



IUCN
WORLD PARKS CONGRESS
SYDNEY 2014



The role of PAs for the maintenance of our best food producers

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Protect what you eat;
conserving our food's genetic resources

Stream 4 - Supporting Human Life:
Monday 17 November, 10.30-12.00, Hall 3B2 .

PAs: the «living fridges»

Ecological role:

PAs are the places where the ecological processes can develop more naturally and successfully. Plants, Animals, Herbivores, Carnivores, Scavengers, Minerals, Water act and interact within the natural functioning of the Ecosystems.

BUT

PAs are also places where Ecosystems Services and human activities take place. Agriculture and, in most natural or difficult contexts, animal husbandry, are fully sustained by natural and ecological balanced resources and processes.

Socio-Economical role:

Local and traditional breeds:

Very often in the last decades has been common the abandonment of native species more wild, frugal , strong, easy to breed **but** less productive

Now, many of these breeds have become extinct or threatened with extinction.

The “new” breeds are more productive (need more resources) and can play a completely different ecological role at local scale.




Livestock in a western country:

Italian livestock

Extraordinarily rich in indigenous races and populations of domestic animals. The enormous variety in Italy's climate, from the valleys of the Alps, to plains of Southern Italy, and the populations that made the Italian peninsula their home over the past millennia, have all contributed to this genetic variety that is practically peerless in the rest of the world.

However, beginning in the 1950's, Italy progressively diminished the raising of some indigenous and local races.

Since many of the territories where those breeds were common became Protected Areas, the PAs managers have the great responsibility to conserve the traditional breeds along with the biodiversity targets



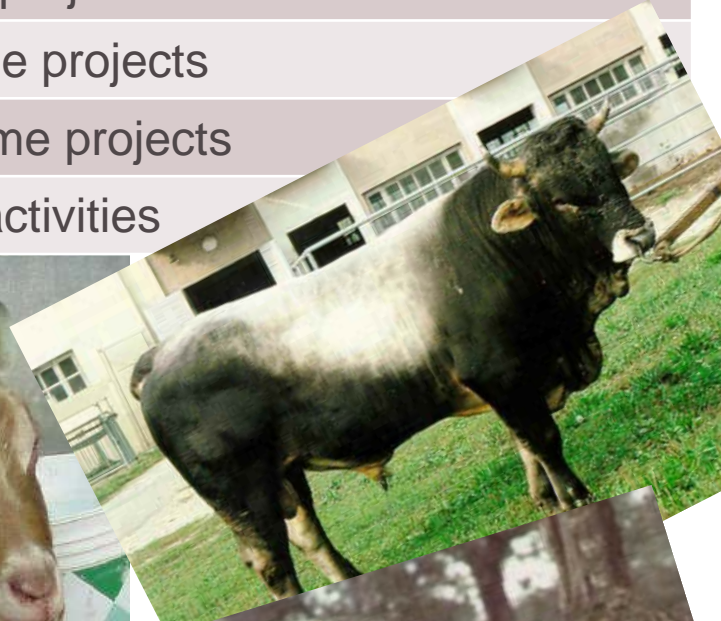
Some examples

Italian breeds and Parks

Many (\pm 100) breeds in many (almost Parks)

Some examples:

Species	#	Parks and activities
Horses and Donkeys	5 (2 critical)	8 few projects
Cows	9 (3 critical)	8 some projects
Sheep	11 (2 critical)	11 some projects
Pigs	2 (1 critical)	2 no activities



Conserving livestock:

Ecological role (ecosystem conservation):

The husbandry (free range) represents a great value for ecological protection of typical species of grassland environments (human-related secondary successions).

The abandonment of grazing has negative effects on biodiversity for the loss of community.

In particular for native communities and wildlife positive correlations between grazing and presence / consistency of many bird species and ungulates have been already demonstrated

Alpine landscape

(according to Google images search)



Conserving livestock:

Landscape conservation role:

The husbandry has a high value for the protection of landscape where agriculture and farming are the distinguishing features .

Loss or decrease of patterns that penalizes the usability and accessibility of the area.

Loss of buildings and other “light infrastructures” that are part of the (e.g. Alpine) landscapes.

Increasing risk of Fire



Conserving livestock:

Cultural heritage conservation role:

Breeds are the result of a long process of domestication and are related to the development of the human population on the territory.

They are therefore fundamental to the story and culture of the people. There is an inseparable relationship between these animal breeds, rural people, traditions, memory.

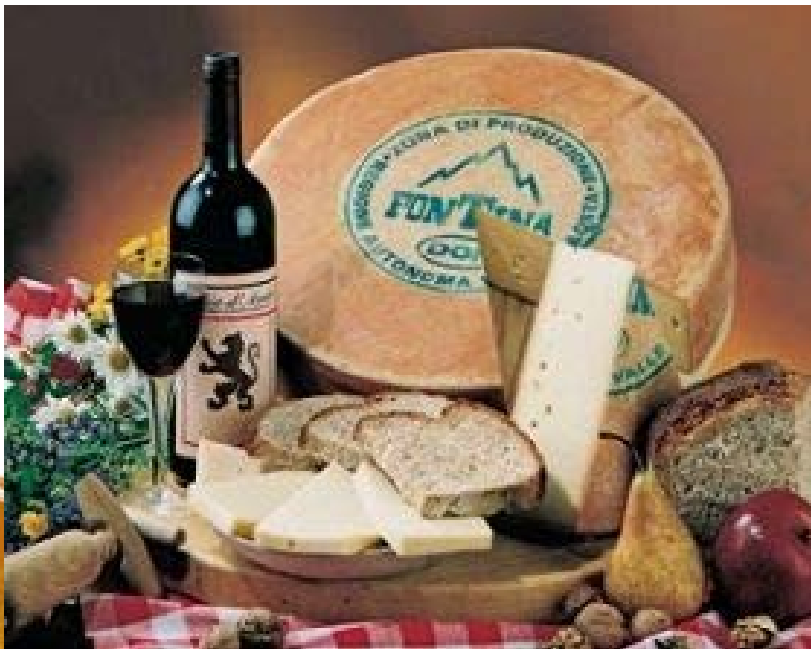


Conserving livestock:

Economical role:

The breeding of indigenous breeds has led to the maintenance and re-discovery of unique food traditions supported by high number of local products linked to various forms of breeding

Local products enhance the local micro-economies .




XLV Festa del Valle d'Aosta
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DOP

www.lardarnadop.it

28-29-30-31
AGOSTO 2014

PAAs & husbandry

PAAs as keepers of enabling conditions

- Managing and maintaining biodiversity
 - Promoting local activities (also at wider scale)
 - Signing agreements with other bodies
 - Working with local and non-local stakeholders
 - Financing Pilot projects
 - Producing food?
 - Selling goods?
 - Breeding cattle?
- 

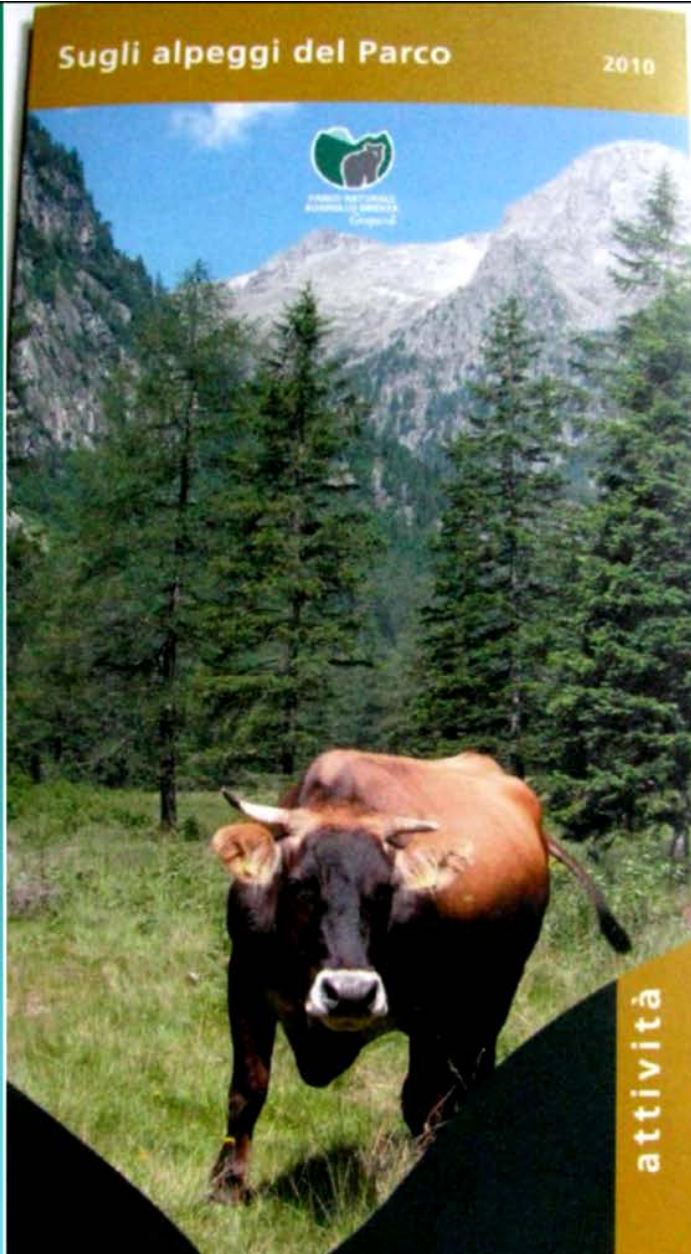
Adamello -Brenta



Iniziative del Parco

Sugli alpeggi del Parco

2010



attività

La Razza Rendena e il suo formaggio

Rendena è il nome di una valle ma anche di una razza bovina autoctona selezionata già nei primi decenni del 1700; una razza con grandi capacità di adattamento che garantisce, anche in alpeggio, buone produzioni di latte e carne.

Raccogliendo il latte esclusivamente da stalle con vacche di Razza Rendena, il Caseificio Sociale Pinzolo-Fiavè-Rovereto produce un formaggio semigrasso, a media stagionatura (3-4 mesi) caratterizzato da una pasta morbida e dolce. Il formaggio "Razza Rendena" è contraddistinto da un gusto che esalta i sapori e i profumi del latte.

Presso le malghe della Val Rendena è prevista la degustazione di formaggio "Razza Rendena" offerto dal Caseificio Sociale Pinzolo-Fiavè-Rovereto.



Conclusions

The importance of genetic resources in living databanks (live animals):

- Maintains local biodiversity, ecosystem processes, cultural values.
- Increases awareness and interest.
- Can have a role in the management activities
- Enhance collaboration among people and managers
- Influences the stakeholders framework

In general the preservation of the traditional breeds should be one of the task within a PA Mngmt Plan



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THANK YOU

Husbandry is the name of all practices that sustain life by connecting us conservingly to our places and our world; it is the art of keeping tied all the strands in the living network that sustains us.

Wendell Berry, *Bringing it to the Table: Writings on Farming and Food*



Corrado Teofili – Italian - Conservation Biologist

Currently is responsible of Biodiversity, Conservation Department of Federparchi (Italian Federation of Parks and Protected Areas) in charge for the management of the international projects of Federparchi on Biodiversity, Conservation and Sustainability. Coordinator of the IUCN Italian National Committee; IUCN WCPA member. Co-editor of the National Italian IUCN Red-Lists about Vertebrates and Invertebrates taxa. Consultant for the Italian Ministry of the Environment for the International Biodiversity-related issues.

Coach trainer of International's methodologies of "Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation" and "WWF Standards for Conservation", qualifications conferred by WWF International and FOS (Foundation of Success).