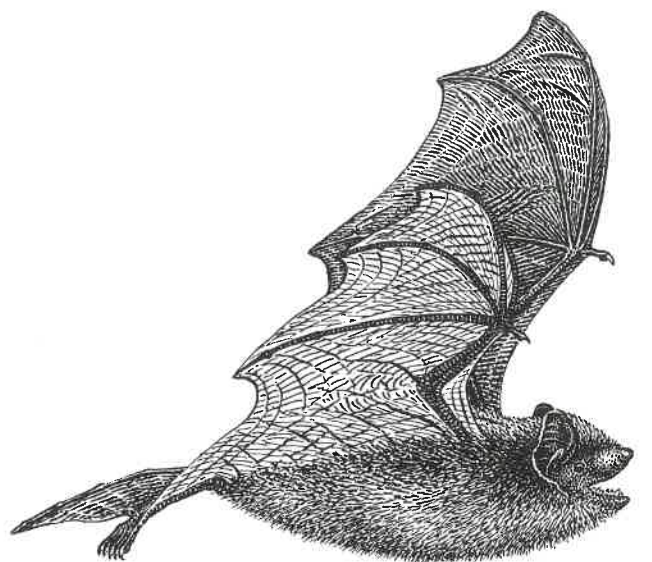


Pipistrellus maderensis (DOBSON, 1878)



P. Twisk

A geographically isolated form with no completely clear taxonomic status. Regarded as a valid species by most authors, although sometimes suggested to be conspecific with *Pipistrellus kuhlii*.

Distribution

World and Europe: very limited; only Madeira and four of the Canary Islands: Tenerife, La Gomera, La Palma, and El Hierro.

Geographic variation

None known.

Habitat

Associated with areas of human settlement, also in woodlands, then most frequently in pine forests. Altitudinal range from sea level to 2150 m on the Canary Islands, preferring lowlands on Madeira. Hunts small flying insects (Lepidoptera, Diptera, and Coleoptera) at low or medium height, around street lamps and over water surfaces. Breeds in cracks of buildings. As summer roosts and mating sites it also uses hollow trees and bird- or bat-boxes. Found in crevices in rocks and bridges in winter.

Population status

Not well known as there are no historical data on its population size. Not threatened on Madeira. The most

Madeira pipistrelle

| | | | |
|----|-------------------------|----|------------------------|
| AL | - | LT | - |
| BG | Мадейрски прилеп | LU | - |
| CZ | Netopýr makaronéský | LV | - |
| DE | Madeira-Zwergfledermaus | MK | - |
| DK | - | MT | - |
| EE | - | NL | Madeira dwergvleermuis |
| ES | Murciélago de Madeira | NO | - |
| FI | Madeiranpikkulepakko | PL | Karlik maderski |
| FO | - | PT | Morcego da Madeira |
| FR | Pipistrelle de Madère | RO | - |
| GR | - | RU | Мадейрский нетопырь |
| HR | Madeirski šišmiš | SE | - |
| HU | Madeira-törpedenevér | SI | Madejrski mali netopir |
| IR | - | SK | - |
| IS | - | TR | - |
| IT | Pipistrello di Madeira | YU | - |

abundant bat species in all the Canary Islands where it is recorded. Although the population decreased in the 1950s after aerial spraying for pest control, it is now likely to be increasing.

International legal & conservation status

Bern Convention, Appendix II.
Bonn Convention, Appendix II.
EU Habitats & Species Directive, Annex IV.

Other information

A regional programme for the protection of bats started on the Canary Islands in 1993. Soon afterwards hundreds of bat-boxes were erected in selected wooded areas. Some other roosts have been protected from human disturbance. The extensive use of agricultural pesticides is perhaps the greatest threat on the Canary Islands.

Literature

Benzal & Fajardo (1994)
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Corbet (1978)
Mathias (1988)
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S. Fajardo & J. Benzal

