

**A CATALOGUE OF THE DIFFERENT  
KINDS OF FISH OF MALTA AND  
GOZO: WITH THEIR MALTESE, LATIN,  
ITALIAN, ENGLISH AND FRENCH  
NAMES, AS WELL AS THEIR SEASON**

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A catalogue of the different kinds of fish of Malta and Gozo: with their Maltese, Latin, Italian, English and French names, as well as their season by Gaetano Trapani

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**GAETANO TRAPANI**

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**DIFFERENT KINDS OF FISH**  
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AS WELL AS THEIR SEASON.

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BY GAETANO TRAPANI,  
*First Clerk in the Office of the Magistrate for the Markets.*

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## P R E F A C E

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The erroneous appellation given by several Authors and Travellers, in their accounts of Malta and Gozo, to the different kinds of Fish that inhabit the seas by which these islands are surrounded, has suggested to the Compiler the idea of devoting a part of his time to the study of that branch of natural history.

Favoured by his situation, as First Clerk in the Office of the Magistrate for the Markets, which afforded him the opportunity of seeing, examining, and leisurely studying, every Fish brought into the market, and assisted by the works of the most celebrated ancient and modern ichthyologists, and by the more recent work of Cuvier in particular, he has succeeded in ascertaining the true and proper names of these Fishes, and in compiling a complete and accurate catalogue of them, with their Maltese, Latin, Italian, English, and French nomenclature.

To the instructions of Dr Stefano Zerafa, Professor of Botany, in the University of Malta, and the fostering aid of Dr John Davy, F. R. S. lately Principal Medical Officer in this garrison, the Compiler acknowledges himself in gratitude highly indebted.

For the information of the learned, the characters used to express the Maltese names of the Fishes are in some instances arbitrary, inasmuch as they are characters of local use, and sanctioned by the Local Government to express in writing the Maltese mode of pronounciation. A want of

a perfect Arabic fount has compelled the compiler of this work to adopt them, not in preference, but from necessity.

In the publication of this Catalogue, the Compiler cannot refrain from expressing publicly his obligation to His Excellency SIR HENRY F. BOUVERIE, Governor of Malta, who has been pleased to sanction its being printed at the government press.

Valletta, 28th June, 1838.



## EXPLANATION

*Of certain characters made use of in this Work, to express the Maltese Names of the Fishes.*

C	is always pronounced	as ch in church.
G	before e, i, j and y	as g in giant, gem.
G	before a, o, u, w, and h	as g in game, gun.
H	. . . . .	as h in hut, hate.
J	. . . . .	as y in yield, year.
K	. . . . .	as c in card, clock.

The right pronunciation of the following characters cannot be conveyed except by word of mouth ; but it is precisely the same as that which is given to them in their original Arabick alphabet,

ع ح ق ش خ

All the Roman characters have precisely the same sound, which they have in Italian or English.

## A CATALOGUE OF THE

<i>Maltese Name</i>	<i>Latin Name</i>		
	<i>Genus</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Author</i>
Accola, or Cerviola	Scomber	Acciola	Cetti
Alonga	Scomber	Alalunga	Cuvier
Artnga	Clupæa	Harengus	Linnæus
Arznell	Sparus	Polynirus	Rafinesque
Aurata	Sparus	Aurata	Linnæus
Awista	Astacus	Locusta	Do.
Bakkaljau	Gadus	Blennoides	Do.
Ballottra	Gadus	Mustela	Do.
—— tar-ramel	Ophidium	Barbatum	Do.
Barbân	Pleuronectes	Rhombus	Do.
Bazuga	Sparus	Bogaraveo	Do.
Baċal	Labrus	Trimaculatus	Do.
Bekkacca	Centriscus	Scolopax	Do.
Bies, or Falkân	Trigla	Volitans	Do.
Boll	Raja	Pastinaca	Do.
Brimba	Sepia	Sepiola	Do.
Budakkra	Blennius	Galerita	Do.

## FISHES OF MALTA &c.

<i>Italian Name</i>	<i>English Name</i>	<i>French Name</i>	<i>Season</i>
Acciola	White Tunny fish	Le Thon blanc	Summer
Alalunga	Long finned do.	Alalunga	Do.
Aringa	Herring	Hareng	Do. (rare)
Asinello	Streaked Sparus	Le Spare rayé	March to May
Orata	Gilt-head	La Dorade	Perennial
Locusta	Craw-fish	La Langouste	Summer
Asello molle	Whiting	Blennoide	Jan. to March
Pesce moro	Weasel-fish	La Mustele	Perennial
La Lissa	Bearded ophidion	La Barbue	Do.
Rombetto	Pearl	Le Carrelet	Sept. to Dec.
Bogaraveo	Bogaraveo	Bogaraveo	Sept. (rare)
Tordo a 3 macchie	Blue-spotted Wrass	La Triple tache	Winter
Beccaccia	Bellows-fish	La Becasse	(Rare)
Falcone	Flying Gurnard	La Pirapede	Perennial
Ferraccia	Fire-flare	La Pastenague	Summer
Seppiola	Small Cuttle-fish	La petite Sèche	Do.
Conchigliata	Crested Blenny	La Coquilade	Perennial