

# Plants, Routines, and the Use of Domestic Space. Insights from Neolithic Çatalhöyük

**Carlos G. Santiago Marrero**

(CSIC – Institución Milá y Fontanals de investigación en Humanidades, Barcelona)



Çatalhöyük is a 9,000-year-old site located in Türkiye and one of the best-studied Neolithic settlements in Southwest Asia. Thanks to the remarkable preservation of architectural, artefactual, and biological remains, the site has greatly contributed to our understanding of household organization, plant processing activities, and the use of domestic spaces. But how do we interpret the use of domestic spaces and identify plant processing areas when there are no visible artefactual or botanical remains? This lecture will present how microbotanical remains –such as phytoliths and starch grains recovered from house floors at Çatalhöyük- combined with spatial interpolation methods, can help investigate routine plant-related practices and the use of domestic space. The information obtained through this approach has deepened our knowledge of Neolithic lifeways while also revealing aspects of plant resource exploitation, seasonality, and their implications for household organization at the site.

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**ORGANIZED** by K. Abdo, V. Aniceti, F. Borrell, I. Clemente, A. García-Suárez, J.J. Ibáñez, B. Milić, V. Navarrete, F. Pichon, M. Portillo, X. Terradas, I. Vaccaro & S. Valenzuela-Lamas