250 Million Years of Earth History in Central Italy: Celebrating 25 Years of the Geological Observatory of Coldigioco

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Cover: Monte San Vicino (1485 m asl) is one of the tallest peaks of the NW-SE–trending Marche ridge anticlinorium, and it is made up of the lower Jurassic Calcare Massiccio Formation, a massive carbonate platform limestone representing the oldest exposed stratigraphic unit of the Umbria-Marche succession. Its trapezoidal shape is reminiscent of a Jurassic horst embedded in, and covered by the multilayer, lower Jurassic–lower Neogene pelagic carbonate succession. The slopes of Monte San Vicino shown in the photo represent the northeastern limb of the anticlinorium, and are made up of the whole Umbria-Marche pelagic carbonate succession. The mid-Pleistocene Coldigioco Alluvial Fan is incised on the left (south) by the Il Crino creek, and on the right (north) by the Frontale creek. On the crest of this elongated hill in the foreground of the picture is the hamlet of Coldigioco with its geological observatory. Unmanned aerial vehicle photo courtesy of Alessandro Montanari.

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