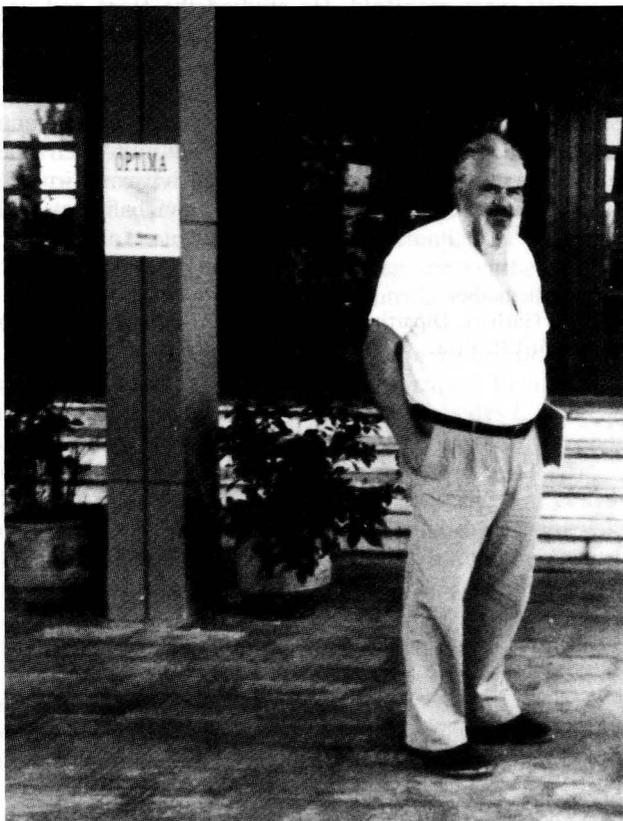


Fabio Garbari

Giovanni Giorgio Lorenzoni (1938-1992)

On December 27th, 1992, Professor Giovanni Giorgio Lorenzoni passed away. He was holder of the chair of Phytogeography and Plant Ecology at the Faculty of Sciences of Padua University (Italy).

Professor Lorenzoni — Giangio, for his many friends and colleagues — was born on January 27th, 1938, at Cividale del Friuli where he got his high school diploma.



Giovanni Giorgio Lorenzoni (1938-1992) at the 6th OPTIMA Meeting in Delphi, Greece, September 1989.

He thus took up his studies at the Faculty of Sciences of Padua University, where he graduated in natural sciences on July 18th, 1963, defending his doctoral thesis entitled "Flora e vegetazione del Friuli nord-orientale" (Flora and vegetation of north-eastern Friuli).

In November of the same year he was appointed temporary assistant to the chair of botany. In 1965 he was confirmed in that position as regular holder. In 1970 he became reader of Systematic Botany at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences. In 1974 he was appointed professor of systematic botany at the Faculty of Sciences of Padua University, where in 1980 he became full professor of Phytogeography and Plant Ecology a position which he maintained until his death.

He had been a member of the Italian Botanical Society since 1959, secretary of its "Triveneta" section from 1964 until 1973, secretary of the Working Group for Phenology, later Working Group for Plant Biorhythms and Phenology, from 1968 until 1974 and coordinator of this group from 1975 until his death; furthermore from 1974 to 1978, he was a councilor of the Working Group for Floristic.

In 1964 he acted as founding member of the Italian Society of Phytosociology, of which he was councillor from 1971 until 1977 and president from 1983 until 1988. He entered for OPTIMA at the time of its foundation and attended every meeting.

His scientific interests were manifold. He studied the flora and vegetation of the Mediterranean basin, with particular attention to the degraded garrigues with *Thymus capitatus*, *Anthyllis hermanniae*, *Sarcopoterium spinosum*, *Chamaerops humilis*, etc., and to the *Quercus* communities included in the *Quercion ilicis* and in the *Oleo-Ceratonion* series. He was the coordinator of a database on the herbaceous plant communities of the Mediterranean area and investigated the invasive species of cultivated land in Italy. More than 200 published papers as a testify of his scientific activity of thirty years.

OPTIMA members will rember Giangio as a friendly, jovial and entertaining fellow and comrade.

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