Program to Eradicate Malaria in Sardinia,
1946–1950

Technical Appendix

Note 1

After the first reconstruction of the superintendent John Logan (The Sardinian Project: an experiment in the eradication of an indigenous malarious vector. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press; 1953), many studies have been published in the past 20 years. The more recent works include the following:


Note 2

The introduction of malaria in the Mediterranean countries has been placed in the Neo-
lithic period. Bruce-Chwatt LJ, De Zulueta J. The rise and fall of malaria in Europe. Oxford

See also the following on the history of malaria in classical antiquity:

Jones WHS, Malaria, a neglected factor in the history of Greece and Rome. London;
1907.

Grmek MD. Les ruses de guerre biologiques dans l’antiquité. Revue des études grec-
ques. 1979;92:141–63.

Sallares R, Bouwman A, Anderung C. The spread of malaria to southern Europe in

In the late Middle Ages, Sardinia was famous for malaria. In the Dante’s Divine Comedy,
Canto XXIX of Inferno, the island has mentioned near Maremma, synonymous with the marshy
and malarious coastal region of Tuscany up to the 19th century:

What pain would be, if from the hospitals
Of Valdichiana, ’twixt July and September,
And of Maremma and Sardinia

All the diseases in one moat were gathered,
Such was it here, and such a stench came from it


Note 3

The US Environmental Protection Agency made the ultimate decision to ban DDT in
1972. The initial alarm against DDT was sounded by the book of the American biologist Rachel
Carson (Carson R. Silent spring. Boston: Houghton Mifflin; 1962), which launched the environ-
mental movement in the West (Cronon W. DDT, silent spring, and the rise of environmentalism:
cataloged the environmental impacts of the indiscriminate spraying of DDT and suggested that
DDT and other pesticides may cause cancer and that their agricultural use was a threat to wild-life.

On the ban of DDT, see the criticism of Tren R, Bate R, Koenig HM. Malaria and the DDT story. Inst of Economic Affairs; 2001.

For an analysis of the evidence adduced against all the accusations leveled at DDT, see Przemyslaw M. The true story of DDT, PCB and dioxin. Wroclaw (Poland): Wydawnictwo Chemiczne; 2005.

Note 4

