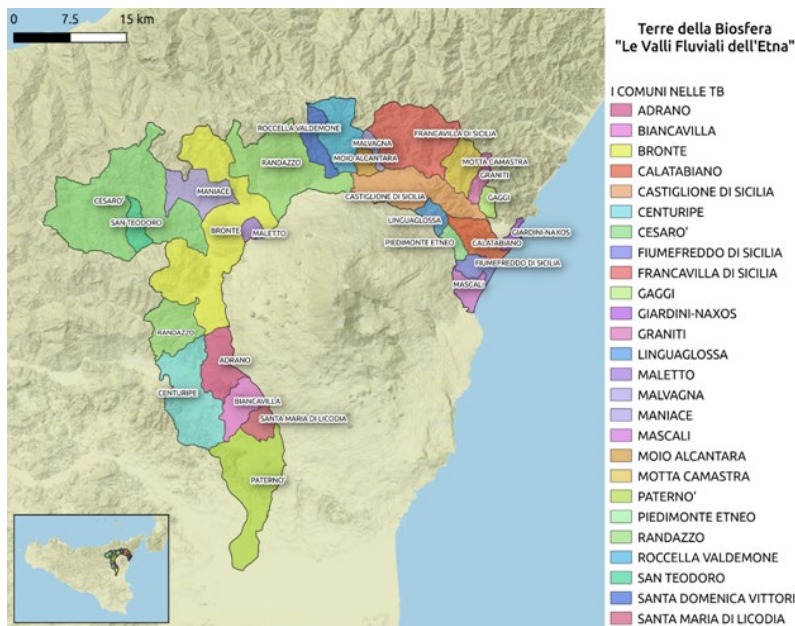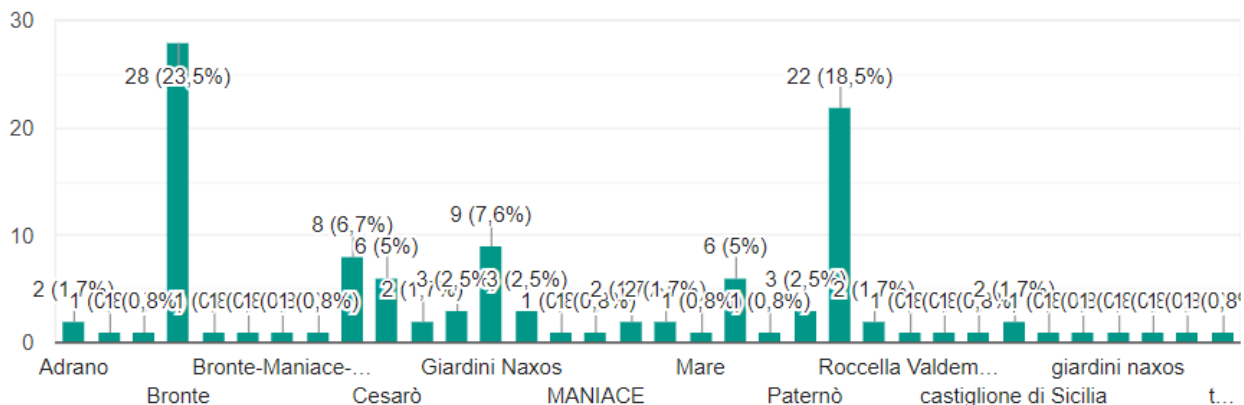Analisis of the Citizen survey on the use and perception of the agricultural landscape in the area "Terre della Biosfera"(TB), the subject of study in the "Farming in Sicily's Lands of Biosphere" project
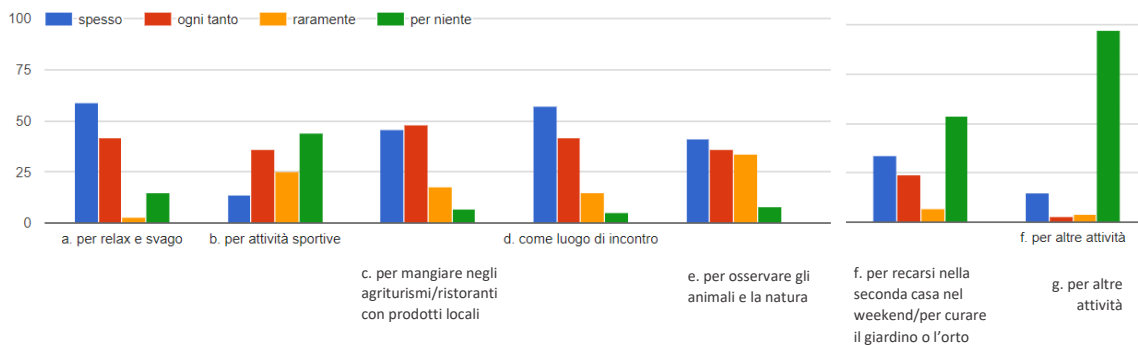

Number of responses: 119 responses.

1) Favorite place: where do you most like to stay in the TB area? (see map)

(

Prevalent responses: 23% Bronte; 22% Randazzo; 9% Giardini Naxos; 8% Castiglione di Sicilia)

2) Landscape use: For which of the following activities do you frequent the TB area in your free time? Please also answer with often-every so often-rarely-not at all.

Se "Altre attività", per cosa?

17 risposte

3) Now let's talk about the agricultural areas in the TB area: do you frequent them for the activities just mentioned?

119 risposte

- Si
- No

8,4%

91,6%

Si
109 (91,6%)

If yes, at what location?

109 risposte

(Prevalent responses: 22% Bronte; 11,9% Randazzo; 11% Castiglione di Sicilia; 5,5% Cesarò; 3,7% Maletto, Linguaglossa)

4) [If you do NOT enjoy the landscapes of the surrounding area]: Why do you not frequent the TB landscape area?(open question)

4 responses

-I am allergic and go little to the countryside in fact I prefer typical restaurants to agritourisms.

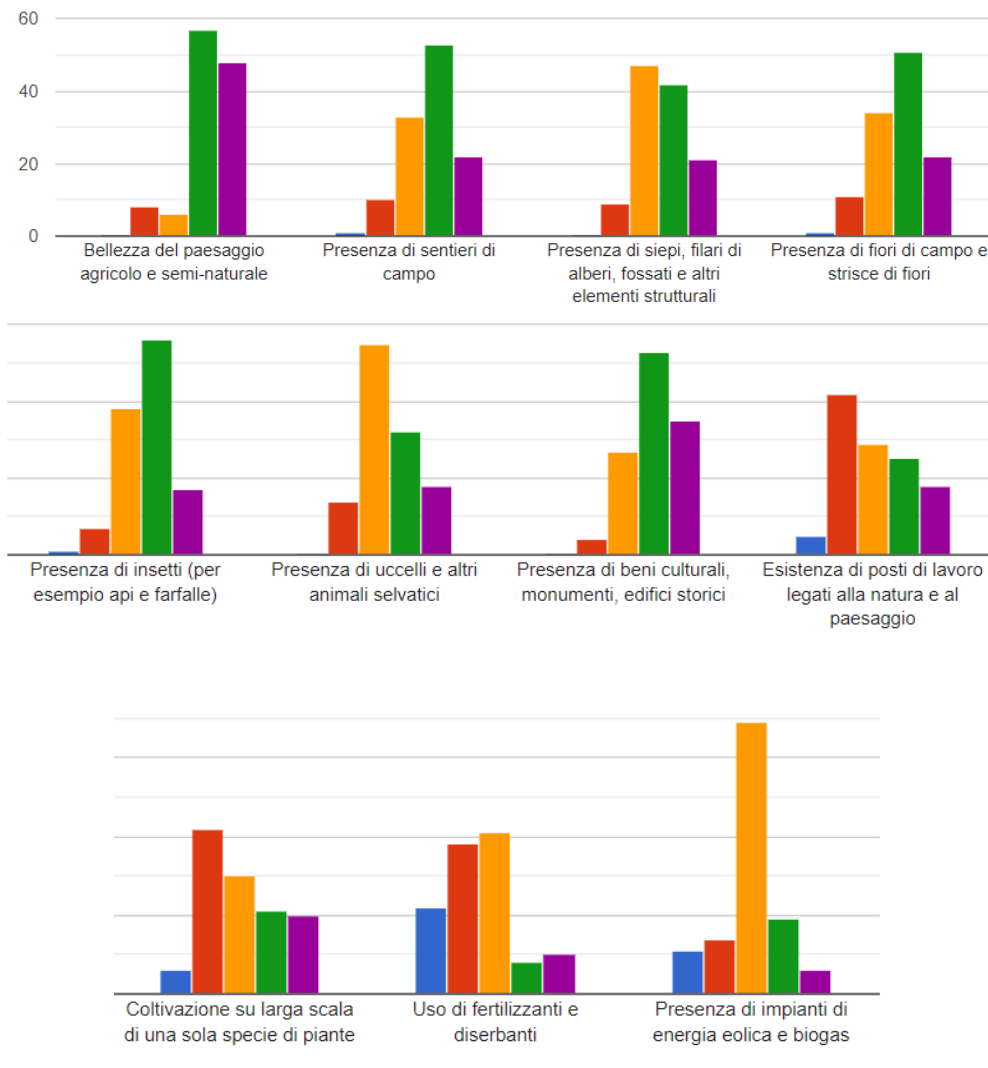-I have a countryside near Giarre so not in the TB area.

-When I am free I go to Capo d'Orlando to the sea, rarely I go to the countryside for walks.

-I live in the town and when I am free we go to Letojanni with the family to the second house by the sea. In the countryside there is too much garbage, such as in Ponte Barca.

5a) I will now read you some characteristics of the landscapes in the TB area. Please rate how satisfied you are with these features. Please use a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 stands for very dissatisfied and 5 for very satisfied
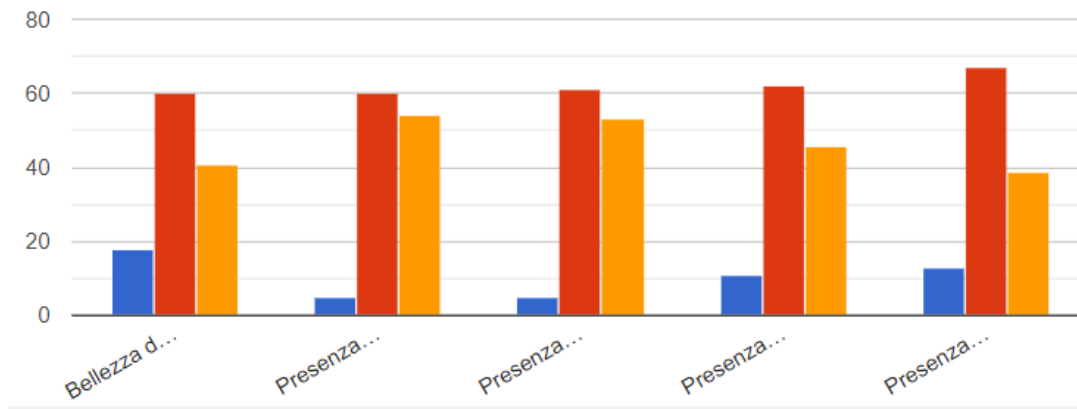

In this regard, it should be pointed out that the greatest dissatisfaction stems from the lack of jobs related to nature and landscape and the cultivation of a single plant species. This last figure underscores how the progressive increase of monocultures for economic reasons at the expense of biodiversity and traditional crops is perceived as a serious problem that needs to be addressed by citizens. This perception is reinforced by the appreciation shown toward the agricultural and semi-natural landscape.
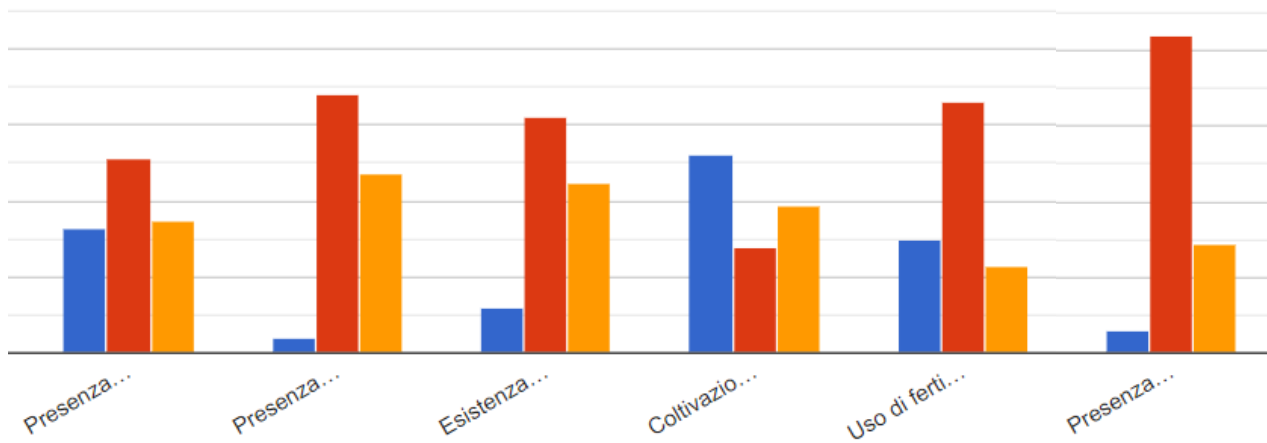
5b) Now I will read you some landscape features of the TB area. Please also evaluate how this feature has changed in the last ten years.

Legend: Peggioramento — Nessun Cambiamento — Miglioramento

1. Beauty of the agricultural and semi-natural landscape; 2. Presence of field paths; 3. Presence of hedges, tree rows, ditches, and other structural elements; 4. Presence of wildflowers and flower strips; 5. Presence of insects (e.g., bees and butterflies);
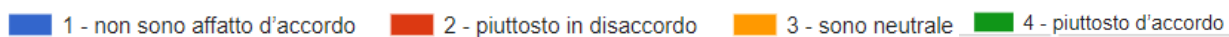

6. Presence of birds and other wildlife; 7. Presence of cultural heritage, monuments, historic buildings; 8. Existence of jobs related to nature and landscape; 9. Large-scale cultivation of a single plant species; 10. Use of fertilizers and herbicides; 11. Presence of wind and biogas power plants.
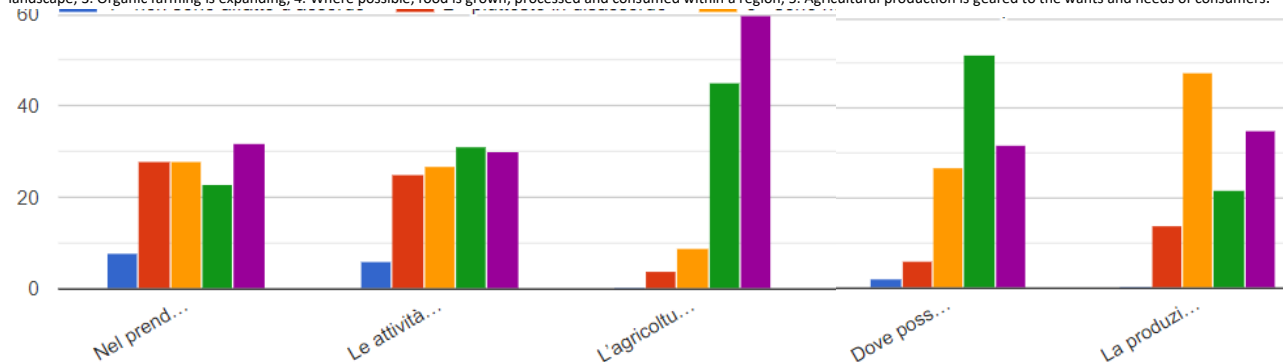

6) Now let's talk about your personal attitudes independent of the landscapes in the TB area:

Please evaluate to what extent you personally agree with the following statements.

Legend: 1 - non sono affatto d'accordo — 2 - piuttosto in disaccordo — 3 - sono neutrale — 4 - piuttosto d'accordo
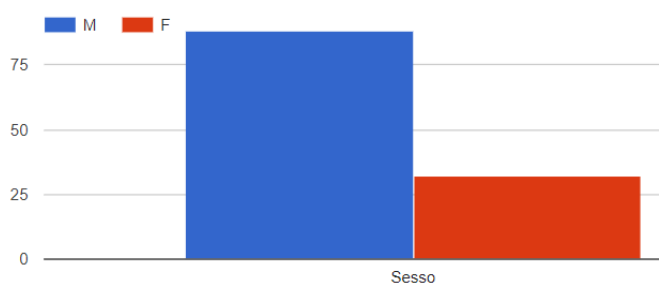
1. In making decisions, agriculture takes into account the impact of its actions on nature, such as for the preservation of clean soils and groundwater; 2. Agricultural activities take into account the maintenance of the cultural landscape; 3. Organic farming is expanding; 4. Where possible, food is grown, processed and consumed within a region; 5. Agricultural production is geared to the wants and needs of consumers.

7) You now have the opportunity to tell us your wishes for the future development of the rural area around the TB area. What is important to you?
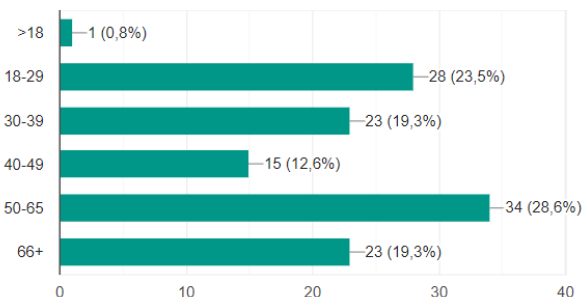
The open-ended responses to this question revealed a significant desire on the part of citizens for institutions to become more active in combating micro-dumps, especially near rural areas that are strategic to the countries in the area. In addition, there is a push for synergies between organic and traditional producers to be supported by granting free city areas for the promotion of healthy and quality products.

8) We are almost finished. Before we get to the end of the survey, I have some brief questions for you about personal characteristics. Before we do that, I would like to remind you again that all of your information will be evaluated completely anonymously.
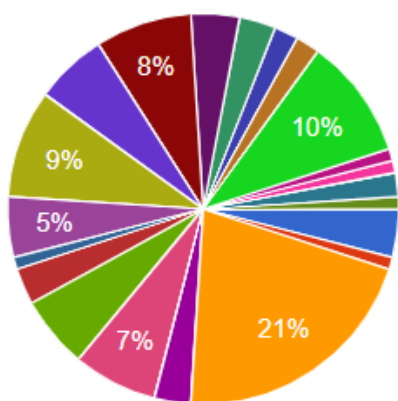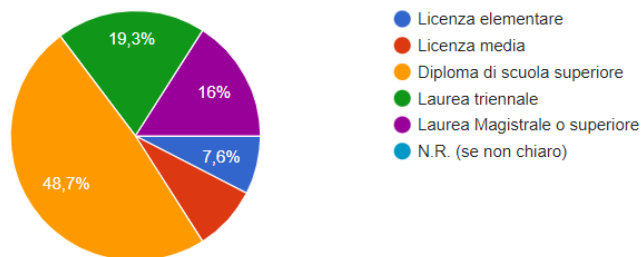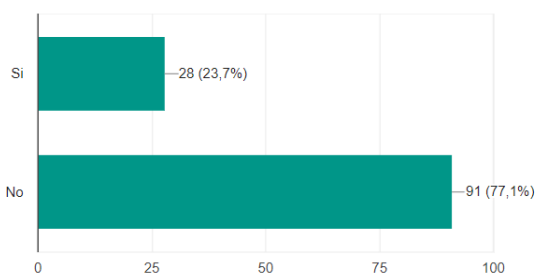
Quanti anni hai?

119 risposte

Età	Risposte
>18	1 (0,8%)
18-29	28 (23,5%)
30-39	23 (19,3%)
40-49	15 (12,6%)
50-65	34 (28,6%)
66+	23 (19,3%)

Di dove sei?

100 risposte

Quale è il tuo livello di istruzione?

119 risposte

- Licenza elementare
- Licenza media
- Diploma di scuola superiore
- Laurea triennale
- Laurea Magistrale o superiore
- N.R. (se non chiaro)

19,3% / 16% / 7,6% / 48,7%

Hai figli minorenni?

118 risposte

Si	28 (23,7%)
No	91 (77,1%)

Prevalent responses: 21% Bronte; 10% Randazzo; 9% Linguaglossa; 8% Maniace; 7% Cesarò; 6% Maletto, Fiumefreddo di Sicilia.

Written by Andrea Aidala for the Giacche Verdi Bronte, November 2021.

Translated from Italian by Laura Serra, February 2023.