

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910451822303321
Autore	Snowden Frank M (Frank Martin), <1946->
Titolo	The conquest of malaria [[electronic resource]] : Italy, 1900-1962 / / Frank M. Snowden
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, : Yale University Press, c2006
ISBN	1-281-72155-7 9786611721558 0-300-12843-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (1 online resource (viii, 296 p.) ) : ill., map
Disciplina	614.5/32/00945
Soggetti	Malaria - Italy - History - 20th century Malaria - Treatment - Italy - History - 20th century Mosquitoes - Control - Italy - History - 20th century Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 225-286) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1. Malaria: The "Italian National Disease" -- 2. From Miasma to Mosquito: The Rome School of Malariology -- 3. A Nation Mobilizes -- 4. From Quinine to Women's Rights: Hopes, Illusions, and Victories -- 5. The First World War and Epidemic Disease -- 6. Fascism, Racism, and Littoria -- 7. Creating Disaster: Nazism and Bioterror in the Pontine Marshes -- 8. Fighting Disaster: DDT and Old Weapons -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Glossary -- Select Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	At the outset of the twentieth century, malaria was Italy's major public health problem. It was the cause of low productivity, poverty, and economic backwardness, while it also stunted literacy, limited political participation, and undermined the army. In this book Frank Snowden recounts how Italy became the world center for the development of malariology as a medical discipline and launched the first national campaign to eradicate the disease. Snowden traces the early advances, the setbacks of world wars and Fascist dictatorship, and the final victory against malaria after World War II. He shows how the medical and teaching professions helped educate people in their own self-

defense and in the process expanded trade unionism, women's consciousness, and civil liberties. He also discusses the antimalarial effort under Mussolini's regime and reveals the shocking details of the German army's intentional release of malaria among Italian civilians—the first and only known example of bioterror in twentieth-century Europe. Comprehensive and enlightening, this history offers important lessons for today's global malaria emergency.

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