

International
Fossil Algae
Association



**13th International Symposium
on Fossil Algae**

Le Castella (KR), Italy, 2-6 September 2024

Third circular

Organizing Committee:

D. BASSO, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy
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Symposium overview

The 13th International Symposium on Fossil algae of the IFAA (International Fossil Algae Association) will be held in Le Castella (Calabria, southern Italy), from 2 to 6 September 2024. The scientific topics will cover any aspects of calcareous algae and microbialites, including biological evolution, present-day and past biogeography, stratigraphic significance, paleoecology, and sedimentogenic role. Because of the central role of calcareous algae in the global carbon budget, especially welcome are contributions aimed at the identification and delimitation in space and time of marine habitats dominated by calcareous algae, across latitudinal gradients and in different (paleo)environmental settings.

The Symposium will be organized by the University of Milano-Bicocca, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, in collaboration with the Crotona Province, managing the Marine Protected Area of “Capo Rizzuto”, the Museum Pélagos, and the Aragonese Fortress of Le Castella, where all scientific sessions will be held. The symposium is sponsored by IAS-International Association of Sedimentologists. Le Castella is a seaside village belonging to the municipality of Isola di Capo Rizzuto, located on the Ionian coast of the Calabria region.

The Crotona basin is situated within the Ionian forearc basin and nestled within the Calabrian accretionary wedge, recording the geological evolution of the area from the Serravallian/Tortonian to the entire Quaternary. The destinations of our post-symposium field trip are the Pliocene cold-seep microbial dominated carbonates occurring in the area of Belcastro and the Pleistocene marine terraces, rich in red calcareous algae, cropping out in the Crotona Peninsula. Due to logistic limitations, the organised field trip will not reach La Vrica GSSP, differently from what stated in the second circular. The organization will provide information to those who wish to personally arrange a visit to La Vrica.

Symposium timeline

13th International Symposium on Fossil Algae Le Castella (KR)

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	September 1, 2024	September 2, 2024	September 3, 2024	September 4, 2024	September 5, 2024	September 6, 2024
Time	Lamezia Airport	Lamezia Airport Le Castella Castle	Le Castella Castle	Le Castella Castle Field trip	Field trip	Field trip
9.00 - 9.30			Symposium	Symposium		
9.30 - 10.30						
10.30 - 10.45			Coffe break	Coffe break	Field trip Capo Colonna	Field trip Belcastro carbonates
10.45 - 11.15						
11.15 - 11.45	Free transfer to Le Castella	Free transfer to Le Castella	Symposium	Meeting for the next IFAA President and Symposia		
12.30 - 13.15	Arrival in Le Castella	Arrival in Le Castella	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
13.15 - 13.45				Free transfer Lamezia		
13.45 - 14.15		Welcome and registration/Lunch				Free transfer to Lamezia
14.15 - 14.30			Symposium			
14.30 - 15.00		Symposium				
15.00 - 15.30				Field trip Le Castella	Field trip Capo Colonna	
15.30 - 15.45		Coffe break	Coffe break			
15.45 - 16.15						
16.15 - 16.45		Symposium	Symposium			
16.45 - 17.00						



Abstract submission

Abstracts should be submitted by email to Prof. Daniela Basso (daniela.basso@unimib.it).
Deadline for abstract submission is July 1, 2024. Acceptance will be communicated within July 3, 2024.
Please edit your abstract preferably with Microsoft Word (.docx or .rtf). Maximum length: two A4-printing pages (no figures, no tables, max 3 references). Template:

Calcareous algae are amazing

(Times New Roman, 13 point, bold)

Name SURNAME¹, Name SURNAME² (Times New Roman, 11 point)

¹University of Hard Rocks, ²Excellence Centre for Blue Ocean (Times New Roman, 9 point)

Key words: water, salt, light

(max 5 key words, Times New Roman, 11 point)

Abstract text (Times New Roman, 11 point)

References (bold Times New Roman, 11 point)

Hrabovský, J., Basso, D., & Doláková, N. (2016). Diagnostic characters in fossil coralline algae (Corallinophycidae: Rhodophyta) from the Miocene of southern Moravia (Carpathian Foredeep, Czech Republic). *Journal of Systematic Palaeontology*, 14:499-525. (Times New Roman, 10 point)

Registration fees

Symposium registration fees cover coffee breaks and lunches during the symposium (September 2-3), and an abstract volume. The registration fee for the field trip covers the transfers and the lunches (September 4-6). A limited number of free transfers are available on a first-come-first-served basis, from Lamezia airport to Le Castella in the morning of 1 and 2 September, and from Le Castella back to Lamezia in the early afternoon of Sept. 4 and on Sept. 6 (see timeline). Please contact the organizers to book your free transfers. The scheme for the registration fees, in Euro, is the following:

Early bird registration within July 8, 2024		
	Symposium only	Symposium & Field-trip
Senior	230	350
Students or ESR/LIC	150	250
Registration between July 9 and deadline August 25, 2024		
	Symposium only	Symposium & Field-trip
Senior	330	450
Students or ESR/LIC	250	350

ESR = Early Stage Researchers. Scientists within 2 years from PhD
LIC = Low-income and Lower Middle-income Countries
(<https://blogs.worldbank.org/opendata/new-world-bank-group-country-classifications-income-level-fy24>)



Registration and payment are mandatory here: <https://cresciblureef.unimib.it/ifaa-2024/>. After opening this web page, read the IFAA2024 pink box and carefully follow the instructions for registration and payment. Separate registration forms and payments are provided for Italian residents and non-residents, for legal reasons. Early birds = low fare registrations are allowed until July 8, 2024. Late registrations are allowed until August 25, however, FOR TECHNICAL/ADMINISTRATIVE REASONS, REGISTRATIONS AND CONNECTED PAYMENTS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED BETWEEN JULY 28 AND AUG. 18, 2024.

Travel information

Climate: the climate during the scheduled dates is usually warm and dry, with mean monthly temperatures around 25°C (min 21°, max 27) and mean monthly rainfalls around 52 mm/month. There is a chance to have a pleasant swim in the clean Calabrian sea: be prepared!

Electricity: the electricity supply in Italy is 220 Volts, 50 Hz.

Visas: all overseas participants must check their nearest Italian Embassy, Consulate or travel agent for information concerning visa requirements.

Reaching Le Castella: the closest airport to Le Castella is Lamezia Terme, where you can arrive from Milano or Rome on daily domestic flights (Lamezia airport: <https://sacal.it/it/lamezia-terme/>).

Car: some hotels may offer the transfer from/to the airport included. We are organizing a limited number of free transfers from Lamezia airport to Le Castella in connection with your flights. Please contact the organizers to book your free transfer. Once in Le Castella, no car is needed for the purpose of the Symposium. However, if you prefer to be independent, you may rent a car at the Lamezia Airport (<https://sacal.it/it/services/autonoleggi-lamezia-terme/>).

Bus: from Lamezia airport you may take the *Romano* bus lines to Catanzaro. Change in Catanzaro and take the bus line direction Crotona (<https://www.autolineeromano.net/linee-regionali>). Only few rides per day stop exactly at Le Castella (check the timetable!). If your bus does not stop at Le Castella, you can always stop at Steccato di Cutro (many rides per day). In the latter case, you will need us to pick you up at Steccato di Cutro, because it takes about 15 minutes by car to Le Castella (no taxi service). Please contact us to arrange your transfer from Steccato to Le Castella, if strictly needed.

It is possible, although not suggested, to reach Le Castella also from Sant'Anna-Crotone airport. This airport has Ryanair flights from Milan-Orio al Serio and Bologna. At this airport there is no regular public transfer to Le Castella and there is only one car rental service (<https://sacal.it/it/services/autonoleggi-crotone/>).

Accommodation: the Le Castella area is a touristic site and offers a range of hotel accommodations, small restaurants, and coffee shops. Suggested hotels are (non-exhaustive list!):

<https://www.hotellabrace.it/>

<https://bilhahotel.it/>

<https://www.hotelannibale.it/>

<https://hotelilcorsaro.it/>

Early September is still a touristic period, therefore, early reservation of your room is warmly recommended.



Important deadlines

July 1, 2024	Submission of abstracts
July 3, 2024	Communication of abstract acceptance
July 8, 2024	Symposium and field trip registration (Early birds)
August 25, 2024	Symposium and field trip registration (Late)

Note: the registration system will be off from July 28 to Aug. 18

Register at <https://cresciblureef.unimib.it/ifaa-2024/>

Do not hesitate to write to daniela.basso@unimib.it for special needs (food, mobility, etc) and further info.

We are looking forward to meeting you in Le Castella!

