



Ferrari C., Pasquaretta C, von Hardenberg A., Bassano B. (2012) Intraspecific killing and cannibalism in adult Alpine marmots *Marmota marmota*. *Ethology Ecology and Evolution*, 24: 388-394..

Cannibalism between adult individuals of the same species has been rarely observed in free living rodents. Here we report an episode of cannibalism in the Alpine marmot (*Marmota marmota*), that occurred in May 2010 in the Gran Paradiso National Park (AO, Italy) where we study on this species. During the daily field work we observed the fatal attack of two adult individuals against another adult marmot, and their successive consumption of the dead body. Cannibalism in the genus *Marmota* has been rarely reported so we conclude it could have been generated by territorial defence or caused by external factors as the necessity of fresh feeding resource. We also compare the wounds on the head of the cannibalized marmot with those observed on an individual captured during 2009.