

Contents

Acknowledgements	v
List of Figures.....	ix
List of Tables.....	xii
Riassunto.....	xiii
1. Introduction and aims	1
2. Islands and human settlements: a state-of-the-art theoretical approach	3
2.1. Island archaeology	3
2.2. Island archaeobotany	8
2.3. Palaeodemography in archaeology	11
2.3.1. Introduction	11
2.3.2. Artefact assemblages	14
2.3.3. Food remains	15
2.3.4. Carrying capacity and resource potential model or production system	15
2.3.5. Architectural features such as roofed-over space	18
2.3.6. Calculations of mean family size	18
2.3.7. Areas of the settlements and regional occupation	20
2.3.8. Specific features of island palaeodemography	23
2.4. For an integrated approach to the Aeolian Islands: methodology.....	24
3. Contextual framework.....	29
3.1. The regional setting: a brief synopsis of the physical, geological and historical framework	29
3.2. The local ecological setting.....	29
3.3. The archaeological framework.....	34
3.3.1. The Bronze Age in the Aeolian Islands	34
3.3.2. The villages of Filo Braccio and Montagnola	39
3.3.3. The sites of Lipari, Acropolis and Contrada Diana	45
3.4. The archaeobotanical dataset	55
4. Case study and results: Filicudi.....	57
4.1. Archaeobotanical data from Filo Braccio village	57
4.1.1. Wood charcoals	57
4.1.2. Seeds/fruits	63
4.1.3. Spatial distribution	66
4.2. Functional analysis: the case study of Hut F	69
4.3. Other analyses	71
4.3.1. Soil properties and geomorphological features	71
4.3.2. Isotope analysis	72
4.3.3. Archaeozoological analyses	74
4.3.4. Archaeometric analyses	75
4.4. Palaeodemographic models	76
4.4.1. The settlements and the archaeological data	76
4.4.2. Local resources and carrying capacity	78
5. Case study and results: Lipari	83
5.1. Archaeobotanical data from Lipari	83
5.1.1. Wood charcoals	83
5.1.2. Seeds and fruits	90
5.1.3. Reconstruction of the distribution	90
5.2. Distribution of the samples and interpretation: the case study of Acropolis	94

5.3. Other analyses.....	97
5.3.1. Soil properties and geomorphological features.....	97
5.3.2. Isotope analysis	99
5.3.3. Archaeozoological analysis.....	99
5.3.4. Archaeometric analysis	100
5.4. Palaeodemographic models	101
5.4.1. The settlements and the archaeological data.....	101
5.4.2. Local resources and carrying capacity	103
6. Discussion: towards a palaeodemographic model	107
6.1. Some remarks on methodology	107
6.2. Areas of the settlements and regional occupation.....	107
6.3. Human impact on the landscape and use of the local resources	113
6.4. Use of wooden resources and architectural techniques	118
6.5. Food production and carrying capacity.....	122
6.6. Diachronic perspective on the occupation of the archipelago and the use of resources.....	126
7. Conclusions.....	129
7.1. A global evaluation of the human–environmental data on the archipelago	129
7.2. Human dynamics and use of the resources: some forethoughts in the comparison with Southern Italy during the Bronze Age	130
7.3. A comprehensive reconstruction for the Bronze Age: the palaeodemographic model	132
References	137