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Tulipa raddii Reboul - Italy, Sicily: Blufi near Sanctuary of Madonna dell'Olio

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Tulipa raddii Reboul (Liliaceae). It is a bulbous geophyte, allochthonous or cultivated, native to Asia Minor and Syria. Originally, Tulips were widespread from Southern-eastern Europe to Central Asia but since the XV century have been naturalized in several regions of the world. The name of the genus derived from a Persian word which means turban. *Tulipa raddii* was named by Eugène de Reboul in 1822 for the Italian botanist Giuseppe Raddi (1770-1829) who made interesting studies on the Brazilian flora. *Tulipa raddii* has red flowers with faint greeney-gold markings, edged with dark-red, outside; internally there is a six-pointed black-star formed by central, basal, black markings on each petal, the black color is narrowly fringed by a jagged zone of golden yellow. The petals are pointed and it flowers in March-April. In Sicily, *Tulipa raddii* is an allochthonous species, introduced in ancient times and it is found on the Madonie, in Blufi near Sanctuary of Madonna dell'Olio.

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