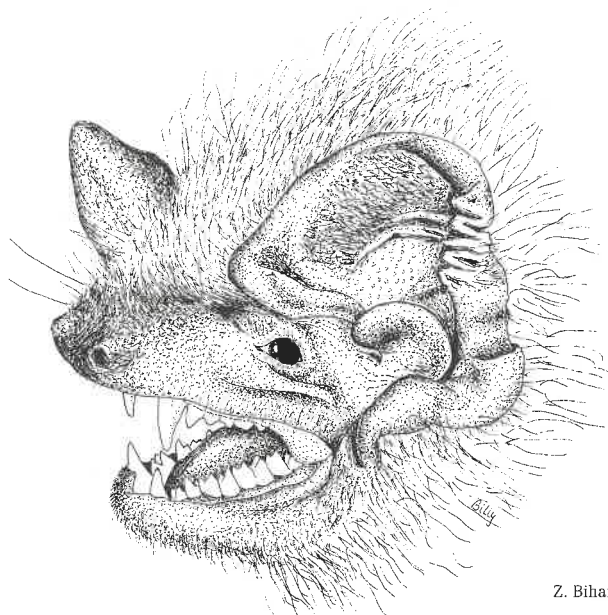


Nyctalus lasiopterus (SCHREBER, 1780)



Z. Bihari

Nyctalus aviator (Thomas, 1911) from Japan, China, and Korea was thought to be a subspecies of *N. lasiopterus*, but now it is recognized as a separate species.

Distribution

World: Palaearctic, from the Atlantic coast of Europe (Portugal, Spain, and France) to Iran and the Ust-Urt plateau in Uzbekistan; from north Africa to Poland and the Gor'kij region in Russia. One record (by some due to passive transportation – J. B. M. Thissen, pers. comm.) also from the Netherlands.

Europe: partially known. Mainly Mediterranean in western Europe; as far north as 55°N and even beyond this latitude in eastern Europe. Absent from the northern part of the continent.

Geographic variation

None known.

Habitat

Occupies mixed forests, mainly with deciduous trees, and large parks in southern and western Europe. Associated with oak and oak-hornbeam forests in the Ukraine and Russia. Relatively regular in willow and poplar woodlands along river valleys during migrations. Nursery roosts and hibernacula in hollows of old trees, less common in buildings. Preys on large moths and beetles high over open areas or above tree tops.

Greater noctule

AL -	LT Didysis nakviša
BG Голям вечерник	LU -
CZ Netopýr obrovský	LV Milzu vakarsikspārnis
DE Riesenabendsegler	MK Голем вечерник
DK Stor brunflagermus	MT -
EE Hiidvidevlane	NL Grote rosse vleermuis
ES Murciélago noctulo grande	NO Riseflaggermus
FI Jättiläislepakko	PL Borowiec olbrzymi
FO -	PT Morcego-arboricola-gigante
FR Grande noctule	RO Liliacul-mare-de-amurg
GR Μεγάλος νυχτβάτης	RU Гигантская вечерница
HR Veliki večernjak	SE Jättefladdermus
HU Óriás-koraidenevér	SI Veliki mračnik
IR -	SK Netopier východný
IS -	TR Büyük akşamcı yarasa
IT Nottola gigante	YU Велики ноћник

Population status

Unknown. Up to now recorded in about 120–130 localities in Europe. In southern Spain 57 bats were ringed in three different localities of the same area from 1989 to 1993. In the Sierra de Gredos and the city of Seville (Spain) two groups composed respectively of 3 and 12 bats have been found in hollow trees since 1979. In eastern Europe, further east fewer greater noctules are found. Rare in north Africa, with only a few scattered records.

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

Loss of deciduous woodlands, parklands, and hollow trees are probably the greatest threat. Reduction in number of large insects may also be affecting populations.

Literature

Ibáñez *et al.* (in press) – review

Kuzjakin (1980)

Maeda (1983)

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