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On some interesting species of the malacological Monterosato collection housed in the 'Museo di Scienze della Terra' of Catania

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In 2008, the Department of Geological Sciences of the University of Catania (Italy) came into possession of malacological material belonging to the Marquis of Monterosato.

Tommaso Maria Marquis of Monterosato (Palermo, 1841-1927) was one of the most influential malacologist of his time. He had a particular interest in Mediterranean marine molluscs. In fact, he described several new species and wrote numerous scientific papers on this subject. He also managed to gather a large and important collection currently housed at the Zoological Museum in Rome.

The small malacological collection housed at the Department of Geological Sciences of the University of Catania also includes important material belonging to the Abbot Giuseppe Brugnone of Caltanissetta and to the naturalist Pietro Calcara of Palermo. In these collections, the holotypes of 'Lacheis' retifera Brugnone, 1880 and 'Bulimus' mandraliscae Calcara, 1840 were rediscovered. Besides, syntypes and other important material such as the forgotten species 'Helix' cupaniana Calcara, 1842 and 'Helix' schwerzenbachi Calcara, 1841 were also found. Taxonomical and nomenclatural changes will be provided in the present work based on the above mentioned findings.

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