



Manuel de La Riva

e-distribuzione
per la biodiversità

Progetto LIFE Egyptian Vulture

Convegno finale

THE EGYPTIAN VULTURE IN ITALY
status and prospects

Alessandro Andreotti

TREND IN ITALY: THE BREEDING RANGE



Source: Andreotti & Leonardi 2009 – Italian action plan for the Egyptian vulture



early 20th century



70's

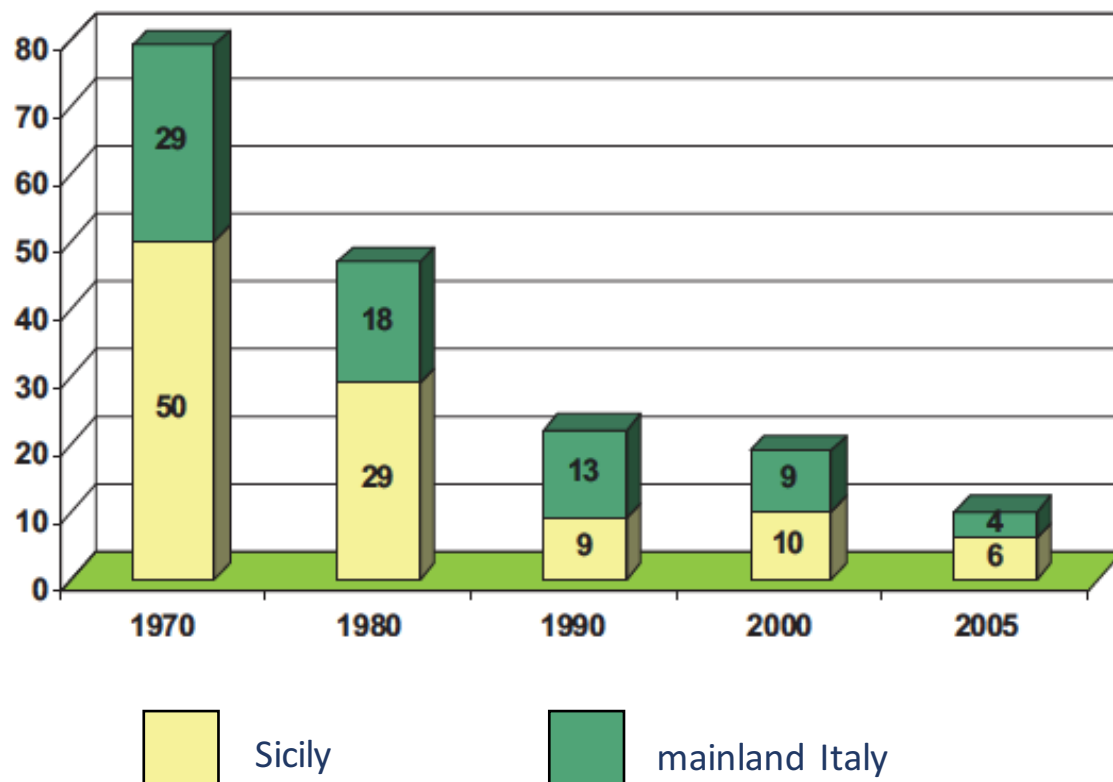


90's

TREND IN ITALY: THE BREEDING POPULATION



Source: Andreotti & Leonardi 2009 – Italian action plan for the Egyptian vulture



STATUS IN ITALY



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STATUS IN SICILY (2016-2021)



7-10 breeding sites

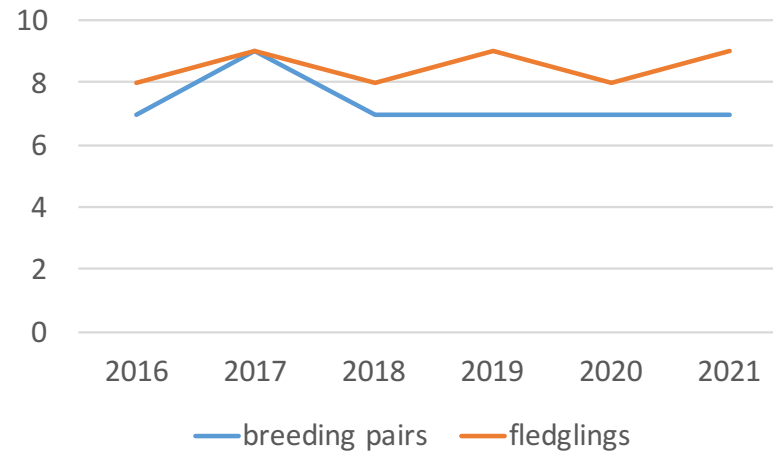
Source: LIFE ConRaSi



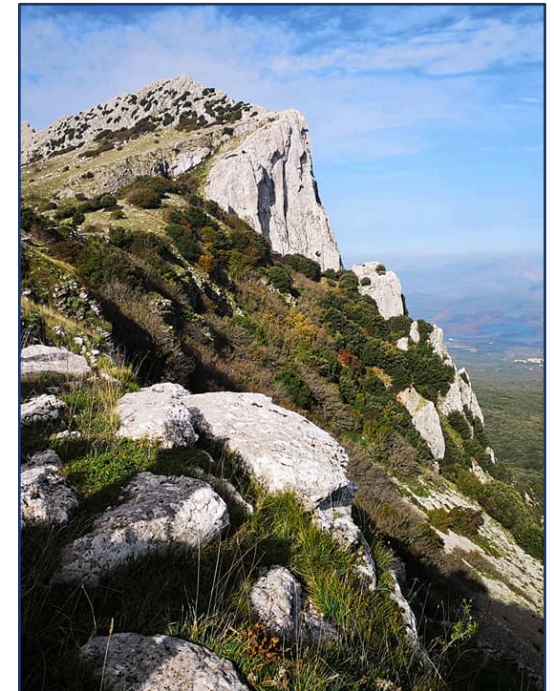
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PRODUCTIVITY IN SICILY



Source: LIFE ConRaSi



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2016-21
territorial pairs	8	10	8	8	8	9	51
breeding pairs	7	9	7	7	7	7	44
successful pairs	7	6	6	7	6	7	39
fledglings	8	9	8	9	8	9	51
breeding success	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.2

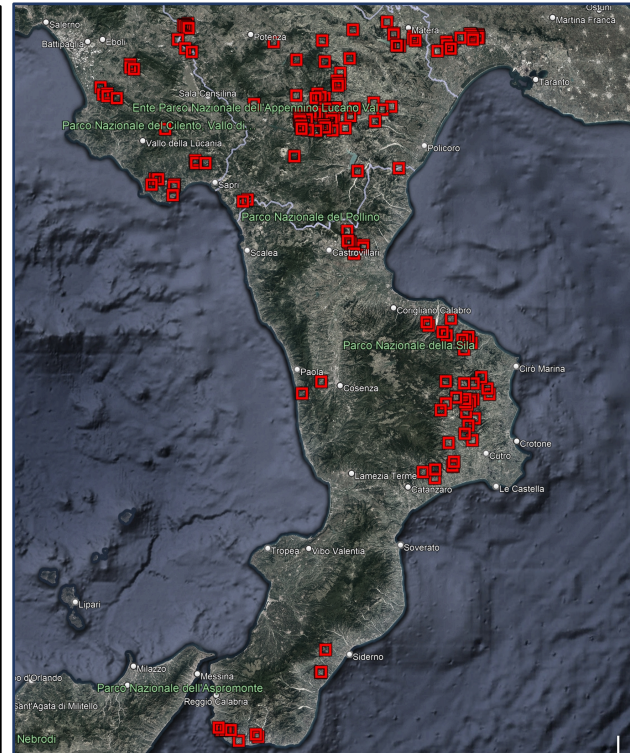


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STATUS ON MAINLAND ITALY (2018-2023)

Breeding pairs **204 sites surveyed in the historical breeding range (Campania, Basilicata, Apulia, Calabria)**



Source: LIFE Egyptian vulture

4 breeding sites

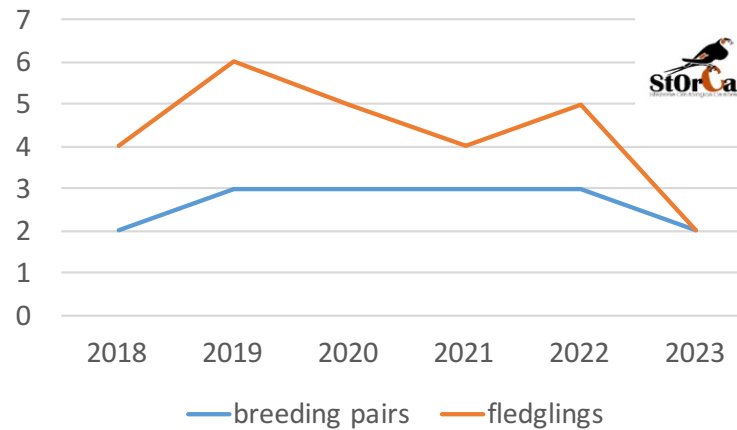


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PRODUCTIVITY ON MAINLAND ITALY

Source: LIFE Egyptian vulture



	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2018-23
territorial pairs	2	3	3	3	4	2	17
breeding pairs	2	3	3	3	3	2	16
successful pairs	2	3	3	2	3	2	15
fledglings	4	6	5	4	5	2	26
breeding success	2.0	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.7	1.0	1.6



STATUS ON MAINLAND ITALY

Non-reproductive individuals



Season 2022

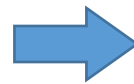
42 sightings on mainland Italy

35 sightings in the breeding area

7 adults/sub-adults + 2-3 juveniles

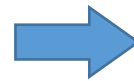


24 juveniles
born in the
wild
2017-2021



10-11 individuals
6 in Europe

20 juveniles
released
2017-2021



7-8 individuals
4 in Europe



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STATUS IN SARDINIA



LACK OF HISTORICAL DATA FROM SARDINIA

Enrico Hillyer Giglioli

Avifauna Italica
Le Monnier, Firenze, 1886

“È davvero notevole la completa assenza di questa specie dalla Sardegna, che in Italia è il paese prediletto degli avvoltoi.”

“It is really remarkable the complete absence of this species in Sardinia that is the region preferred by vultures in Italy.”



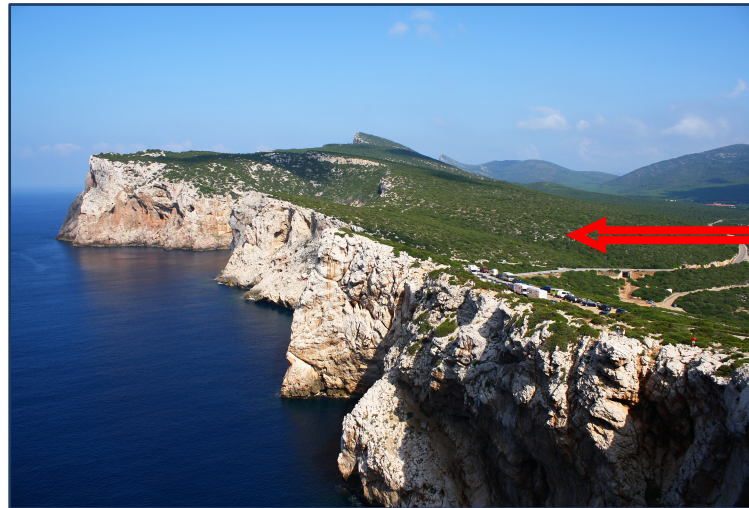
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STATUS IN SARDINIA



2019: first evidences of breeding



Source: LIFE Under Griffon Wings & LIFE Safe for Vultures



Progetto LIFE19NAT/IT/000732
LIFE SAFE for VULTURES
First step to the restoration of the vulture guild in Sardinia
Primo passo verso il ripristino della gilda dei vulturidi in Sardegna



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STATUS IN SARDINIA



Sporadic sightings: 1 adult in 2005 and 1 sub-adult in 2018

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2019-23
breeding pairs	1	1	1	1	1	5
fledglings	1	1	n.a	n.a.	1	3

Source: LIFE Under Griffon Wings & LIFE Safe for Vultures



Progetto LIFE19NAT/IT/000732
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WINTERING



- sporadic records of wintering individuals in the 20th century
- an increasing number of birds has been observed in the last winters, up to 3 birds in the winter 2015-16 (Di Vittorio et al. 2016)
- Five captive-bred individuals have wintered in Italy (2009-2022)



MIGRATION



Two main bottlenecks in areas with intense illegal killing of birds (IKB)



CONCLUDING REMARKS



- Despite its small size, the Italian population has been stable since 2005
- Breeding pairs show a high breeding success and yet the population is not increasing
- Human-related mortality can likely explain the demographic stability
- Actions aimed at reducing the main threats should be considered a top priority
- Efforts should be made to preserve the species both in Sicily and on mainland Italy to reduce the risk of extinction
- Specific actions should be aimed at promoting the creation of a new population in Sardinia



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**Thank you for
your attention**