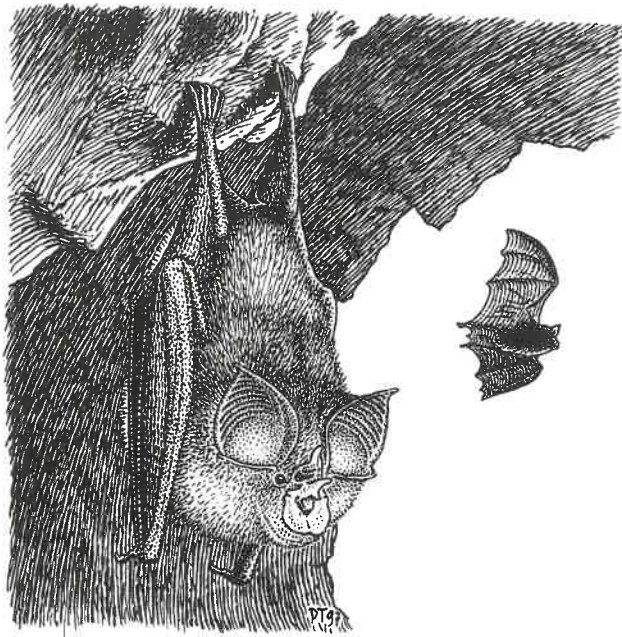


# *Rhinolophus euryale* BLASIUS, 1853



P. Twisk

## Distribution

**World:** Palaearctic; north-western Africa (Morocco to Tunisia), southern Europe, Near Orient to Turkmenia and Iran.

**Europe:** southern part of the continent, north to central France, southern Slovakia and western Romania. Present on large Mediterranean islands, but absent on the Balearics.

## Geographic variation

Four subspecies recognized; only the nominate form in Europe.

## Habitat

Roosts throughout the year in caves and artificial underground shelters, rare in buildings. Nursing colonies large, most often from 50 to 400 females, usually located below 1000 m altitude. Frequently found in clusters with *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*, *Myotis emarginatus*, and *Miniopterus schreibersii* during the breeding season, and with *R. ferrumequinum* during hibernation. Sex ratio in colonies about 1:1 during the whole year, which is very uncommon in European bats. Preys on moths and other insects within or near vegetation, preferring areas with at least some bush and arboreal cover. Sedentary, short range movements

## Mediterranean horseshoe bat

AL	Lakuriqnatë hundepatkua i mesdheut	LU	Mëttelmier Hufeisennues
BG	Южен подковонос	LV	-
CZ	Vrápeneč jižní	MK	Јужен потковичар
DE	Mittelmeer-Hufeisennase	MT	-
DK	Middelhavs hesteskonæse	NL	Paarse hoefijzerneus
EE	-	NO	Middelhavshesteskonese
ES	Murciélago mediterráneo de herradura	PL	Podkowiec
FI	Välimerenhevosenkenkäyökkö	PT	śródziemnomorski Morcego-de-ferradura-mediterrânico
FO	-	RO	Liliacul-cu-nas-potcoavă-mediterranean
FR	Rhinolophe euryale	RU	Южный подковонос
GR	Μεσορινόλοφος	SE	Mellanhästskonäsa
HR	Južni potkovnjak	SI	Južni potkovnjak
HU	Kereknyergű patkósdenevér	SK	Podkovár južný
IR	-	TR	Akdeniz nal burunlu yarasası
IS	-	YU	Јужни потковичар
IT	Ferro di cavallo euriale		
LT	-		

between breeding and hibernation roosts. Longest recorded movement 134 km.

## Population status

Population decline of about 70% observed in France between 1940 and 1980. All of the 83 colonies studied disappeared or showed critical decrease due to uncontrolled ringing, speleological disturbance in caves, and intensive usage of organochlorine pesticides. A slow recovery noticed between 1980 and 1987. A large population decline reported from Slovakia, although some colonies of 100-200 remain.

## International legal & conservation status

Bern Convention, Appendix II.

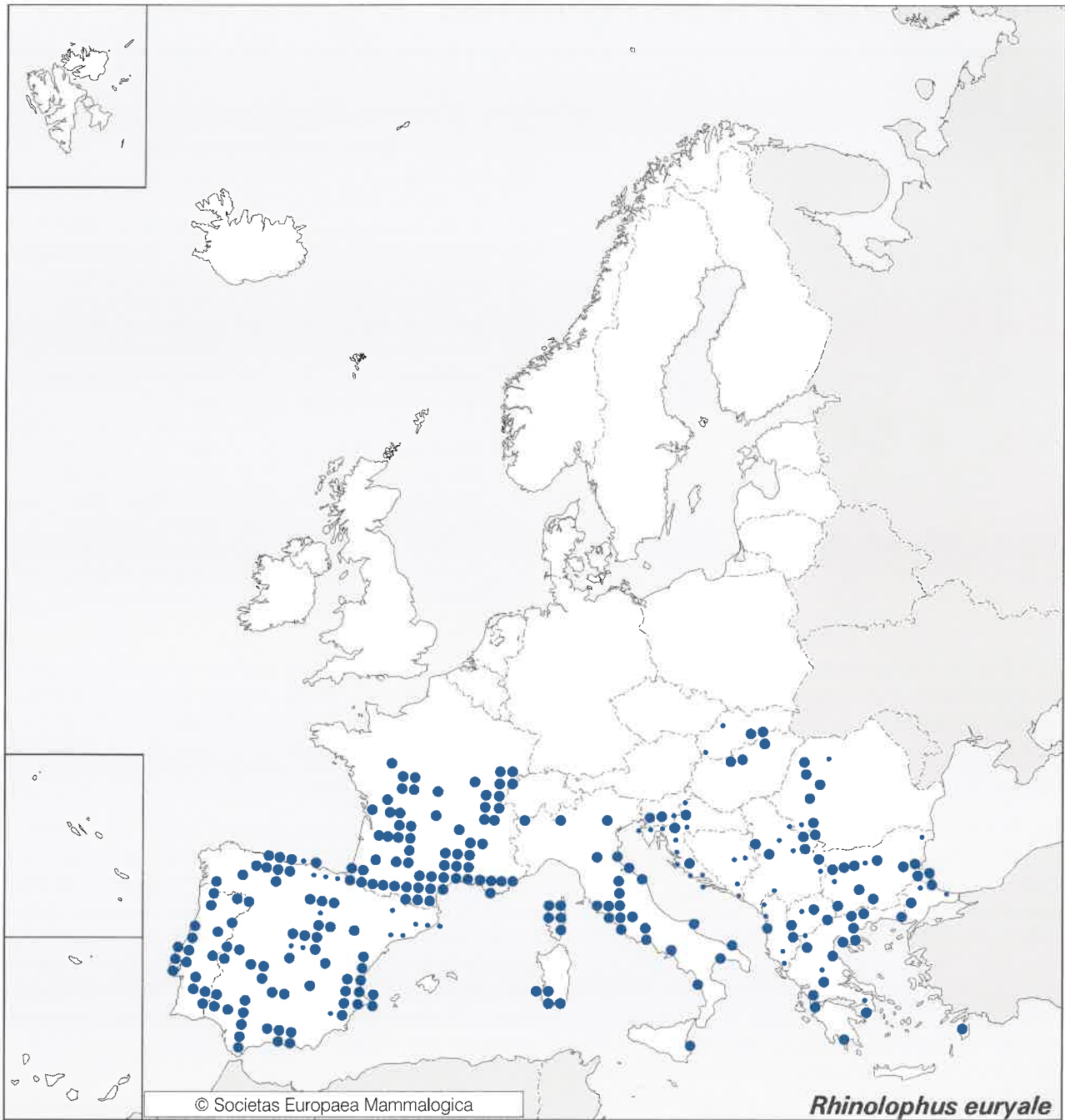
Bonn Convention, Appendix II.

EU Habitats & Species Directive, Annex II & Annex IV.

IUCN Red List, Vulnerable.

## Other information

Total protection of all of the cave roosts is urgently required. In some areas of southern Iberia, its dropping piles are used as fertilizer.



## Literature

- Brosset *et al.* (1988)  
 Brosset & Caubère (1959)  
 Schober & Grimmberger (1989)  
 Stebbings & Griffith (1986)

C. Ibáñez