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MONOGRAPH

Araneofauna (Arachnida Araneae) of Mount Pellegrino (Sicily, Italy). Fourth contribution to knowledge of the Sicilian spider fauna

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ABSTRACT In this work I report on the presence of some Araneae species new or interesting for Sicily and a preliminary checklist of the Araneofauna of the mountain massif "Monte Pellegrino" located in the territory of Palermo (Sicily, Italy) including: *Altella lucida* (Simon, 1874) (Dictnydae), *Agyneta saxatilis* (Blackwall, 1844) (Linyphiidae), *Anatolidion gentile* (Simon, 1881) (Theridiidae) and *Heliophanus auratus* C.L. Koch, 1835 (Salticidae). Additional biological, literature, chorotype and distribution are indicated.

KEY WORDS Araneae; new data; Sicily; Monte Pellegrino.

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INTRODUCTION

The knowledge of the spider fauna in Sicily has been inconstant and almost never examined in depth over time, despite the peculiarities of the territory and the geographical position in the Mediterranean area.

The lack of knowledge of many of the different natural aspects that concern the island often leads to making ineffective choices on a protectionist level with the consequent disappearance of important natural environments and the nature connected to them.

From these considerations the desire to observe the araneofauna of the mountain massif "Monte Pellegrino" (zona A of the "Riserva Naturale Orientata Monte Pellegrino", Palermo, Sicily, Italy) was born, trying, albeit modest, to contribute to an ever-greater awareness of the nature that surrounds us, in order to preserve the most naturalness possible.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Study area

The "Riserva Naturale Orientata Monte Pellegrino", established in October 1995 and managed by the national association "Ranger d'Italia", extends for about 1,050 hectares, includes the entire Mount Pellegrino massif (reserve area A) and the Parco della Favorita (zone B or pre-reserve), excluding sports infrastructures.

This area is inserted in the site of community interest ITA020014.

Mount Pellegrino (Fig. 1) known in ancient times as Heirkte (Ειρκτή), was called by the Arabs *Bel Grin* or *Gebel Grin* or "nearby mountain". It is a mountain massif of carbonate rocks with a prevalence of limestone, which reaches its highest point at 606 meters above sea level, and which extends into the Tyrrhenian Sea to close the western end of the Gulf of Palermo.

The mountain has a varied orography with steep sides, even very large plains, fractures, an abundance of karst phenomena and the presence of 137 known caves of marine and / or karst origin.

Biodiversity is very abundant due to the different plant environments.

The steep ridges of the promontory host botanical species typical of coastal cliffs such as the dwarf palm *Chamaerops umilis* L., the prickly pear *Opuntia ficus-indica* (L.) Mill. and the caper *Capparis spinosa* L., while the area of slopes is characterized by large areas of garrigue and Mediterranean scrub and sporadic holm oak residues.

The undergrowth hosts several species of orchids, such as the endemic *Ophrys lunulata* Parl., a priority species according to the European Union Habitats Directive (code 1905)

On the contrary, part of the area of the "Real Tenuta della Favorita" (Zone B) is occupied by cultivated areas (citrus orchards, orchards, experimental agricultural fields) and areas afforested with conifers.

There are several animal species, among them: about 40 bird species, including the peregrine falcon *Falco peregrinus* Tunstall, 1771, the scops owl *Otus scops* Linnaeus, 1758 and the owl *Athene noctua* Scopoli, 1769; several species of mammals such as the weasel *Mustela nivalis* Linnaeus, 1758, the vole of the Savi *Microtus savii* de Selys-Longchamps, 1838 and in the caves it is reported the presence of the bat *Rhinolophus ferrumenquinum* Schreber, 1774; among the reptiles we find in the reserve the leopard colubro *Zamenis situla* (Linnaeus, 1758), and the asp *Vipera aspis hugyi* (Schinz, 1833), also there are many specimens of the Sicilian lizard *Podarcis waglerianus* Gistel, 1868; among the amphibians the presence of two endemisms deserves to be mentioned: the painted discoglossus *Discoglossus pictus* Otth, 1837 and the Sicilian emerald toad, *Bufotes boulengeri siculus* (Stöck, Sicilia, Belfiore, Buckley, Lo Brutto, Lo Valvo et Arculeo, 2018) (see also Stöck et al., 2008), a species that breeds on Monte Pellegrino in the Gorgo di Santa Rosalia, a natural pool that rises not far from the homonymous Sanctuary. Among the rich invertebrate fauna, some endemisms must be remembered: the land snails *Siciliaria grohmanniana* (Rossmässler, 1836) (Gastropoda Clausilidae), *Murella sicana* (Férussac, 1822) and *Erctella mazzullii* (De Cristofori & Jan, 1832) (Gastropoda Helicidae) and two Ground beetles sympatric on Mount Pellegrino: *Typhloreicheia susannae* Magrini & Paladini, 2014 and *T. colacurcioi* Magrini & Paladini, 2014 (Coleoptera Carabidae).

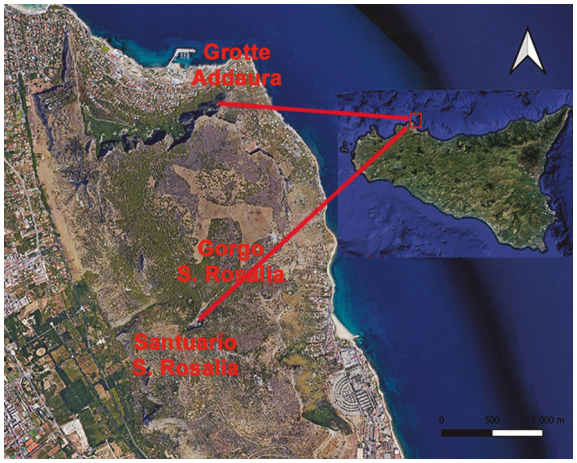

Figure 1. Study area: Mount Pellegrino (Sicily, Italy).

Sampling methods

Samples were taken during different periods of the year and in different areas of the mountain, but concentrated in three areas: the Sanctuary of Santa Rosalia, at 429 meters above sea level, the "Grotte dell'Addaura", located on the north-eastern side of Mount Pellegrino and the "Gorgo di Santa Rosalia", a pond, fed by the autumn rains and dry in the summer period. All samples were collected on sight on plants, under rocks or in their web. Some samples were photographed in nature with a Nikon D300s and a macro lens of 100 mm.

Of almost all the species mentioned, at least one adult specimen per species has been observed under a stereomicroscope for the correct determination of the species, of those not found, during the hikes so far carried out, the bibliography that refers to their observation at Monte Pellegrino is reported.

All the samples were stored in centrifuge tubes of different sizes, depending on the size of the sample, and were fixed in 75% ethanol.

The samples are stored in the collection of the author. For new reports "legit" and collection data are indicated, each locality and/or collection site is in the original language (Italian).

The classification, taxonomic order, nomeclatural arrangement, and presence in the Sicilian territory follow Roberts (1995), Trotta (2004), Pantini & Isaia (2019) and World Spider Catalog (2020).

RESULTS

In total, up to date, 112 species of 97 genera and 34 families are listed, among these 4 new species and 3 genera are observed for the first time in Sicily, marked by (*) in the checklist below, for the latter, the collection data will be shown.

The species observed and/or sampled directly by the author will be marked with "X" in the checklist. For the species already observed in the past for Monte Pellegrino, the first author, who reported them, will be marked, and following the posthumous observations, in case there were any. Many of these observations appear to be unpublished data on the regional distribution of species.

Checklist of spiders of Monte Pellegrino

Ordo ARANEAE Clerck, 1757
Familia AGELENIDAE C.L. Koch, 1837

Agelena Walckenaer, 1806
Agelena labyrinthica (Clerck,1757) - X

Eratigena Bolzern, Burckhardt & Hänggi, 2013
Eratigena sicana (Brignoli, 1976) - first observation: Bolzern et al., 2008

Lycosoides Lucas, 1846
Lycosoides coarctata (Dufour, 1831) - X

Tegenaria Latreille, 1804
Tegenaria domestica (Clerck, 1757) - X
Tegenaria pagana C.L. Koch, 1840 - X / first observation: Roewer, 1960
Tegenaria parietina (Fourcroy, 1785) - X

Textrix Sundevall, 1833
Textrix caudata C.L. Koch, 1872 - X

Familia AMAUROBIIDAE Thorell, 1870
Amaurobius C.L. Koch, 1837
Amaurobius erberi (Keyserling, 1863) - X

Familia ANYPHAENIDAE Bertkau, 1878

Anyphaena Sundevall, 1833
Anyphaena sabina C.L.Koch, 1866 - X

Familia ARANEIDAE Clerck, 1757

Aculepeira Chamberlin & Ivie, 1942
Aculepeira armida (Audouin, 1826) - first observation: Brignoli P.M., 1968

Agalenatea Archer, 1951
Agalenatea redii (Scopoli, 1763) - X

Araneus Clerck, 1757
Araneus angulatus Clerck, 1757 - X
Araneus diadematus Clerck, 1757 - X

Araniella Chamberlin et Ivie, 1942
Araniella cucurbitina (Clerck, 1757) - X

Argiope Audouin, 1826
Argiope bruennichi (Scopoli, 1772) - X

Cyclosa Menge, 1866
Cyclosa conica Pallas, 1772 - X
Cyclosa insulana (Costa, 1834) - X

Cyrtophora Simon, 1864
Cyrtophora citricola (Forsskål, 1775) - X

Gibbaranea Archer, 1951
Gibbaranea bituberculata (Walckenaer, 1802) - X

Larinioides Caporiacco, 1934
Larinioides sclopetarius (Clerck, 1757) - X

Mangora O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1889
Mangora acalypha (Walckenaer, 1802) - X

Neoscona Simon, 1864
Neoscona adianta (Walckenaer, 1802) - first observation: Brignoli P.M., 1968
Neoscona subfusca (C.L.Koch, 1837) - X

Zilla C.L. Koch, 1836
Zilla diodia (Walckenaer, 1802) - X
Zygiella F. O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1902

Zygiella x-notata (Clerck, 1757) - X

Familia CHEIRACANTHIIDAE Wagner, 1887

Cheiracanthium C.L. Koch, 1839
Cheiracanthium mildei L. Koch, 1864 - X

Familia CLUBIONIDAE Wagner, 1887

Clubiona Latreille, 1804
Clubiona brevipes Blackwall, 1841 - X

Porrhoclubiona Lohmander, 1944
Porrhoclubiona leucaspis (Simon, 1932) - X
Porrhoclubiona vegeta (Simon, 1918) - X

Familia CTENIZIDAE Thorell, 1887

Cteniza Latreille, 1829
Cteniza sauvagesi (Rossi, 1788) - X

Familia CYRTAUCHENIIDAE Simon, 1889
Amblyocarenum Simon, 1892
Amblyocarenum walckenaeri (Lucas, 1846) - X

Familia DICTYNIDAE O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1871

**Altella* Simon, 1884
Altella lucida (Simon, 1874) - X

Nigma Lehtinen, 1967
Nigma walckenaeri (Roewer, 1951) - X

Familia DYSDERIDAE C.L. Koch, 1837

Dysdera Latreille, 1804
Dysdera crocata C.L. Koch, 1838 - X

Harpactea Bristowe, 1939
Harpactea carusoi Alicata, 1974 - X

Familia FILISTATIDAE Ausserer, 1867

Filistata Latreille, 1810
Filistata insidiatrix (Forsskål, 1775) - X

Pritha Lehtinen, 1967
Pritha nana (Simon, 1868) - X

Familia GNAPHOSIDAE Pocock, 1898

Drassodes Westring, 1851
Drassodes lapidosus (Walckenaer, 1802) - X

Gnaphosa Latreille, 1804
Gnaphosa lucifuga (Walckenaer, 1802) - X

Nomisia Dalmas, 1921
Nomisia aussereri (C.L. Koch, 1872) - X
Nomisia exornata (C.L. Koch, 1839) - X

Zelotes Gistel, 1848
Zelotes petrensis (C.L. Koch, 1839) - X

Familia LEPTONETIDAE Simon, 1890

Paraleptoneta Fage, 1913
Paraleptoneta spinimana (Simon, 1884) - first observation: Denis J., 1959

Familia LINYPHIIDAE Blackwall, 1859

Agyneta Hull, 1911
Agyneta saxatilis (Blackwall, 1844) - X

Centromerus Dahl, 1886
Centromerus serratus (O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1875) - X

Frontinellina van Helsdingen, 1969
Frontinellina frutetorum (C.L. Koch, 1835) - X (Fig. 2)

Microlinyphia Gerhardt, 1928
Microlinyphia pusilla Sundevall, 1830 - X

Linyphia Latreille, 1804
Linyphia triangularis (Clerck, 1758) - X

Pelecopsis Simon, 1864
Pelecopsis bucephala (O. P.-Cambridge, 1875) - X

Familia LYCOSIDAE Sundevall, 1833

Alopecosa Simon, 1885
Alopecosa albofasciata (Brullé, 1832) - X

Arctosa C.L. Koch, 1847
Arctosa lacustris (Simon, 1876) - X

Figure 2. *Frontinellina frutetorum* in courtship rituals.

Hogna Simon, 1885
Hogna radiata (Latreille, 1817) - X

Lycosa Latreille, 1804
Lycosa tarantula (Linnaeus, 1758) - X

Trochosa C.L. Koch, 1847
Trochosa terricola Thorell, 1856 - X

Familia MIMETIDAE Simon, 1881

Ero C.L. Koch, 1837
Ero aphana (Walckenaer, 1802) - X

Familia NEMESIIDAE Simon, 1889

Nemesia Audouin, 1826
Nemesia sp. - X

Familia OXYOPIDAE Thorell, 1870

Oxyopes Latreille, 1804
Oxyopes heterophthalmus (Latreille, 1804) - X
Oxyopes nigripalpis Kulczyński, 1891 - X

Familia PALPIMANIDAE Thorell, 1870

Palpimanus Dufour, 1820
Palpimanus gibbulus Dufour, 1820 - X

Familia PHILODROMIDAE Thorell, 1870

Philodromus Walckenaer, 1826
Philodromus aureolus (Clerck, 1757) - X
Philodromus rufus Walckenaer, 1826 - X

Pulchellodromus Wunderlich, 2012
Pulchellodromus bistigma (Simon, 1870) - X

Tibellus Simon, 1875
Tibellus sp. - X

Familia PHOLCIDAE C. L. Koch, 1850

Holocnemus Simon, 1875
Holocnemus pluchei (Scopoli, 1763) - X

Pholcus Walckenaer, 1805
Pholcus phalangioides (Fuesslin, 1775) - X - first observation by Dresco (1963).

Spermophorides Wunderlich, 1992
Spermophorides elevata (Simon, 1873) - X

Familia PISAURIDAE Simon, 1890

Pisaura Simon, 1886
Pisaura mirabilis (Clerck, 1757) - X

Familia SALTICIDAE Blackwall, 1841

Cyrba Simon, 1876
Cyrba algerina (Lucas, 1846) - X

Evarcha Simon, 1902
Evarcha jucunda (Lucas, 1846) - X

Hasarius Simon, 1871
Hasarius adansoni (Audouin, 1826) - X

Heliophanus C.L. Koch, 1833
Heliophanus auratus C.L. Koch, 1835 - X
Heliophanus lineiventris Simon, 1868 - X

Icius Simon, 1876
Icius hamatus (C.L. Koch, 1846) - X

Mendoza Peckham & Peckham, 1894
Mendoza canestrinii (Ninni, 1868) - X

Menemerus Simon, 1868
Menemerus semilimbatus (Hahn, 1829) - X

Pellenes Simon, 1876
Pellenes geniculatus (Simon, 1868) - X

Phlegra Simon, 1876
Phlegra fasciata (Hahn, 1826) - X

Thyene Simon, 1885
Thyene imperialis (Rossi, 1846) - X

Familia SCYTODIDAE Blackwall, 1864

Scytodes Latreille, 1804
Scytodes thoracica (Latreille, 1802) - X

Familia SEGESTRIIDAE Simon, 1893

Segestria Latreille, 1804
Segestria bavarica C.L. Koch, 1843 - X - first observation by Dentici & Amata (2018).
Segestria florentina (Rossi, 1790) - X

Familia SICARIIDAE Keyserling, 1880

Loxosceles Heineken & Lowe, 1832
Loxosceles rufescens (Dufour, 1820) - X

Familia SPARASSIDAE Bertkau, 1872

Olios Walckenaer, 1837
Olios argelasius (Walckenaer, 1806) -X

Familia TETRAGNATHIDAE Menge, 1866

Meta C.L. Koch, 1836
Meta bourneti Simon, 1922 -X

Metellina Chamberlin et Ivie, 1941
Metellina merianae (Scopoli, 1763) -X

Tetragnatha Latreille, 1804
Tetragnatha extensa (Linnaeus, 1758) -X
Tetragnatha nitens (Audouin, 1826) -X

Familia THERAPHOSIDAE Thorell, 1869

Ischnocolus Ausserer, 1871
Ischnocolus valentinus (Dufour, 1820) - X

Familia THERIDIIDAE Sundevall, 1833

Anatolidion Wunderlich, 2008
Anatolidion gentile (Simon, 1881)

Anelosimus Simon, 1891
Anelosimus vittatus (C.L. Koch, 1836) - X

Argyrodes Simon, 1864
Argyrodes argyrodes (Walckenaer, 1841) - X

Asagena Sundevall, 1833
Asagena phalerata (Panzer, 1801) - X

Episinus Walckenaer, 1809
Episinus algiricus Lucas, 1846 - X - first observation by Dentici & Amata (2018).
Episinus maculipes Cavanna, 1876 - X

Euryopis Menge, 1868
Euryopis episinoides (Walckenaer, 1847) - X

Kochiura Archer, 1950

Kochiura aulica (C.L. Koch, 1838) - X

Parasteatoda Archer, 1946
Parasteatoda lunata (Clerck, 1757) - X (Fig. 3)

Steatoda Sundevall, 1833
Steatoda grossa (C.L. Koch, 1838) - X
Steatoda paykulliana (Walckenaer, 1806) - X
Steatoda triangulosa (Walckenaer, 1802) - X

Theridion Walckenaer, 1805
Theridion varians Hahn, 1833 - X

Familia THOMISIDAE Sundevall, 1833

Misumena Latreille, 1804
Misumena vatia (Clerck, 1757) - X

Monaeses Thorell, 1869
Monaeses paradoxus (Lucas, 1846) - X - first observation by (Dentici & Amata (2018).

Ozyptila Simon, 1864
Ozyptila confluens (C.L. Koch, 1845) - X

Synema Simon, 1864
Synema globosum (Fabricius, 1775) - X

Thomisus Walckenaer, 1805
Thomisus onustus Walckenaer, 1805 - X

Xysticus C.L. Koch, 1835
Xysticus sp. - X

Familia ULOBORIDAE Thorell, 1869

Hyptiotes Walckenaer, 1837
Hyptiotes paradoxus (C.L. Koch, 1834) - X

Uloborus Latreille, 1806
Uloborus plumipes Lucas, 1846 - X

ZODARIIDAE Thorell, 1881

Zodarion Walckenaer, 1826
Zodarion elegans (Simon, 1873) - X

Familia ZOROPSIDAE Bertkau, 1882

Zoropsis Simon, 1878
Zoropsis spinimana (Dufour, 1820)- X

Observations

Eratigena sicana (Brignoli, 1976)

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Species not found during sampling carried out on the date of publication.

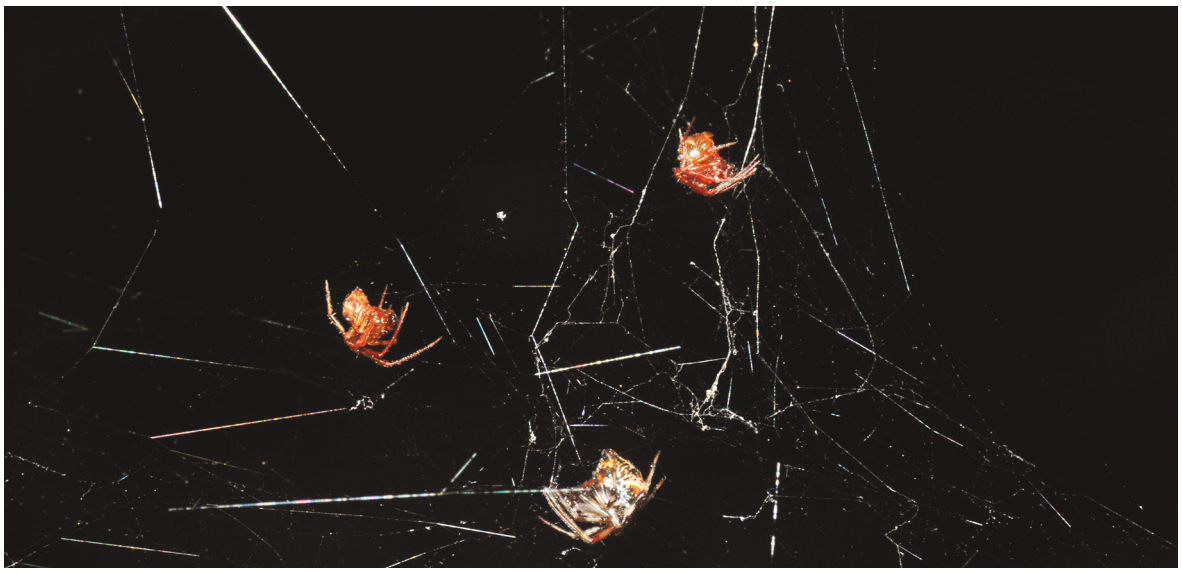

Figure 3. *Parasteatoda lunata* in courtship rituals.

DISTRIBUTION. Italy (Sicily, Sardinia).

REMARKS. The presence of the species for Mount Pellegrino is reported as "*1 female Mte. Pellegrino, at the W-slope*", Palermo, Sicily, IT (38°11'14''N 13°20'40''E, altitude: 114 m); leg. A. Bolzern & R. Mühlethaler, 23.5.2007 (juv.) "*under stones*"; det. A. Bolzern" (Bolzern A. et al., 2008).

Tegenaria pagana C.L. Koch, 1840

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Species not found during sampling carried out on the date of publication.

DISTRIBUTION. Europe to Central Asia. Introduced to USA, Mexico, Brazil, Chile.

REMARKS. Species well distributed at European level, especially in warm localities, it is often found in buildings. Troglophile species (Mammola et al. 2018) observed for the first time in the cave "Addaura III", from Roewer (1960a), data taken from Brignoli (1972) who also reports the species for the cave "Grotta dei Bovidi" (located near the cave mentioned above) and still Dresco (1963) also for the "Grotta dei Bovidi".

Aculepeira armida (Audouin, 1826)

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Species not found during sampling carried out on the date of publication.

DISTRIBUTION. North Africa, Southern Europe, Turkey, Israel, Russia (Europe to Far East), Iran, Central Asia to China.

REMARKS. Species reported for "Monte Pellegrino" only from Brignoli (1968a).

Neoscona adianta (Walckenaer, 1802)

MATERIAL EXAMINED.Species not found during sampling carried out on the date of publication.

DISTRIBUTION. Europe, North Africa to Central Asia, Russia (Europe to Far East), China, Korea, Japan.

REMARKS. Species reported for "Monte Pellegrino" only from Brignoli (1968).

Altella lucida (Simon, 1874)

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Sicily (Italy), Palermo, Monte Pellegrino, 38°10'48" N 13°20'24.5" E, 375 m above s.l., 18.XI.2019, 1 male, legit R.Viviano.

DISTRIBUTION. Europe, Turkey.

REMARKS. New genus and new species for Sicily. The specimen was sampled under a small rock, on a prairie of *Ampelodesmos mauritanicus* (Poir.) T. Durand & Schinz, 1894 and *Hyparrhenia hirta* (L.) Stapf.

Paraleptoneta spinimana (Simon, 1884)

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Species not found during sampling carried out on the date of publication.

DISTRIBUTION. Algeria, Italy.

REMARKS. Species linked to caves, occasionally found under large stones. Troglophile species (Mammola et al., 2018). Species reported for "Grotta Addaura III" (Denis, 1959; Roewer, 1960; Strinati, 1962; Brignoli, 1972) and for "Grotta Caprara" (Brignoli, 1972).

Agyneta saxatilis (Blackwall, 1844)

MATERIAL EXAMINED.Sicily (Italy), Palermo, Monte Pellegrino, 38°10'52.5" N 13°20'25" E, 420 m a.s.l., 18.XI.2019, 1 female, legit R.Viviano.

DISTRIBUTION. Europe.

REMARKS. New species for Sicily. The specimen was sampled amongst grass.

Pholcus phalangioides (Fuesslin, 1775)

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Sicily (Italy), Palermo, Monte Pellegrino, 38°09'06.7" N 13°21'41.3" E, 17.I.2018, 2 female and 1 male, legit A. Dentici.

DISTRIBUTION. Western Asia. Introduced to both Americas, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, New Zealand and numerous islands.

REMARKS. Species of Asian origin and now widespread practically everywhere (alien species), linked to the caves probably originally, and today decidedly synanthropic, easily found in homes.

Troglophile species (Mammola et al., 2018) reported for "Grotta Caprara" or "Antro nero" from Dresco (1963) and Brignoli (1972).

Heliophanus auratus C.L. Koch, 1835

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Sicily (Italy), Palermo, Monte Pellegrino, 38°10'41" N 13°29'28" E, 18.XI.19, 1 female, legit R.Viviano; Sicily (Italy), Palermo, Monte Pellegrino, 38°09'18"N 13°21'40"E, 16.XI.18, 1 female, legit R.Viviano.

DISTRIBUTION. Europe, Turkey, Caucasus, Russia (Europe to South Siberia), Kazakhstan, Central Asia, China.

REMARKS. New species for Sicily. The first specimen was sampled on Mediterranean scrub debris, the second inside a cow skull, inside which it had probably formed a den.

Segestria bavarica C.L. Koch, 1843

MATERIAL EXAMINED. The same reported in Dentici & Amata (2018).

DISTRIBUTION. Europe, Turkey, Caucasus.

REMARKS. *Segestria bavarica* was observed in the same areas where there is another similar species, *S. florentina* (Rossi, 1790). The peculiarity of the observation lies in the fact that the silks of the two species were built on the same tree barks or on the same rocks, but with the constant that those belonging to *S. bavarica* were always positioned lower down than those of *S. florentina*, and this has been observed on 12 different trees and rocks. This curious phenomenon, not yet observed in other environments in which both species have been found together, in my opinion deserves more in-depth ethological studies.

Anatolidion gentile (Simon, 1881)

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Sicily (Italy), Palermo, Monte Pellegrino, Torre del Rotolo, 38°10'38"N - 13°21'50"E, 2.IV.2021, 1 female, legit R. Viviano.

DISTRIBUTION. Morocco, Algeria, Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, North Macedonia, Greece, Turkey.

REMARKS. Specimen found wandering on *Euphorbia dendroides* L.

Episinus algiricus Lucas, 1846

MATERIAL EXAMINED. See Dentici & Amata (2018).

DISTRIBUTION. Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Northwest Africa, Malta?

REMARKS. The first data of this species for Sicily comes from the discovery of some specimens in Monte Pellegrino, Dentici & Amata (2018), the species was subsequently observed also in other locations in the province of Palermo.

Monaeses paradoxus (Lucas, 1846)

MATERIAL EXAMINED. The same reported in Dentici & Amata (2018).

DISTRIBUTION. Southern Europe, Caucasus, Iran, Africa.

REMARKS. The first data of this species for Sicily comes from the discovery of some specimens in Monte Pellegrino Dentici & Amata (2018), the species was subsequently observed also in other locations in the province of Palermo.

CONCLUSIONS

This article is only a first approach to the knowledge of the Mount Pellegrino araneofauna. Certainly, the study will be continued in a more systematic and in-depth way. The data collected so far have enriched a little more the knowledge of the araneofauna of my region and the data that I found by immersing myself in this work push me to continue this research. Furthermore, the samplings also involved other Orders of the great Class of Arachnidae, and therefore this will be a first step towards future studies aimed at a greater knowledge of the Arachnofauna of the Sicily itself.

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