

# *Nyctalus leisleri* (KUHL, 1817)



D. Roth

## Leisler's bat

AL	-	LU	-
BG	Лайслеров вечерник	LV	Mazais vakarsikspārnis
CZ	Netopýr stromový	MK	Шумски вечерник
DE	Kleinabendsegler	MT	-
DK	Leislers flagermus	NL	Bosvleermuis
EE	Väikevidevlane	NO	Leislerflaggermus
ES	Murciélago noctulo pequeño	PL	Borowiec Leislera; Borowiaczek
FI	Metsäisolepakko	PT	Morcego-arborícola- pequeno
FO	Leislers flogmús	RO	Liliacul-mic-de-amurg
FR	Noctule de Leisler	RU	Малая вечерница
GR	Μικροβυχοβάτης	SE	Leislers fladdermus
HR	Mali večernjak	SI	Gozdni mračnik
HU	Szöröskarú koraidenevér	SK	Netopier stromový
IS	-	TR	Küçük akşamcı yarasa
IT	Nottola di Leisler	YU	Мали ноћник
LT	Mažasis nakviša		

## Distribution

**World:** from western Europe to south-western Asia, east to 79° 40' E in Uttar Pradesh, India. Also north-western Africa.

**Europe:** throughout, except Iceland, Denmark, Norway, most of Sweden, Finland, Estonia and northern Russia.

## Geographic variation

Two currently recognized subspecies, *N. leisleri leisleri* and *N. l. verrucosus* Bowdich, 1825; the latter smaller than the former and geographically isolated to Madeira.

## Habitat

Although considered a tree-roosting species in Europe, in Ireland nursery roosts are chiefly located in attic spaces of buildings. There are no records of hibernacula from Ireland. Elsewhere hibernation is thought to be in hollow trees, buildings, and occasionally in rock crevices. Foraging is mainly concentrated over open areas. There may be marked differences in the diet between countries. In Ireland and England, Diptera of the suborders Nematocera and Cyclorrhapha are by far the most significant prey, but Coleoptera, Trichoptera, and Lepidoptera are also important. Limited data from Germany indicate that Lepidoptera, Nematocera, and Neuroptera may, at least locally, be important food items (C. Shiel, unpubl.). Generally migratory; longest recorded movement 1245 km – from Russia to Turkey.

## Population status

Ireland is generally considered to be the stronghold of its world distribution. Initial investigations suggest that the Irish population is stable, with nursery colonies of up to 100 individuals relatively common. Elsewhere considered to be vulnerable, although a greater interest in bats notably increased the number of records in Iberia, Britain, France, Germany, and Greece.

## International legal & conservation status

Bern Convention, Appendix II.

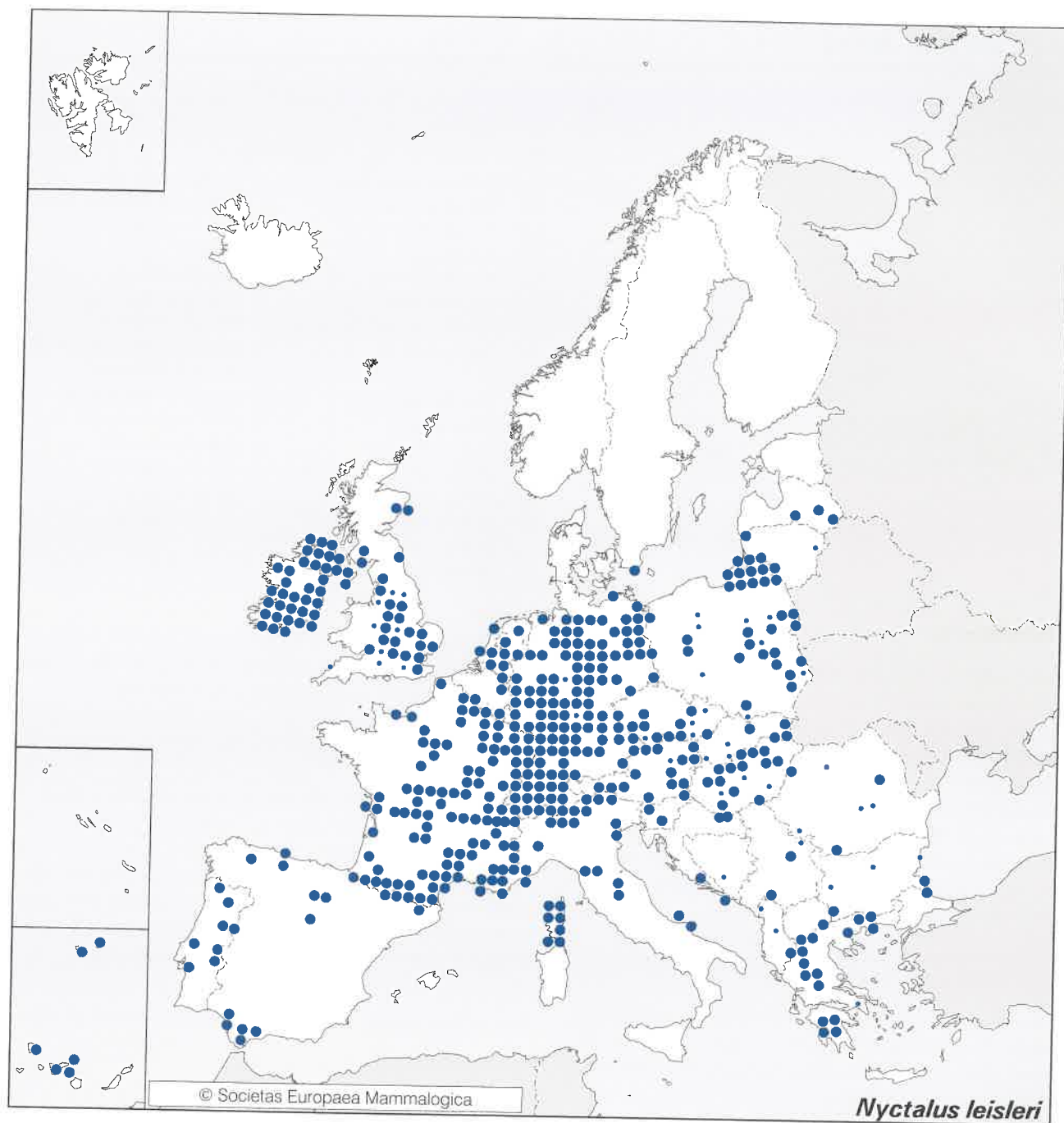
Bonn Convention, Appendix II.

EU Habitats & Species Directive, Annex IV.

IUCN Red List, Lower Risk – near threatened.

## Other information

As Leisler's is Ireland's largest bat it does not appear to suffer competition from any other bat species (e.g., noctule). This may explain its relative success and abundance there. The main threat to this species in Ireland is the exclusion of nursery colonies from buildings.



## Literature

- Bates & Harrison (1997)  
 Bogdanowicz & Ruprecht (in press) – review  
 Hanák & Gaisler (1983)  
 Palmeirim (1991)  
 Schober & Grimmberger (1989)  
 Sullivan *et al.* (1993)

C. Shiel