

TECHNICAL-SCIENTIFIC INDICATIONS ON THE VEGETAL COMPONENT OF PARCO LIBERO GRASSI

The project for the Parco Libero Grassi must take into account the peculiarities of the area in which it is located, in terms of landscape, geomorphology, potential natural vegetation and biodiversity that currently characterizes it. Ideally it would have to guarantee a sort of ideal connection between the ornamental green of the stretch of coast that characterizes the Foro Italico, the sub natural and semi-natural vegetation that marks the area of Capo Zafferano and the fruit species present in the countryside of the Conca d'Oro and Sicily.

Basically, the project will have to foresee

1. the realization of aspects of Mediterranean scrub vegetation;
2. the creation of an area with traditional Sicilian fruit species with ornamental, productive and biodiversity conservation value;
3. the conservation and management of some aspects of polyphytic herbaceous vegetation;
4. the creation of nuclei, rows, single specimens of exotic species with ornamental function;
5. the creation of a garden of succulents;
6. the creation of a sector of aromatic species.

The visitor who enters the park, following a special path, should meet the extraordinary diversity of shapes, sizes, smells and colors expressed by these types of vegetation.

1. Realization of vegetation aspects of Mediterranean maquis and coastal halophytic species

The Mediterranean maquis is a vegetal formation typically constituted by sclerophyllous species, shrubs and/or trees of small and medium size, mainly evergreen, of variable height from 1 m to 4/5 m, with a thick and intricate undergrowth formed by bushes and climbing species.

Most of the areas affected by the vegetation of Mediterranean maquis develops on the slopes with shallow soil and subject to rapid drainage, on which the formations of the maquis play an important role in defending the soil from erosion by atmospheric agents, ensuring an effective protection from the hydrogeological point of view.

Below is a list of the species to be used:

1. *Arbutus unedo*
2. *Atriplex halimus*
3. *Bupleurum fruticosum*
4. *Ceratonia siliqua*
5. *Chamaerops humilis*
6. *Clematis cirrhosa*
7. *Ephedra fragilis*
8. *Euphorbia dendroides*
9. *Jasminum fruticans*
10. *Limoniastrum monopetalum*
11. *Juniperus macrocarpa*

12. *Juniperus turbinata*
13. *Myrtus communis*
14. *Olea europaea* ssp. *oleaster*
15. *Periploca angustifolia*
16. *Phillyrea angustifolia*
17. *Pinus halepensis*
18. *Pistacia lentiscus*
19. *Pistacia terebinthus*
20. *Retama raetam* subsp. *gussonei*
21. *Rhamnus alternus*
22. *Quercus calliprinos*
23. *Teucrium fruticans*

2. Realization of an area with traditional Sicilian fruit species with ornamental value

1. *Eriobotrya japonica*
2. *Ficus carica*
3. *Morus alba*
4. *Morus nigra*
5. *Opuntia ficus-indica*
6. *Prunus dulcis* (with white and pink flowers)
7. *Punica granatum*

3. Conservation and management of some aspects of polyphytic herbaceous vegetation

The synanthropic vegetation spontaneously settled in the area determines highly expressive spring aspects, coinciding with the period of scalar flowering from March to May. In the area there are different species that give rise to a mixture of shapes, smells, colors that capture the attention of visitors. At the end of May, after the plants have gone to seed, it will be necessary to proceed with the mowing.

Among the species that have settled there are: *Avena sterilis*, *Convolvulus altheoides*, *Convolvulus arvensis*, *Cynara cardunculus* subsp. *cardunculus*, *Daucus carota*, *Echium plantagineum*, *Hirschfeldia incana*, *Galactites tomentosa*, *Glebionis coronaria*, *Malva sylvestris*, *Scolymus grandiflorus*, ecc.

4. Creation of nuclei, rows, single specimens of indigenous and exotic species (trees, shrubs and bushes) with ornamental function

1. *Albizzia julibrissin*^o
1. *Buxus sempervirens*
2. *Ceiba speciosa*

3. *Polygala myrtifolia*
4. *Celtis australis*
5. *Ceratonia siliqua*
6. *Cercis siliquastrum*[°]
7. *Chamaerops humilis*
8. *Dracaena draco*
9. *Duranta erecta*
10. *Erythrina caffra*
11. *Hibiscus syriacus*
12. *Handroanthus heptaphyllus*[°]
13. *Jacaranda mimosifolia*[°]
14. *Lantana camara*
15. *Magnolia grandiflora*[°]
16. *Melaleuca alternifolia*
17. *Melia azedarach*
18. *Nerium oleander*
19. *Olea europaea*
20. *Phoenix dactylifera*
21. *Pinus canariensis*
22. *Pinus halepensis*
23. *Pinus pinaster*
24. *Pistacia atlantica*
25. *Plumbago capensis*
26. *Plumeria rubra*[°]
27. *Sabal bermudana*
28. *Strelitzia nicolaii*[°]
29. *Vitex agnus-castus*
30. *Tamarix africana*
31. *Tamarix gallica*
32. *Viburnum tinus*[°]
33. *Washingtonia filifera*
34. *Washingtonia robusta*
35. *Yucca gigantea*[°]

[°] To be placed in a position sheltered from direct wind.

5. Realization of a garden of succulents

1. *Agave americana*
2. *Agave attenuata*
3. *Agave salmiana*
4. *Agave sisalana*
5. *Aloe arborescens*

6. *Aloe vera*
7. *Aloe saponaria*
8. *Echinocactus grusonii*
9. *Echinocactus ingens*
10. *Euphorbia candelabrum*
11. *Furcraea selloa* "Marginata"
12. *Opuntia ficus-indica*
13. *Opuntia pailana*
14. *Opuntia tomentosa*

6. Realization of an aromatic species sector

1. *Aloysia citrodora*
2. *Coridothymus capitatus*
3. *Helichrysum Italicum*
4. *Laurus nobilis*
5. *Lavandula officinalis*
6. *Lavandula stoechas*
7. *Myrtus communis*
8. *Phlomis fruticosa*
9. *Rhus coriaria*
10. *Salvia fruticosa*
11. *Salvia officinalis*
12. *Salvia rosmarinus*
13. *Santolina rosmarinifolia*
14. *Tagetes lemmonii*

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