et al. 2007). It is premature to speculate about the impact of the European Honey Buzzard on the apparently unstoppable expansion of the Asian Hornet, but it seems wise to favour the presence of this raptor.

The bioaccumulation process means that raptors are highly sensitive to pollutants and, in the case of the European Honey Buzzard, it has been reported the presence of neonicotinoids in the blood (Byholm *et al.* 2018 and references therein); a group of insecticides which have negative effects on birds (Millot *et al.* 2017 and references therein). This underlines the need to eliminate from the natural environment the wasp colonies treated with pesticides (Beggs *et al.* 2011), a practice that is frequently ignored or even discouraged by the official protocols (e.g. those issued by the Government of Catalonia in 2018).

The discovery here reported highlights the need for research on the breeding biology of the European Honey Buzzard, one of the less well-studied raptors in Europe (Hagemeijer & Blair 1997), with the aim of obtaining detailed information on its ecological relationship with the Asian Hornet and the derived consequences for the populations of both species.

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ORCID

M. Menchetti http://orcid.org/0000-0002-0707-7495
R. Vila http://orcid.org/0000-0002-2447-4388

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