



The Noceto “pool”: a detailed lacustrine anthropogenic record for the middle-late Holocene in the central Po Plain

M. Cremaschi (1), M. Bernabò Brea (2), A. Aceti (3), P. Ferrari (1), A. Mutti (4), C. Pizzi (5), C. Ravazzi (3), M. Rottoli (6), M. Salvioni (1), A. Zerboni (1)

(1) Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra “A. Desio”, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy (mauro.cremaschi@unimi.it; andrea.zerboni@unimi.it), (2) Museo Archeologico Nazionale, Parma Italy, (3) Laboratorio di Palinologia e Paleoecologia, CNR-IDPA Dalmine (BG), Italy, (4) Biblioteca Palatina, Parma Italy, (5) Dipartimento di Archeologia, Università degli Studi di Padova, Italy, (6) Laboratorio di Archeobiologia, Musei Civici di Como Italy

The Noceto “pool” is a Middle Bronze age archaeological site placed in Northern Italy, at the contact between the Po Plain and the northernmost fringe of the Pleistocene Apennine terraces. It consists of a large pool (12x4 m, more than 5 m in depth) excavated at the top of the terrace; its walls are covered by wood boards and firmed by large oak sticks. The pool is filled with a very thin laminated lacustrine-like sedimentary sequences, alternating gyttja to less organic silty layers; laminae probably correspond to regular cycle, as a seasonal to multi-years cycles should be identified. Sedimentological processes should be regarded as completely natural as anthropogenic disturbance seems to be related only to episodic and intentional deposition of complete vessels (more that 100), wood artefacts (for example four ploughs), animal bones, and wood remains. A preliminary radiocarbon dating on charcoals from the lower part of the sequence gives an age of 3245 ± 30 years BP, completely in accordance with the archaeological context as from the pottery assemblage (dating to the BM3). A multidisciplinary approach has been chosen to investigate the palaeoenvironmental potential of the Noceto sequence; it includes radiocarbon dating, sedimentological analyses, palynological investigation on single laminae, archaeobotanical and archaeozoological analyses on animal and vegetal remains, diatoms identification, dendroclimatology on

larger oak trunks.