

I molluschi acquatici e terrestri del Bronzo Antico e del Bronzo Medio al Lavagnone (BS). Un approccio metodologico

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Summary

The present work traces a methodological path in the study of complex mollusc populations, such as the ensemble of land snails and fresh-water molluscs present at Lavagnone. The molluscs lying for natural agencies are considered separately from the ones that have been carried there by prehistoric men. The land snail population denotes an open and sunny environment with herbaceous vegetation. Fresh-water Gastropoda are typical of lenitic environments and lacustrine shores protected by *Phragmition*. In sector A, the levels of Early Bronze 1A and 1B are richer in fresh-water molluscs, as likewise is the sector B in the levels of Early Bronze 1C and 2. In the more recent phases of the Bronze Age, the tendency was towards an increase in the land-snail population, but this emerges clearly only from the sector of Middle Bronze 2A. The larger Bivalvia, *Pseudunio auricularius*, *Unio mancus*, *Microcondylea bonellii* have different ecological

requirements; their presence can be ascribed to different gathering sites. Many classes of size are present connected with an undifferentiated gathering way. *U. mancus* and *M. bonellii* may be referred to natural populations living in the Lago di Garda. Consumption took place on the site of Lavagnone, there being a balanced ratio between the left and right valves of both species.

The dispersion of specimen of these two species in the sectors A and B shows a very low density per m² without particular areas of accumulation.

Finally, the low frequency of *U. mancus* and *M. bonellii* in the older levels leads to the supposition of a decay in the structure of calcite and aragonite of the shells, which can be connected to the edaphic characteristics of the deposit.

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