

## **ARCHAEOBOTANICAL ANALYSIS OF THE MIDDLE BRONZE AGE VILLAGE OF FILO BRACCIO AT FILICUDI (AEOLIAN ISLANDS, ITALY): SPATIAL ANALYSIS AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF DIFFERENT ACTIVITY AREAS**

**Cosimo D'ORONZO<sup>1</sup>, Angela STELLATI<sup>1</sup>, Girolamo FIORENTINO<sup>1</sup>**

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During 2009 the new archaeological investigations at the middle Bronze Age settlement of Filo Braccio (16<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> century BC) revealed a series of new huts and a multifunctional open area. All the archaeological contexts have been investigated through two different kind of spatial sampling: the first one based on a one metre square grid, and the other one using irregular features connected to the presence of hearth structures and pottery remains. Collected plant macroremains, such as cereals, pulses and grape pips, have been counted and plotted on the settlement plan.

In order to interpret the management of these areas, a functional approach has been carried out. The spatial distribution of seeds shows as the multifunctional open area which was assigned to the processing of cereals (threshing and roasting), while in the huts it is possible to distinguish indirect cooking from storage and refuse areas.

This preliminary study allows us for the first time to shed new light on the uses of the various areas in the Aeolian Bronze Age settlements.

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<sup>1</sup> Laboratory of Archaeobotany and Palaeoecology, Dipartimento di Beni Culturali, Università del Salento, Via D. Birago 64, Lecce, Italy, e-mail: [cosimodoro@alice.it](mailto:cosimodoro@alice.it); [angela.stellati@libero.it](mailto:angela.stellati@libero.it); [girolamo.fiorentino@unisalento.it](mailto:girolamo.fiorentino@unisalento.it)