A Broomrape	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	Southern Red Bartsia	1	Below Petralia Soprana
<b>Oxalidaceae</b>	<b>Wood-sorrel Family</b>		
<i>Oxalis pres-caprae</i>	Bermuda Buttercup	3	Roadsides
<b>Paeoniaceae</b>	<b>Peony Family</b>		
<i>Paeonia mascula</i>	Peony	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Papaveraceae</b>	<b>Poppy Family</b>		
<i>Corydalis solida</i>	Bird-in-a-bush	2	Piano Battaglia
<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	White Ramping Fumitory	5	Near Piano Zucchi
<i>Papaver dubium</i> subsp. <i>dubium</i>	Long-headed Poppy	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common Poppy	1	Roadsides
<b>Plantaginaceae</b>	<b>Plantain Family</b>		
<i>Linaria purpurea</i>	Purple Toadflax	5	Above Milo (leaves)
<i>Linaria reflexa</i>	a white & orange Toadflax	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Weasel-snout	6	Cottone
<i>Plantago cupani</i>	A Plantain (pinnatisect leaves)	5	Near Petralia Sottana
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Plantago serraria</i>	A Plantain (toothed leaves)	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>	White Speedwell	4	Gibilmanna
<b>Polygonaceae</b>	<b>Dock Family</b>		
<i>Rumex bucephaliflorus</i>	Horned Dock	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Rumex scutatus</i>	French Sorrel/ Shield Dock	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Rumex scutatus forma aetnensis**</i>	Etna Sorrel	5	Above Milo

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<b>Primulaceae</b>			
<b>Primrose Family</b>			
<i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i>	Common Sowbread	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli (leaves)
<i>Cyclamen repandum</i>	Spring Sowbread / Cyclamen	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Lysimachia (Anagallis) arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Lysimachia (Anagallis) arvensis</i> var. <i>caerulea</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel (Blue-flowered)	1	Below Petralia Soprana
<i>Lysimachia arvensis</i> subsp. <i>foemina</i>	Blue Pimpernel	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose	2	Below Portella Colla
<b>Ranunculaceae</b>			
<b>Buttercup Family</b>			
<i>Anemone apennina</i>	Blue Anemone	2	Below Portella Colla
<i>Anemone hortensis</i>	An Anemone	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's Joy	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Ficaria verna</i> agg.	Lesser Celandine	2	Piano Battaglia
<i>Ranunculus millefoliatus</i>	Million-leaved Buttercup	2	Piano Battaglia
<i>Thalictrum aquilegifolium</i>	Great Meadow-rue	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Resedaceae</b>			
<b>Mignonette Family</b>			
<i>Reseda alba</i>	White Mignonette	6	Cottone
<i>Reseda luteola</i>	Weld	4	Near Collesano
<b>Rhamnaceae</b>			
<b>Buckthorn Family</b>			
<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	Mediterranean Buckthorn	4	Isnello Gorge
<b>Rosaceae</b>			
<b>Rose Family</b>			
<i>Crataegus orientalis (C. laciniata)</i>	A Hawthorn	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Potentilla calabra</i>	A Cinquefoil	6	Piano Provenzana
<i>Prunus dulcis</i>	Almond	2	Scattered
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Pyrus spinosa (P.amygdaliformis)</i>	Almond-leaved Pear	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Rosa canina</i> agg.	Dog Rose	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble	2	Piano Battaglia
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	Salad Burnet	1	Near Resuttano
<b>Rubiaceae</b>			
<b>Bedstraw Family</b>			
<i>Galium aetnicum**</i>	Etna Bedstraw	6	Piano Provenzana
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	5	Piano Zucchi
<i>Galium mollugo</i> agg.	Hedge Bedstraw	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Madder	4	Isnello Gorge
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field Madder	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Salicaceae</b>			
<b>Willow Family</b>			
<i>Populus alba</i>	White Poplar	6	Fiumefreddo
<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen	6	Fiumefreddo
<i>Salix alba</i>	White Willow	6	Fiumefreddo
<b>Santalaceae</b>			
<b>Sandalwood Family</b>			
<i>Osyris alba</i>	Osyris	3	Bosco della Ficuzza

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<i>Viscum album</i> subsp. <i>album</i>	Mistletoe	4	Roadsides
<b>Sapindaceae</b>	<b>Maple Family</b>		
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Acer obtusatum</i>	Italian Maple	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Saxifragaceae</b>	<b>Saxifrage Family</b>		
<i>Saxifraga bulbifera</i>	Bulbous Saxifrage	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Saxifraga tridactylites</i>	Rue-leaved Saxifrage	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Scrophulariaceae</b>	<b>Figwort Family</b>		
<i>Scrophularia canina</i>	French Figwort	5	Piano Zucchi
<i>Scrophularia peregrina</i>	Nettle-leaved Figwort	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Great Mullein	7	Roadsides
<b>Simaroubaceae</b>	<b>Tree of Heaven family</b>		
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of Heaven	4	Roadsides
<b>Urticaceae</b>	<b>Nettle Family</b>		
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettle	6	Cottone
<i>Urtica membranacea</i>	Mediterranean Nettle	4	Gibilmanna
<b>Thymelaeaceae</b>	<b>Daphne Family</b>		
<i>Daphne laureola</i>	Spurge Laurel	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<b>Verbenaceae</b>	<b>Verbena Family</b>		
<i>Lantana camara</i>	Lantana	6	Roadsides
<b>Violaceae</b>	<b>Violet Family</b>		
<i>Viola aethnensis</i> **	Etna Pansy	6	Piano Provenzana
<i>Viloa alba</i> subsp. <i>dehnhardtii</i>	A violet (purple)	4	Below Portella Colla
<i>Viola odorata</i>	Sweet Violet	2	Below Portella Colla
<i>Viola parvula</i>	-	7	Lower slopes of Etna
<b>Monocots</b>	<b>Monocotyledons</b>		
<b>Amaryllidaceae</b>	<b>Daffodil Family</b>		
<i>Allium aetnense</i>	Etna Garlic	7	Lvs below Etna poss this
<i>Allium neapolitanum</i>	Naples Garlic	4	Gibilmanna
<i>Allium pendulinum</i>	Pendulous Garlic	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Allium roseum</i>	Rosy Garlic	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Allium subhirsutum</i>	Hairy Garlic	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Allium ursinum</i>	Ramsons	2	Below Portella Colla
<i>Narcissus tazetta</i>	Bunch-flowered Narcissus	2	Piano Battaglia
<b>Asparagaceae</b>	<b>Asparagus Family</b>		
<i>Agave americana</i>	Agave or Century Plant	2	Roadsides
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	Prickly Asparagus	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Bellevalia dubia</i>	(blue)	1	Below Piano Sporana
<i>Bellevalia romana</i>	(white)	1	Below Piano Sporana
<i>Drimia (Urginea) maritima</i>	Sea Squill	4	Isnello Gorge (leaves)

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<i>Muscari (Leopoldia) comosa</i>	Tassel Hyacinth	7	Lower slopes of Etna
<i>Muscari neglectum</i>	Grape Hyacinth	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Ornithogalum narbonense</i>	A Spiked Star of Bethlehem	5	Piano Torre
<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>	Star of Bethlehem	1	Below Petralia Soprana
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's-broom	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Scilla bifolia</i>	Alpine Squill	2	Piano Battaglia
<b>Asphodelaceae</b>	<b>Asphodel Family</b>		
<i>Asphodeline lutea</i>	Yellow Asphodel	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	Hollow-stemmed Asphodel	3	Roadsides
<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i>	Common Asphodel	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Cyperaceae</b>	<b>Sedge Family</b>		
<i>Cyperus papyrus</i> (subsp. <i>siculus</i> **)	Papyrus	6	Fiumefreddo
<b>Dioscoraceae</b>	<b>Yam Family</b>		
<i>Dioscorea (Tamus) communis</i>	Black Bryony	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<b>Iridaceae</b>	<b>Iris Family</b>		
<i>Crocus caeruleus</i> (C. <i>siculus</i> **)	A Crocus		
<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Italian Gladiolus	1	Near Resuttano
<i>Iris germanica</i>	Garden Iris	7	Lower slopes of Etna
<i>Iris pseudopumila</i> (Purple form)	An Iris	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Iris pseudopumila</i> (Yellow two-tone form)	An Iris	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Iris (Hermodactylus) tuberosus</i>	Snake's-head Iris/ Widow Iris	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Romulea bulbocodium</i>	a Romulea	2	Piano Battaglia
<b>Juncaceae</b>	<b>Rush Family</b>		
<i>Luzula forsteri</i>	Southern Woodrush	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Liliaceae</b>	<b>Lily Family</b>		
<i>Gagea foliosa</i>	A Yellow Star of Bethlehem	2	Piano Battaglia
<b>Orchidaceae</b>	<b>Orchid Family</b>		
<i>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.</i>			
<i>Anacamptis morio</i> subsp. <i>morio</i>	Green-winged Orchid	6	Above Linguaglossa
<i>Anacamptis morio</i> subsp. <i>longicornu</i>	Long-spurred Orchid	1	Below Piano Sporana
<i>Anacamptis papilionacea</i> subsp. <i>expansa</i>	Pink Butterfly Orchid	6	Above Linguaglossa
<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Sword-leaved Helleborine	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Dactylorhiza romana</i> subsp. <i>romana</i>	Roman Orchid	6	Above Linguaglossa
<i>Dactylorhiza sambucina</i>	Elder-flowered Orchid	7	Below Etna
<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	Violet Bird's-nest Orchid	4	Near Gibilmanna
<i>Neotinea lactea</i>	Milky Orchid	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Neotinea commutata</i>	Sicilian Toothed Orchid	5	Piano Torre
<i>Ophrys bertolonii</i>	Bertoloni's Bee Orchid	1	Below Petralia Soprana
<i>Ophrys bombyliflora</i>	Bumblebee Orchid	1	Below Petralia Soprana
<i>Ophrys fusca</i> agg.	Sombre Bee Orchid	1	Below Petralia Soprana

Scientific name	Common name	Day	
<i>Ophrys fusca</i> subsp. <i>pallida</i>	Pale Ophrys	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Ophrys lutea</i> ssp. <i>galilea</i> (formerly <i>sicula</i> )	-	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Ophrys lutea</i> subsp. <i>lutea</i>	Yellow Bee Orchid	1	Below Petralia Soprana
<i>Ophrys speculum</i> subsp. <i>speculum</i>	Mirror Orchid	2	Below Monte Quacella
<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i> subsp. <i>atrata</i> ( <i>incubacea</i> )	Dark Ophrys	1	Castellana Sicula
<i>O. sphegodes</i> subsp. <i>sphegodes</i>	Early Spider Orchid	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>O. tenthredinifera</i> (formerly <i>grandiflora</i> **)	a Sawfly Orchid	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>O. x grampinii</i> ( <i>O. sphegodes</i> x <i>tenthredinifera</i> )		3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Orchis anthropophora</i>	Man Orchid	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Orchis brancifortii</i> *	Brancifort's Orchid	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Orchis italica</i>	Naked Man Orchid	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Orchis provincialis</i>	Provence Orchid	1	Below Petralia Soprana
<i>Serapias lingua</i>	Tongue Orchid	3	Bosco della Ficuzza
<i>Serapias vomeracea</i>	Plough-share Tongue Orchid	4	Road verge above Isnello
<b>Poaceae</b>	<b>Grass Family</b>		
<i>Aegilops ovalis</i>	Aegilops	1	Near Resuttano
<i>Ampelodesmos mauritanicus</i>	Mauritanian Grass	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Anthoxanthum odorata</i>	Sweet Vernal Grass	5	Piano Torre
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed	1	Roadsides
<i>Briza maxima</i>	Great Quaking-grass	4	Near Collesano
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's Foot	5	Scattered
<i>Festuca vivipara</i>	Viviparous Fescue	7	Below Etna
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Hare's-tail Grass	6	Above Linguaglossa
<i>Lamarckia aurea</i>	Lamarck's Golden Grass	6	Near Cottone
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed	6	Cottone
<i>Sesleria nitida</i>	-	2	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<b>Smilacaceae</b>	<b>Smilax Family</b>		
<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Smilax	4	Gibilmanna
<b>FUNGI</b>			
<b>Lecanoromycetes</b>	<b>LICHENS</b>		
<i>Stereocaulon vesuvianum</i>	Mount Vesuvius Lichen	5	Above Milo

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

### Birds (H = Heard only)

Common name	Scientific name	April – May 2022							
		27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		H	H	H	H	H		
Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i> ( <i>feral</i> )	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>			H	H				
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>			✓	✓		✓		
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>						✓		

Common name	Scientific name	April – May 2022							
		27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>						✓		
Little Egret	<i>Egretta gazetta</i>						✓		
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>				✓			✓	
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>					✓		✓	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>							H	
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>					✓			
Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>						H		
Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio otus</i>							H	
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	LO	H	✓			✓		H
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	✓				H	✓	✓	
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		✓		H			H	
Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>		✓		✓				
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		H						
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓		✓			H	
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		✓	H			H	✓	
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>				✓				
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	H					H		
Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>						H		
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		H	H	H	H	H	H	
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	H		H	✓	H	H	H	
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>				H	✓	✓		
Eastern Subalpine Warbler	<i>Curruca cantillans</i>			H	✓				
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H	H	H			✓	
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>				H		H		
Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		✓			✓			
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>				✓				
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	H		
Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	H			H	H	H		
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>					✓			
Italian Sparrow (poss x Spanish)	<i>Passer italiae (x hispaniolensis)</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		H					H	
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>						✓		
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>							✓	



Common name	Scientific name	April – May 2022							
		27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		✓	✓	H	✓			
Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>		✓	✓					
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirius</i>		✓	H	H	H			H

Other vertebrates (S = Signs, H = Heard)

Common name	Scientific name	April – May 2022							
		27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
<b>MAMMALS:</b>									
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>					✓			
Fallow Deer	<i>Dama dama</i>		✓						
Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>		S						
Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>		S						
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>					✓			S
Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>					S	S		
<b>AMPHIBIANS &amp; REPTILES</b>									
Italian Tree Frog	<i>Hyla intermedia</i>	H	H	H	H				
Moorish Gecko	<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>		✓		✓				
Western Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta bilineata</i>				✓				
Italian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis sicula</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓

Invertebrates

Common name	Scientific name	April – May 2022							
		27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
<b>BUTTERFLIES:</b>									
<i>Papilionidae</i>									
Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>				✓				
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>				✓				
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓
Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		
Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>								✓
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>				✓				
Baton Blue					✓				
Green-underside Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>			✓	✓				
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	✓							
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>		✓						
Southern Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria aegeria</i>				✓		✓		
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>			✓	✓		✓		
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>						✓		
<b>MOTHS:</b>									
Six-spot Burnet					✓				
Mullein Wave						✓			
Pine Processionary Moth	<i>Thaumetopoea pityocampa</i>		C						
Cinnabar Moth	<i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>				✓				
Ragusa's Nine-spotted Moth	<i>Amata kruegeri</i>				✓				

Common name	Scientific name	April – May 2022							
		27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
Note:									
C = Caterpillar									
<b>OTHER INVERTEBRATES:</b>									
Black-and-red Bug	<i>Spilostethus saxatilis</i>								
Beefly	<i>Bombylius sp.</i>								
A 'long-horned' bee	<i>Eucera nigricans</i>								
Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>								
Honey Bee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>								
Buff-tailed Bumblebee (white tail)	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>								
Rose Sawfly (larvae)									
7-Spot Ladybird	<i>Coccinella 7-punctata</i>								
2-Spot Ladybird	<i>Adalia bipunctata</i>								
Scarab Beetle sp.	<i>Scarabeus sp.</i>								
Fat-thigh Beetle	<i>Oedemera nobilis</i>								
Beetle sp.									
Millipede sp.									
Tick sp.									
Mite sp.									
Ant sp.									
Whirligig Beetle									
Pond Skater									