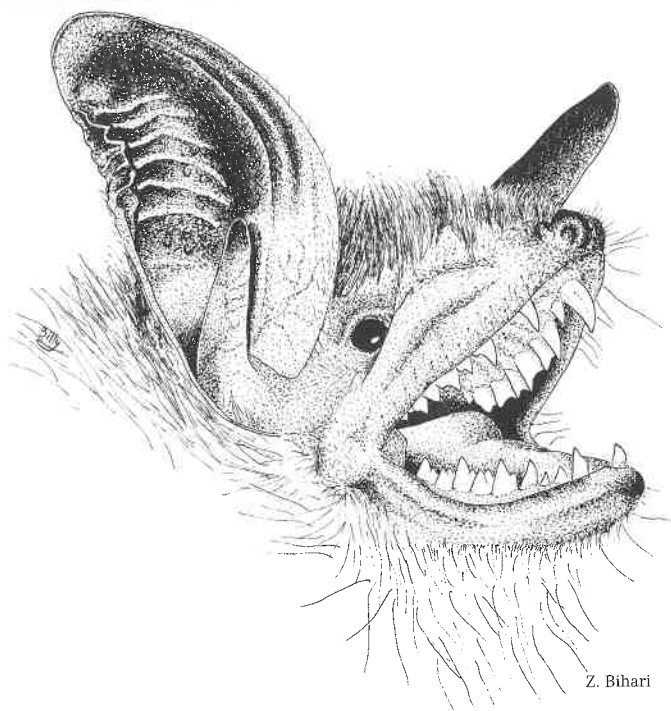


# *Myotis myotis* (BORKHAUSEN, 1797)



## Greater mouse-eared bat

AL	Lakuriqate veshmiu i madh	LU	Grouss Flëntermaus
BG	Голям нощник	LV	Lielais naktssikspārnis
CZ	Netopýr velký	MK	Голем ноћник
DE	Großes Mausohr	MT	Farfett il-Lejl Widnet il-Ġurdien Kbir
DK	Stor museøre	NL	Vale vleermuis
EE	Suurlendlane	NO	Stor musøre
ES	Murciélago ratonero grande	PL	Nocek duży
FI	Jättiläissiippa	PT	Morcego-rato-grande
FO	-	RO	Liliacul-mare-cu-urechi-de-șoarece
FR	Grand murin	RU	Большая ночница
GR	Τραπομωτίδα	SE	Större musöra
HR	Veliki šišmiš	SI	Navadni netopir
HU	Közönséges denevér	SK	Netopier veľký
IR	-	TR	Fare kulaklı büyük yarasa
IS	Músablaka	YU	Велики мипоухи вечерњак
IT	Vespertilio maggiore		
LT	Didysis pelėausis		

## Distribution

**World:** through western Eurasia from the Iberian Peninsula to the Ukraine, Turkey, Israel, Lebanon, and Syria; also North Africa.

**Europe:** throughout, but excluding Iceland, British Isles, and most of Scandinavia, except for one vagrant in southern Sweden. One vagrant individual also caught in Latvia, which is the northernmost record ever observed. In the south including the Balearic Islands, Corsica, Sardinia, and Sicily.

## Geographic variation

Subspecific or sometimes even specific allocation of some Mediterranean and Asian populations is still unclear and controversial. Three subspecies accepted, but only the nominate form currently recognized in Europe. In the western Palaearctic increasing in size from west to east.

## Habitat

In the south originally and currently residing the full year in caves and mines. In northern areas an extremely synanthropic species forming nursery colonies in buildings, mostly in attics. Maternity roosts are most frequently situated in lowland regions, usually below 600 m. Hibernates in caves, mines, and cellars, rarely in bridges. Sometimes in mixed colonies with the sibling species *M. blythii*. Hunts in forest-rich landscapes inside forests and on adjoining cultivated but open areas. Preys

on large insects (mainly Coleoptera) which are often gleaned from the ground. Occasional migrant; longest recorded movement 390 km.

## Population status

Widespread and regionally abundant. In the European Palaearctic the populations have stabilized at lower levels after a drastic decline from the 1950s to the 1970s. Now increasing in numbers in nursery colonies and hibernation quarters. An attempted colonization of southern England in the 1950s had failed by the 1990s.

## International legal & conservation status

Bern Convention, Appendix II.

Bonn Convention, Appendix II.

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

IUCN Red List, Lower Risk – near threatened.

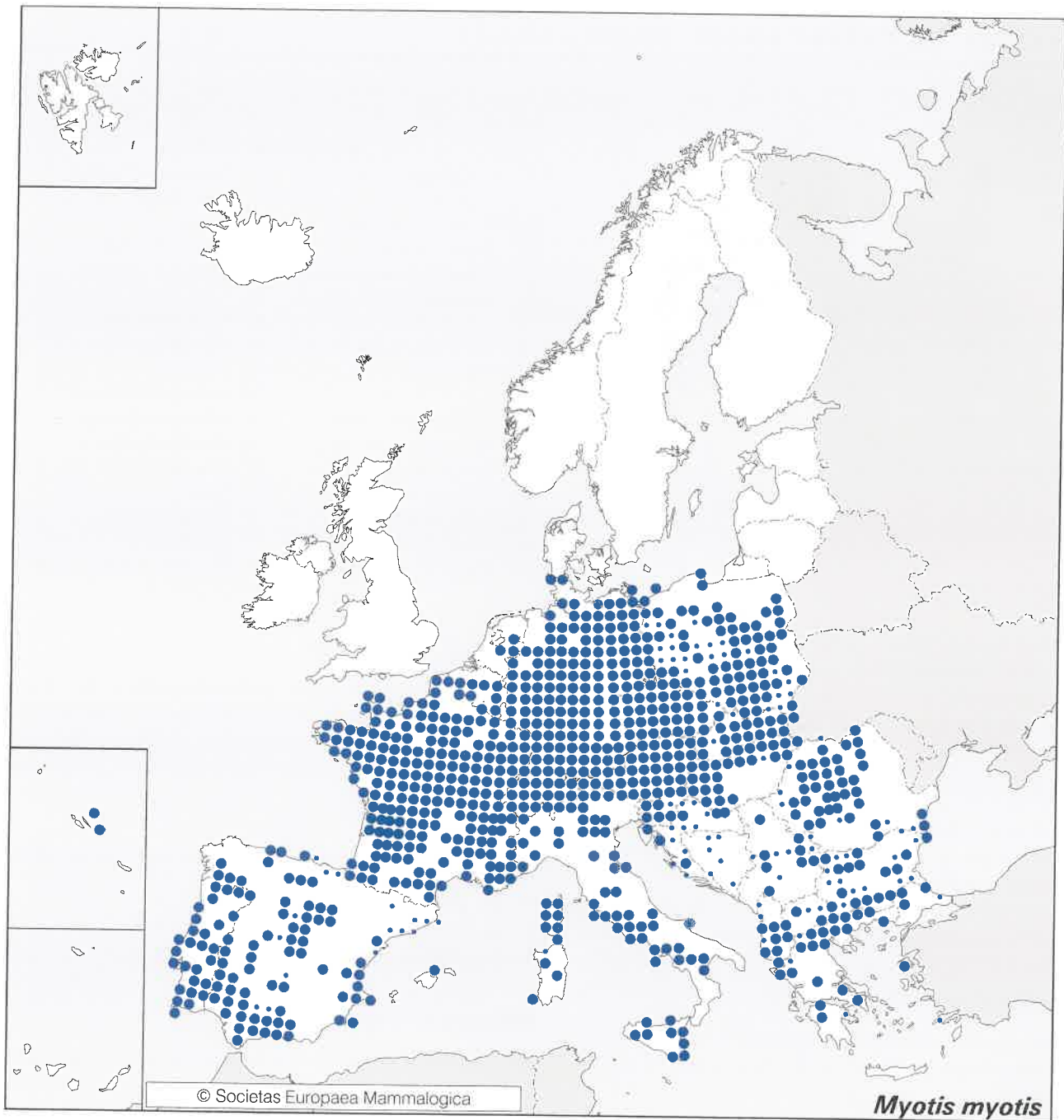
## Other information

Remedial timber treatment in buildings and disturbance in nursery and hibernation sites are probably the main threats.

## Literature

Arlettaz *et al.* (1997)

Benda & Horáček (1995a)



Graf *et al.* (1992)  
Petersons (1995)  
Spitzenberger (1996)  
Stutz (1989)

H-P. B. Stutz