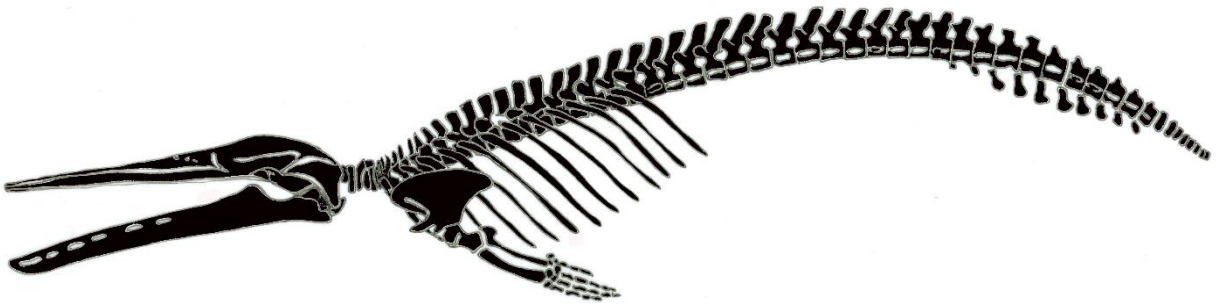
PALEODAYS 2022

XXII Edizione delle Giornate di Paleontologia

8-10 giugno 2022 – Asti (AT)



VOLUME DEI RIASSUNTI

&

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Mollusks associated to coralligenous build-ups: preliminary results from CRESCIBLUREEF project

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Coralligenous forms biogenic framework mainly made by crustose coralline algae and, to a lesser extent, by skeletonized invertebrates. This complex and very heterogeneous habitat supports a rich fauna that belongs to various taxonomic groups, among which mollusks are the most common vagile and sessile organisms. However, the malacofauna of the coralligenous has been poorly studied due to the complexity of this habitat compared to the well-studied soft bottom assemblages. The FISR project CRESCIBLUREEF – "Grown in the blue: new technologies for knowledge and conservation of Mediterranean reefs" is aimed at exploring the components, growth rate and accretion style of the Mediterranean coralligenous bioconstructions. In this framework, we collected two discrete build-ups offshore Marzamemi (Ionian Sea, Sicily) at a depth of 36 m and 37 m respectively, from which we recovered all the alive and dead mollusks from the surface. At 36 m coralligenous was collected where the habitat was very dense, whereas at 37 m was in the middle of a sedimentary channel dominated by coarse, mostly biogenic, sediments. Here we present the preliminary results on living mollusks and thanatocoenoses with the list of the identified species. CBR2_3_7C presents 64 species (36 bivalves, 28 gastropods), among which 9 alive, whereas CBR2_4_21C presents 49 species (31 bivalves, 18 gastropods), among which 8 alive. Shannon Indexes are 3.66 and 3.42 respectively, whereas Pielou's Evenness is 0.88 for both. Both samples present species not in common (31 for CBR2_3_7C and 15 for CBR2_4_21C), and Bray-Curtis similarity is 57.2. These preliminary results lead to consider that mollusk biodiversity associated to coralligenous is high and responds with different associations for different types of coralligenous.