

Myotis daubentonii (KUHL, 1817)



D. Roth

Daubenton's bat

AL	Lakuriqate veshmiu i Daubentonit	LT	Vandeninis pelėausis
BG	Воден ношник	LV	Ūdeņu naktssikspārnis
CZ	Netopýr vodní	MK	Водяная ноћник
DE	Wasserfledermaus	MT	-
DK	Vandflagermus	NL	Watervleermuis
EE	Veelendlane	NO	Vannflaggermus
ES	Murciélago de ribera	PL	Nocek rudy
FI	Vesisiippa	PT	Morcego-de-água
FO	-	RO	Liliacul de apă
FR	Murin de Daubenton	RU	Водяная ночница
GR	Μυωτίδα του Daubenton	SE	Vattenfladdermus
HR	Riječni šišmiš	SI	Obvodni netopir
HU	Vízi denevér	SK	Netopier vodný
IR	Ialtóg daubentóin	TR	Su yarasaı
IS	Vatnablaka	YU	Водени вечерњак
IT	Vespertilio di Daubenton		

Distribution

World: from western Europe to eastern Siberia, Manchuria, Sakhalin, Kamchatka, the Kurile Islands, Hokkaido, Korea and eastern China. Also southern China (including Tibet) and north-eastern India.

Europe: from Portugal and Ireland to the Urals and from central Scandinavia to southern Italy and northern Greece.

Geographic variation

Three subspecies currently recognized, but only the nominate form in Europe. Individuals from the northern part of the range in the western Palaearctic are larger than those from the south.

Habitat

Associated with lakes, ponds, and streams, but also regularly hunts in deciduous and mixed forests. Summer shelters mostly in hollow trees, sometimes in buildings, under bridges, in bird- and bat-boxes, rock crevices, and nest tunnels of sand martins *Riparia riparia*. Hibernates in caves or abandoned forts and mines, often in cellars and concrete bunkers in large cities. The upper altitudinal limit usually within 400–700 m in summer, and 300–1100 m in winter. Consumes a diversity of Diptera (mainly non-biting midges – Chironomidae), Lepidoptera, Hemiptera, Trichoptera, Ephemeroptera, and Coleoptera. Dispersal season dominated by short-range flights (1–88 km); longest recorded movement 260 km.

Population status

One of the most abundant bats in Europe. Populations have increased in size in many parts of the range, perhaps due to favourable climatic changes. Some eutrophication might also be beneficial (more chironomids). A density above 1 ind./km² recorded in the Bohemian pond region in the Czech Republic, and ca. 2.4 ind./km² in north-eastern Scotland, near the northern limit of its distribution.

International legal & conservation status

Bern Convention, Appendix II.

Bonn Convention, Appendix II.

EU Habitats & Species Directive, Annex IV.

Other information

Main threats are disturbance in hibernation and loss of roosts. Killed by vandals, especially while hibernating. Nursery roosts in buildings threatened by remedial timber treatments. In Russia, considered to be an important factor in limiting the focus of malaria and tularemia.

Literature

Bogdanowicz (1994) – review

Corbet & Hill (1992)

Kokurewicz (1995)

Kuzjakin (1950)

Mitchell-Jones *et al.* (1989)

W. Bogdanowicz

