



V European Congress of Mammalogy

**Siena, Italy
21-26 September 2007**

2nd Circular

Invitation

We announce with pleasure that the 5th European Congress of Mammalogy will be held in Siena (Tuscany), Italy, from the 21st to the 26th of September 2007 (**Attention:** take notice that the initial venue has been changed from that given in the first circular!). The principal host of the congress is the University of Siena, in co-operation with the *Societas Europaea Mammalogica*. The organisers look forward to welcoming you to Italy and hope that you will enjoy your stay in Siena, a city of great artistic value.

Ernesto Capanna – University of Rome “La Sapienza”
Sandro Lovari – University of Siena



University of
Siena



University of Rome
“La Sapienza”

Background

The European Congresses of Mammalogy aim to bring together mammalian biologists from European and also non-European countries. The relaxed and friendly atmosphere of these congresses provides an excellent opportunity to hear the latest developments in various fields of mammalogy, to share research experience and expertise, and to develop new and closer contacts with colleagues from different countries. Following the successful congresses in Lisbon (1991), Southampton (1995), Jyväskylä (1999) and Brno (2003), it is now the turn of a Mediterranean country to host this exciting event and to invite mammalogists to the 5th European Congress of Mammalogy (ECM5) in Siena.

Emblem



The wild boar depicted in the Congress emblem comes from an ancient Etruscan coin (Populonia, 4th Century b.C.; Archaeological Museum, Florence).

Location and Dates



In our message of Oct. 10, 2006, we pointed out that “Italy is a somewhat unpredictable country”. We knew what we talked about. You will be surprised to know that the congress date has come back to the original 21st – 26th of September 2006. This second change of date depends on the actual unavailability of a venue, which had been originally promised to us, but which turned out not to be available later on. We are now positive that we have definitely overcome the not negligible snag of missing an appropriate venue!

The Congress location will be the “Centro Didattico Policlinico S.Maria Le Scotte” in San Miniato, Siena.

The Congress will start with registration and Welcome party, on Friday, September 21, and will close on Wednesday, September 26. There will be an optional Congress Excursion on the 27th of September.

Scientific Programme

The official language of the congress will be English.

The Congress will focus on various aspects of research carried out on European mammals. Contributions from other parts of the world will also be welcomed. The Congress will include plenary and standard sessions, workshops and a poster session. The Congress will also provide an appropriate opportunity for meetings of IUCN/SSC specialist groups.

The submitted papers will be organized into four standard sessions: Rodents and Lagomorphs; Insectivores and Bats; Ungulates; Carnivores.

Submission of abstracts

Participants wishing to give an oral presentation or to present a poster should submit an informative abstract. The preferred mode for the submission of abstracts is through the congress website (www.euromammalcongress.org).

You can send your form by e-mail to submission@euromammalcongress.org or by fax (n°+39-0577 232825), only if you have problems with the on-line submission).

When submitting your abstract, please, indicate on the registration form whether you wish it to be considered for an oral presentation or a poster, and in which session/workshop you would like your presentation to be included.

Submitted abstracts will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee and the authors will be notified of their decision by June 30, 2007.

Any question concerning abstract submission and the scientific programme in general should be asked to the Chairs:

Sandro Lovari lovari@unisi.it

Ernesto Capanna ernesto.capanna@uniroma1.it

Please notice that no abstract will be included in the programme until payment of your registration fee has been received by the Congress secretariat.

Please, check the English before submitting your abstract! The Scientific Committee will evaluate the scientific content of the abstract and will not correct the language.

Sessions:

- A. Rodents and Lagomorphs;
- B. Insectivores and Bats;
- C. Ungulates
- D. Carnivores

Workshops

Each workshop will last 3 hours and its organisation will be the responsibility of the conveners. If you are interested, contact directly the workshops Organizers.

Saturday, 22:

1. *Competition in Lagomorph species: a multidisciplinary approach* - K. Hacklaender <klaus.hacklaender@boku.ac.at>, A. Meriggi <meriggi@unipv.it>
2. *Genes, Chromosomes and populations : a Symposium in honour of Nicolai N. Vorontsov* – V. Volobouev <vitaly@mnhn.fr>, E. Capanna <ernesto.capanna@uniroma1.it>
3. *Rodent-borne viruses: from field to genes* - H. Henttonen <heikki.henttonen@metfla.fi>, J. Laakkonen <juha.laakkonen@metiz.fi>, A. Plyusnin <alexander.plyusnin@helsinki.fi>

Sunday, 25:

4. *Phylogeography in Southern Europe: The role of glacial refuges in shaping mammalian genetic diversity* - A. Grill <grill@science.uva.nl>, E. Randi <met0217@iperbole.bologna.it>
5. *Remote sensing in mammalian studies: aims, methods and results* - L. Baskin <baskin@orc.ru>, V. Radeloff <radeloff@wisc.edu>
6. *Mammals and their metazoan parasites: Are there general rules?* - B. R. Krasnov <krasnov@bgu.ac.il>

Monday, 24:

7. *Large herbivores and their effects on animal community composition, diversity and abundance* - R. Andersen <reidar.andersen@bio.ntnu.no>

8. *Island mammals* - J.Gurnell <j.gurnell@qmul.ac.uk>
9. *Mammal conservation in Europe: status and priorities* - G. Amori <giovanni.amori@uniroma1.it>, B.Krystufek <boris.krystufek@zrs-kp.si>, T. Mitchell-Jones <tony.Mitchell-jones@english-nature.org.uk>

Tuesday, 25:

10. *Non-lethal methods to manage wildlife* - T. Roper <t.j.roper@sussex.ac.uk>, G. Massei <g.massei@csl.gov.uk>
11. *Mammal conservation in Europe: strategies and delivery* - G. Amori <giovanni.amori@uniroma1.it>, B.Krystufek <boris.krystufek@zrs-kp.si>, T. Mitchell-Jones <tony.Mitchell-jones@english-nature.org.uk>
12. *Role of long-term studies and experimentation in mammalian life histories* – H. Ylönen <hylonen@byti.jyu.fi>, H. Hofer <hofer@izw-berlin.de>

Wednesday, 26:

13. *Radio tracking: problems and opportunities* - S. Walls <sean@biotrack.co.uk> - Biotrack Ltd
14. *Alien mammals* - S. Roy <s.roy@csl.gov.uk>, P. Genovesi <piero.genovesi@infs.it>, M. Clout <m.clout@auckland.ac.nz>
15. *Non-invasive genetic methods for monitoring populations of elusive mammalian species* - P. Taberlet <pierre.taberlet@ujf-grenoble.fr>, E.Randi <met0217@iperbole.bologna.it>

Oral presentations (standard sessions)

There will be 33 oral presentations.

Each paper will be allotted 15 minutes for presentation plus 5 minutes for questions.

Chairmen will be responsible for keeping the schedule on time. Overhead and slide/power point projection facilities will be available in all lecture rooms. Speakers requiring any additional equipment should inform the Congress Secretariat well in advance.

A slide/power point room and technical help will be available for speakers each day from 8.00 to 8.30 a.m. and from 2.30 to 3.00 p.m. (but for the excursion day) to hand slides and CDs to the projectionist.

Posters

It is possible to submit posters also on Mammalian Orders not included in the four main sessions. Posters will be displayed in a hall, next to the lecture rooms, allowing frequent visits during the breaks. There will also be a specific Poster Session, where you will be able to discuss directly with the authors.

The size of the poster will be 70x100 cm (length x height). When preparing a poster, please, keep the text concise and the lettering no smaller than 5-7 mm. The best posters have no more than 3-4 figures or tables, and very short Introduction, Mat. And Methods, Results and Discussion of no more than 5500 characters, in total!

Special Prize

The Maremma Regional Park Agency will donate a prize of 1000€ to the author(s) of the poster with the greatest conservation meaning.

Deadlines

- **Registration Fee and Abstract Submission:**
30th March, 2007
- **Oral Presentation/Poster Acceptance:**
30th June, 2007

Registration

All conference participants must register on-line (www.euromammalcongress.org) and pay the appropriate registration fee. You can send your form by e-mail to registration@euromammalcongress.org or by fax (n°+39-0577 232825), if you have problems with the on-line submission.

Registration Fee

Efforts have been made to keep the costs down and to offer reduced fee rates for students and for participants from developing Country (according to the World Bank table, cf. ATTACHMENT). Participants who register later than 30th March, 2007 (deadline has been changed), will have to pay an extra.

The registration fee for Full members and Students will include: Welcome party, 4 light lunches, coffee and tea breaks, “*Madrigalisti senesi*” concert, Farewell Banquet, Congress excursion to Siena city centre, abstracts volume, registration certificate and access to scientific sessions and workshops. Accompanying person registration fee will include Welcome party, 4 light lunches, coffee break and tea breaks, “*Madrigalisti senesi*” concert and the Farewell Banquet. Tickets for the excursion to Maremma Regional park are extra (i.e. not included) the registration fee and will be paid during the Congress. However, to help us with event planning, please, check the appropriate box in the registration form to let us know which events you will be attending. Tickets may be purchased also for Accompanying persons.

	Rich Country			Developing Country *		
Registration Fee	Full Member	Certified Student	Accompanying person	Full Member	Certified Student	Accompanying person
Standard fee (by 28/02/07)	350	200	150€	250€	100€	100€
Late registration	500	300	300€	300€	130€	200€

Payment must be made on-line. Please, avoid multiple payment (i.e. more than one person at the same time). If you have problems contact <corsir@unisi.it>.

A short history of the city of Siena

Siena, like many other Tuscan hill towns, was first settled in the time of the Etruscans (c. 900 BC to 400 BC) when it was inhabited by a tribe called the Saina. What we can say for certain is that the Romans founded a town called Saenna Julia on the site of a pre-existing Etruscan settlement, and from this has grown modern Siena. Later on, Siena was under the rule of the Lombards and the Franks, becoming a prosperous town. In the early 12th century a self-governing commune replaced the earlier aristocratic government, until the Town was conquered by Florence in the mid- 13th century. Siena was devastated by the Black Death of 1348 and never recovered its earlier glory, losing out to Florence in inter-urban rivalry. Siena's university was founded in 1203 and it is one of the most ancient universities in Italy. Siena rivalled Florence in the arts through the 13th and 14th centuries. This picturesque city remains an important cultural centre, especially for humanistic disciplines.

Most museums at Siena require an entry fee.



Travel

International flights to Pisa airport are very frequent from all countries. A bus service (approximately 20 €; you must reserve it beforehand but you can pay directly to the hostess in the bus, cf. reg. form) will be provided directly from Pisa airport (Galileo Galilei) and Florence airport (A. Vespucci) to the Congress venue in Siena, at two different hours of the day (21 September). The same will be arranged for the departure day (27 September). Otherwise, Pisa is connected to Siena by railway (for timetable look: www.trenitalia.it, but remember: unexpected events may actually be expected with Italian railways: delays, strikes, etc.).

Also Rome airport (Fiumicino - Leonardo da Vinci) is connected with the main railway (Rome termini) and a public bus service connects Rome Tiburtina to Siena (for timetable see: www.sena.it). Siena can be reached by train from France (via Genoa - Pisa) and from Switzerland and Germany (via Milan). A bus will connect the train station in Siena with the Congress Centre, on the first day. Car rentals are available across the region, but it is better to make reservations well in advance. Travelling by car is rather expensive, but it can be a good solution to move across the beautiful countryside of Tuscany.

Please mark on the registration form your dates of arrival and departure and how you plan to arrive.

Accommodation

See web site (*pending*) for detailed information.

Meals

Light lunches, coffee breaks and tea breaks will be offered during the Congress.
Dinners will not be included.

Social Events

On the first day you will be offered a **Welcome Party**. On Tuesday evening, 25th of September, there will be the **Concert of the “Madrigalisti Senesi”** and the **Farewell Banquet**.

The “Madrigalisti Senesi” Polyphonic Group was established in 1950, by the Count G. Chigi Saracini (1880-1965): a worldwide famous, generous patron of Italian classical music and musicians, from Siena.

The “Madrigalisti Senesi” Polyphonic Group, formed by amateur singers, has specialised in Renaissance polyphony. The group repertoire is based particularly on the ancient Italian polyphony, sacred and profane, but it also includes Gregorian chants, Laudas, Romanticistic, modern and contemporary music. Over the last decade, concerts have been given in Munich, Garmisch, Landshut, Berlin, Barcelona, Madrid, Bordeaux, Bastia, New York and Manila, beside participating in numerous international and national festivals.

In the last sixty years, several renowned chorus-masters have directed this group: A. Morosini, G. Giustarini and, since 1992, Elisabetta Miraldi.

A daily bus service connects Siena to Florence (for updated timetables look www.trainspa.it).

Congress Escursions

A Congress excursion will be arranged on the evening of the 25th to Siena city centre.

On the 27th of September there will be an excursion to sites of great naturalistic value, in the Maremma Regional Park, but you should book in advance for it.

MAREMMA REGIONAL PARK

The Park (nearly 10 000 hectares) spreads from the town of Principina a Mare, to the north, up to the Talamone headland, to the south. The main part of the Park is characterised by the Uccellina Hills, a chain of hills parallel to the coast and covered by thick Mediterranean scrubwood. The northern area of the Park is flat and characterised by flood-lands formed by the sediments transported by the river Ombrone.

Near the river you can see wetlands, the origin of which could have been the progressive moving forward of the beach. The coast, for about 20 kilometres, is a succession of sandy shores, stretching from the Ombrone mouth to Cala di Forno, where the Uccellina hills create cliffs which continue up to Talamone headland. The territory of the park includes a variety of habitats, such as pastureland, Mediterranean scrubwood, rocky areas, pine-wood, marshes and sandy dunes. A backpack and binoculars may be useful.

Be aware that local mosquitoes may benefit from your company, but probably not vice versa!



Weather

In early September, during the day, the local weather is usually warm ($\geq 20^{\circ}$ C). The conference halls will be air-conditioned. Inclement weather, e.g. rainfall, is possible and should be blamed on climate change (not on the organisers).

Shopping

The *Societas Europaea Mammalogica* suggests that participants at the 5ECM should not move away from the Conference halls to go sightseeing and shopping! Therefore, no relevant information will be provided here, but participants may wish to find out themselves....

Insurance

The Conference organisers will not arrange any kind of insurance for the participants or accompanying persons. Participants are requested to make their own arrangements concerning insurance.

Up-dated information on the congress organisation will be available on the website www.euromammalcongress.org

We look forward to seeing you in Siena next year!

Warmest regards, *Ernesto and Sandro*

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PLENARY LECTURE SPEAKERS

Luigi Boitani (*opening lecture*) <luigi.boitani@uniroma1.it>
Eladio Fernandez Galiano <eladio.fernandez-galiano@coe.int>
Marco Festa-Bianchet <marco.festa-bianchet@usherbrooke.ca>
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V ECM LOCATION

CENTRO DIDATTICO POLICLINICO SANTA MARIA LE SCOTTE
4, Strada Le Scotte - San Miniato

