



**SOCIETY OF ETHNOBIOLOGY – CHAPTER YOUNG EUROPEAN
ETHNOBIOLOGISTS**

**First Meeting of the Chapter Young European Ethnobiologists
Nerano (Amalfi Coast, Southern Italy), 15th - 18th September 2011**



15th September

We - participants from Rome (Italy), Palermo (Italy), Kent (UK) and Zurich (Switzerland) - arrived in Nerano in the late evening and still had some time to enjoy local foods for dinner and to have a night walk in a close valley heading to the beach. Meanwhile options for the following day were discussed and we started getting to know each other better.

16th September

Morning

Sentiero degli Dei, Positano

Hike at the Amalfi Coast with collection of Mediterranean plants to eventually show them to informants during subsequent interviews along with explanation of ethnobotanical uses of plants growing along the trail.



Afternoon

Sant'Agata sui due Golfi

Interviews with local people on ethnobotanical uses of the plants collected.



People were very friendly and showed strong interest in our research. We made many new friends.

At the end of the field experience we came back to the campsite and had an open discussion on the following topics:

- Local traditions in the Mediterranean region and around the world
- Possible locations for the next meeting in 2012
- Planning of next day's activities



17th September

Morning

Termini

Interview with a local manufacturer of alcoholic beverages. He explained how to produce the local specialties limoncello and finocchietto. The interview will be available soon on Youtube.



Afternoon

Sant'Agata sui due Golfi

In the afternoon we had another short hike for further plant collection and to explore various other habitats. On our way we met storytellers who revealed some local legends and mysteries.



We also performed more ethnobotanical interviews with local inhabitants. An informant showed us a typical handmade sweet of the area prepared from dried figs, bay laurel leaves and different nuts (walnuts, almonds, etc.).

At the end of the day we had an open discussion on the following topics:

- Writing a joint paper
- Possible research collaborations
- Preparation of a grant proposal to cover students' travel expenses for the next meeting



18th September

Morning

BAIA DI IERANTO

Hiking the Mediterranean dry belt to explore the local flora

Tasting of wild plants and local products (local cheese and sweets).



Afternoon

Praiano, Furore and Amalfi

Visit of local historical attractions at the picturesque Amalfi coast.

Short interview with a traditional ship builder in Amalfi on the history of Maritime Republics.



19th September

End of the meeting.

Farewell at Rome airport!!!