

18TH CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKGROUP FOR PALAEOETHNOBOTANY

Lecce, 3rd - 8th June 2019



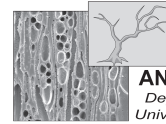
PROGRAM AND ABSTRACTS



**UNIVERSITÀ
DEL SALENTO**



DIPARTIMENTO DI
BENI CULTURALI



LABORATORY OF
ARCHAEOBOTANY
AND PALAEOECOLOGY
*Department of Cultural Heritage
University of Salento (Le - ITALY)*

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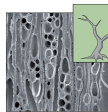
Università del Salento
2019

ORGANIZATION OF

University of Salento
Laboratory of Archaeobotany and Palaeoecology



UNIVERSITÀ
DEL SALENTO



LABORATORY OF
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*Department of Cultural Heritage
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WITH THE SUPPORT OF

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SBI - Società Botanica Italiana

IIPP - Istituto Italiano di Preistoria e Protostoria

ISIPU - Istituto Italiano di Paleontologia Umana

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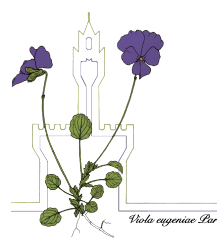
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Hanseatic League. In medieval Turku, usage of melegueta pepper indicated high status of the inhabitants. More than 80 plant taxa were identified from the latrine and the yard, and from the latrine most part of the taxa is imported, while the material from the yard is mainly of local origin.

Key-words: Aframomum melegueta, pepper, medieval, Finland

EARLIEST EVIDENCE OF *CITRUS* FRUIT IN THE IBERIAN PENINSULA

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The cultivation of *Citrus* fruit in the Mediterranean basin is recorded since Classical times. Several Roman sites in Egypt and Italy offer evidence of seed and pollen remains of *Citrus* species. Yet, to date, archaeological evidence of *Citrus* species is nowhere to be found in sites of the Western Mediterranean. Historical texts suggest that they were introduced in the region in the Middle Ages by new populations linked to the Islamic occupation of the Iberian Peninsula. There is, nonetheless, no material record of its cultivation in this period.

The paper presents the results of new archaeobotanical analyses carried out at several Islamic sites in the Iberian Peninsula, notably the sites of Lorca (Spain) and Mértola (Portugal). Both yielded a large number of well-preserved seeds and fruits in a carbonised and mineralised state. Fruit remains are particularly abundant, especially in the context of latrines, where more than 60,000 seeds were identified. Among them are several *Citrus* seeds, the first cases in the Iberian Peninsula unearthed in levels spanning the 9th to the 11th century AD. This evidence confirms the written sources that indicate that *Citrus* fruits were introduced in this region by the Arabs in medieval times.

Key-words: Al-Andalus, Medieval, Islamic, Agriculture, Citrus

ARCHAEOBOTANY AT MOTYA (ITALY)

Claudia Moricca, Lorenzo Nigro, Laura Sadori

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The archaeobotanical analyses carried out at the archaeological site of Motya (Sicily, Italy), a small island found in the Marsala Lagoon, in Western Sicily (Italy), are presented. Although the Phoenician-Punic period (late 8th century BC – 397 BC) represents the main occupational phase of the archaeological settlement, the island was occupied by indigenous populations since the 17th century BC and continued to be inhabited after the Siege of Motya (397/6 BC). The multidisciplinary study, which includes anthracology and carpology, aims at reconstructing the diet, land use

and exploitation of natural resources on the island. Analyses focus mostly on the western slopes of the Acropolis, where a big disposal pit, dated from the end of 8th to the 6th century BC, was identified. Preliminary analyses reveal a vast assemblage of cereals (including *Hordeum vulgare*, *Triticum monococcum*, *T. dicoccum* and *T. aestivum/durum*), pulses (*Cicer arietinum*, *Lathyrus* sp., *Pisum sativum*, *Vicia faba* and *V. ervilia*) and fruits. These include *Vitis vinifera*, represented both by seeds and pedicels, and *Punica granatum*, whose spread to the Western Mediterranean is attributed to Phoenicians. Also weeds (*Agropyron repens*, *Lolium perenne*, *Poa* sp. and others) were found. In terms of charcoals, the most represented species are *Olea europaea* and *Quercus ilex*. This study, along with palynological analyses, should give a complete overview of the plant cultivation and plant use of the Phoenicians at Motya.

Key-words: Phoenicians, Sicily, carpology, anthracology, palynology

WOODEN PESTLES FOR RICE PROCESSING IN EAST ASIA

Yumiko Murakami

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So many wooden artifacts, dating from the early Neolithic to Han period had been excavated in South China, Korea and Japan. Wooden tools had been used in various subsistence activities including food processing. In East Asia, wet-rice cultivation started in the Yangtze River Valley and then spread gradually to surrounding area with many tools as well as pestles and mortars. In this article, the author shows various changes in shape, size, conversion of timber and usage of pestles that occurred in diffusion of wet-rice cultivation to the east. In the Middle Yangtze River Valley, a small pestle which is 22cm long was found in Bashidang site. It was single-head pestle (using only one edge) with edge wear marks. When this short pestle was used, user sit on the ground. And in the Lower Yangtze River Valley, much longer pestles (about 90cm long) were used in Hemudu cultre sites (Hemudu site, Tianluoshan site). They were also single-head pestles but used by standing users. As mortars, stone or hardened ground was used probably. Afterwards, this type of pestles were assumed to change into two types: double-head pestles (using both edges) and pestles worked by treading. The former type of pestles were excavated from Bronze Age sites in South Korea. They are more than 120cm long and have drum-shaped protrusion at the middle of pestles. This type of pestles were brought to Japan at the beginning of Yayoi Period with many wooden tools (hoes, wet paddy smoothers, weaving tools and so on).

Key-words: pestles and mortars, wet-rice cultivation, spread eastwards and changes

AGRARIAN PRACTICES AND CHANGES BY INVESTIGATING WEED FLORA IN NORTH-WESTERN FRANCE FROM THE BRONZE AGE TO THE IRON AGE

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1. University of Nantes, France.

2. AASPE, MNHN, CNRS, Sorbonne-Universités, Paris, France.

The lack of archaeobotanical datas in North-Western France was highlighted by several papers and national studies conducted by the National Institut of Preventive Archaeology. Most of the first

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