



Annual report 2023

Herbarium RO Museum

Sapienza University of Rome

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SAPIENZA HERBARIUM MUSEUM

DIRECTOR: Donatella Magri

CURATOR: Caterina Giovinazzo

STAFF: Agnese Tilia e Maurizio Pierfranceschi

MUSEUM BOARD: Alessandra Celant e Mauro Iberite

VOLUNTEERS Maria Serlupi Crescenzi e Giovanni Buccomino

CIVIL VOLUNTEER: Riccardo Basilici

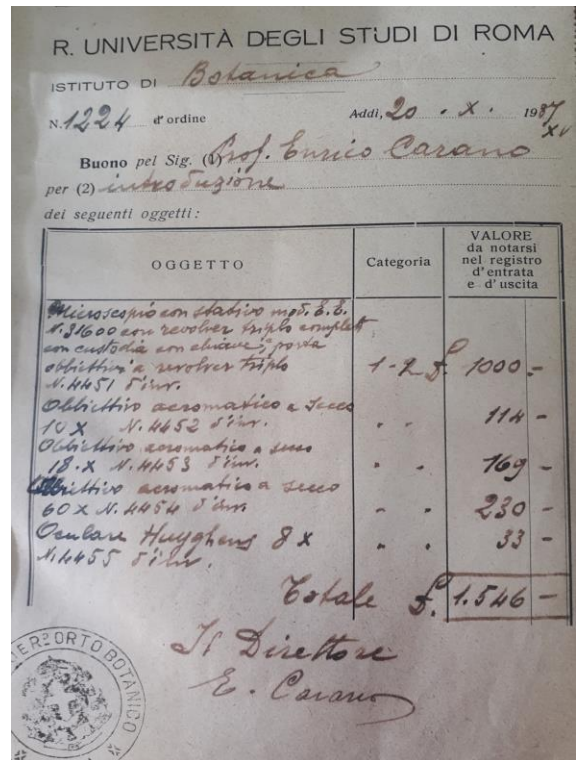
Collaborators

- The Herbarium Museum was awarded a collaboration grant by the Faculty, assigned to the student Elena Marini, who was entrusted with the care of the Lattanzi Collection.



Reorganization, restoration, cataloging and digitization of the algological collection of Vincenzo Cesati (HC Algae)

- Civil Volunteer Riccardo Basilici began his year of activity on 6 June 2023. His task is the reorganization, restoration, cataloging and digitization of the algological collection of Vincenzo Cesati (HC Algae). As of 31 December 2023, the first ten parcels of the collection, corresponding to green algae (Chlorophyta), have been restored and reordered according to the reference text (De Toni, Sylloge Algarum, 1891-1907).
- Volunteer Giovanni Buccomino undertook the arrangement of the Montelucci Collection (HM). In particular, he is arranging the unsorted material present in the appendix to the collection, ordered according to Durand (1888). This material consists of a large number of plant samples still pressed in newspapers, along with autograph notes by Giuliano Montelucci on collection location, as well as specimens that had already mounted on herbarium sheets. All recovered specimens will be included in the ordered collection and cataloged.



Arrangement of the Montelucci Collection (HM) (left) and historical documents of the Herbarium Museum (right).

- Volunteer Maria Serlupi Crescenzi started going through a series of documents kept in the Museum that dated from 1828 to 1975. The collection includes ancient catalogues and documents pertaining to the activities of the Royal Institute and Botanical Garden of Rome. These materials reveal a highly active global interchange with botanical gardens and scientific institutions. The correspondence and the exciting history of the Institute are traced in the Protocol records (1918–50 and 1950–60) up to the opening of the University Campus (1935).

Co-operation with external organizations

- Students from the Costume e Moda Academy in Rome have visited the Herbarium to complete a report on the topic of "Botanic Wondress" for the Master's in High Fashion,. On this occasion, contact was established with the Academy for possible future co-operative agreements.
- An agreement has been signed with the General House of the Sisters of Charity, which were established by Saint Jeanne Antide Thouret. The objective of the agreement is to examine, preserve, digitize, and enhance a nineteenth-century herbarium that is under the ownership of the General House.



*Reorganization, restoration,
cataloging and digitization of the
Collection
“Sisters of Charity”*

Cataloging and digitization

- A new QR code that is one square centimeter in size has been developed with the assistance of IT engineer Francesco Iberite. This smaller code will not have as much of an impact, particularly on small or old specimens.
- The collection SEPV (*Société pour l'Échange des Plantes Vasculaires de l'Europe Occidentale et du Bassin Méditerranéen*), composed by 8855 specimens, has been completely restored and digitized.
- The reorganization of the Anzalone Herbarium (HA) has been completed, following the *Flora d'Italia* by Pignatti (1982). It consists of 37,706 specimens arranged in 357 parcels. A number of 38 students of Environmental Sciences and Natural Sciences were involved in the activity.
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Digitization Laboratory of the Sapienza Herbarium Museum.

Outreach activities

- Virtual exhibition involving staff from the Herbarium Museum, the Officine Museali, and alumni and students from Sapienza were organized:
 - The Sapienza Herbarium
 - Apiaceae - Fruits, small sculptures
 - Ferns from the Cesati Collection (19th century)
- “May is Museum Month”: the Sapienza Herbarium Museum was open to the public, seniors, families, and botany fans. Approximately 400 people attended guided tours of the Herbarium Museum on May 13 from 4 p.m. until midnight. Four new bookmarks were made on that occasion, all of them had to do with the collections of the Herbarium.



New bookmarks of the Herbarium Museum

- The new collection of the *Herbarium Albanicum* was presented during the conference "In the footsteps of Baldacci - The Albanian Herbarium after 10 years of exploration" on May 29, 2023, in the Marini Bettolo room of the Department of Environmental Biology. This is the result of ten years of intensive floristic collections, study, and excursions conducted in Albania as part of international programs overseen by the Botanical Garden of Rome.
- Apart from the guided tours, the automated satisfaction counter recorded 2,525 replies, indicating an 82% positive rate, for visits to the Laboratory of the Herbarium's virtual exhibitions.

MUSEO ERBARIO
HERBARIUM
OFFICINE MUSEALI

"Sulle orme di Baldacci
L'Erbario Albanese dopo 10 anni di
esplorazioni"

Conferenza
Proiezione documentario
«Rrugë e mirë – a botanical expedition»
Lunedì 29 maggio 2023 | h. 15:00
Sala Marini Bettolo | Ed. Botanica | CU 022

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SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

Educational activities

- The students from the following Programs at Sapienza University visited the Herbarium:
 - Plant Systematics and Conservation (Biological Sciences)
 - Systematic Botany (Natural Sciences).
 - Pharmaceutical botany (Applied Pharmaceutical Sciences).
 - Master's "Science in Journalistic Practice".
- Internship activities were completed by David Salge, a student enrolled in the Master's program in "Environment and Territory Studies - Environmental Humanities" at the University of Rome 3's Faculty of Letters, Faculty of Letters and Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, Communication and Entertainment. David assembled 107 species from around Rome to form what he called a "Unruly Herbarium".



"Unruly Herbarium" by David Salge

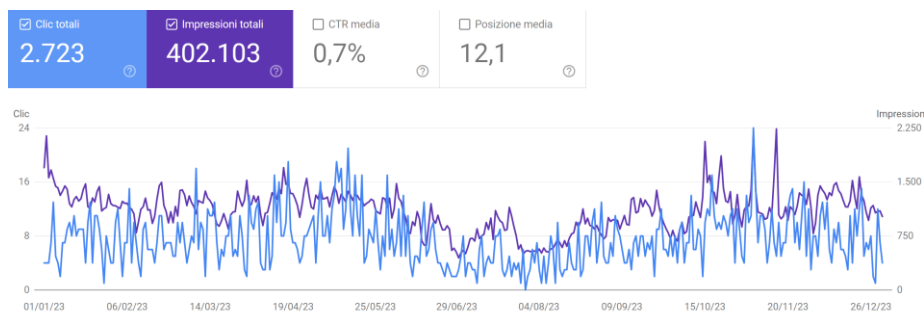
- 49 students of Natural Sciences and Environmental Sciences carried out their curricular internship activities, being engaged in the following projects formalized on the JobSoul portal:
 - **Conservation and digitization of the collections of the Sapienza Herbarium Museum:** care of the exsiccata collections preserved at the Museum through activities of preparation, restoration, reordering, filing, and digitization of the specimens using a planetary scanner.
 - **Cataloging and multimedia in the Sapienza Herbarium Museum:** management and archiving of images and participation in virtual exhibitions of the Herbarium Laboratory, with outreach activities.

Excursions

- The Herbarium Museum participates in the annual excursions organized by the Floristics, Systematics and Evolution Group of the Italian Botanical Society. The conservator, Agnese Tilia, participated in the excursion to the Ligurian Alps of Imperia, collecting over 150 plant specimens.

Web page

- The web page of the Herbarium Museum Museo Erbario <https://web.uniroma1.it/erbario> was constantly updated. In 2023, the web page received 2,723 clicks and appeared in search pages 402,103 times.
- The Herbarium Museum Museo Erbario's website, <https://web.uniroma1.it/erbario>, was updated regularly. The website received 2,723 clicks in 2023 and 402,103 listings on search pages.



Trend of visits to the web page <https://web.uniroma1.it/erbario>

Publications.

The Herbarium Museum participated in the following publications:

- Park, D.S., Feng, X., Akiyama, S., Ardiyani, M., Avendaño, N., Barina, Z., Bärtschi, B., Belgrano, M., Betancur, J., Bijmoer, R., Bogaerts, A., Cano, A., Danihelka, J., Garg, A., Giblin, D.E., Gogoi, R., Guggisberg, A., Hyvärinen, M., James, S.A., Sebola, R.J., Katagiri, T., Kennedy, J.A., Komil, T.Sh., Lee, B., Lee, S.M.L., Magri, D., Marcucci, R., Masinde, S., Melnikov, D., Mráz, P., Mulenko, W., Musili, P., Mwachala, G., Nelson, B.E., Niezgodá, C., Novoa Sepúlveda, C., Orli, S., Paton, A., Payette, S., Perkins, K.D., Ponce, M.J., Rainer, H., Rasingam, L., Rustiami, H., Shiyán, N.M., Bjorå, C.S., Solomon, J., Stauffer, F., Sumadijaya, A., Thiébaút, M., Thiers, B.M., Tsubota, H., Vaughan, A., Virtanen, R., Whitfeld, T.J.S., Zhang, D., Zuloaga, F.O., Davis, C.C., 2023. *The colonial legacy of herbaria*. *Nature Human Behaviour* 7, 1059–1068. doi:10.1038/s41562-023-01616-7.

- Barone, G., Bajona, E., Bartolucci, F., Cancellieri, L., Caruso, G., Conti, F., Domina, G., Fascetti, S., Franzoni, J., Laface, V.L.A., Pinzani, L., Rosati, L., Scoppola, A., Stinca, A., Tilia, A., Crisafulli, A., 2023. Contribution to the floristic knowledge of Lipari and Panarea Islands (Sicilia, Italy). *Italian Botanist* 16, 59–71. doi:10.3897/italianbotanist.16.113415