

Barbastella barbastellus (SCHREBER, 1774)



T. P. McOwat

Distribution

World: from the north of the Iberian Peninsula to the Caucasus and from southern Scandinavia and Latvia to some, Mediterranean islands and Morocco; also Canary Islands.

Europe: throughout, except Iceland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, most of Scandinavia, Estonia and much of southern Europe. A single bat-detector record from Ireland (I. Ahlén, pers. comm).

Geographic variation

None known.

Habitat

Probably prefers upland and forest habitats. In Austria known localities range from 170 m to 1990 m altitude but are concentrated in the submontane and montane belt. Recorded at 2260 m in the Pyrenean mountains. Hunts over water, along forest edges, and in parks. Roosts in hollow trees and buildings. Diet includes mainly microlepidopterans and small dipterans. Nursery colonies often found behind window shutters. Hibernates in caves, bunkers, tunnels or cellars, especially in cold places; usually solitary or in small groups but occasionally in large tight clusters of several hundred individuals. Appears to make reasonably long flights (up to 290 km), but data about regular migrations are lacking.

Barbastelle

AL	Barbastela	LT	Europinis plačiaausis
BG	Широкоух прилеп	LU	-
CZ	Netopýr černý	LV	Eiropas platausis
DE	Mopsfledermaus	MK	Широкоушест лилјак
DK	Bredøret flagermus	MT	-
EE	Laikõrv; Euroopa laikõrv	NL	Mopsvleermuis
ES	Murciélago de bosque	NO	Bredøreflaggermus
FI	Mopsilepakko	PL	Mopek
FO	-	PT	Morcego-negro
FR	Barbastelle d'Europe	RO	Liliacul-cârn
GR	Μπαρμπαστέλλος	RU	Европейская широкоушка
HR	Širokouhi mračnjak	SE	Barbastell
HU	Piszedenevér	SI	Širokouhi netopir
IR	Ialtóg geancach	SK	Netopier čierny
IS	Breiðeyrnablaka	TR	Sakallı yarasa
IT	Barbastello	YU	Широкочхи лиљак

Population status

Little known. Seems to be one of the rarest bats in western Europe. Endangered in several countries, including Germany, Switzerland, France, and Belgium. Probably extinct in the Netherlands (1994). A population decrease has been reported in most of its European range. The population density is probably much higher in central Europe (Bavaria, Bohemia, Slovakia, Poland), where winter colonies of several hundred bats are found. Most records come from winter periods and there have been few summer observations.

International legal & conservation status

Bern Convention, Appendix II.

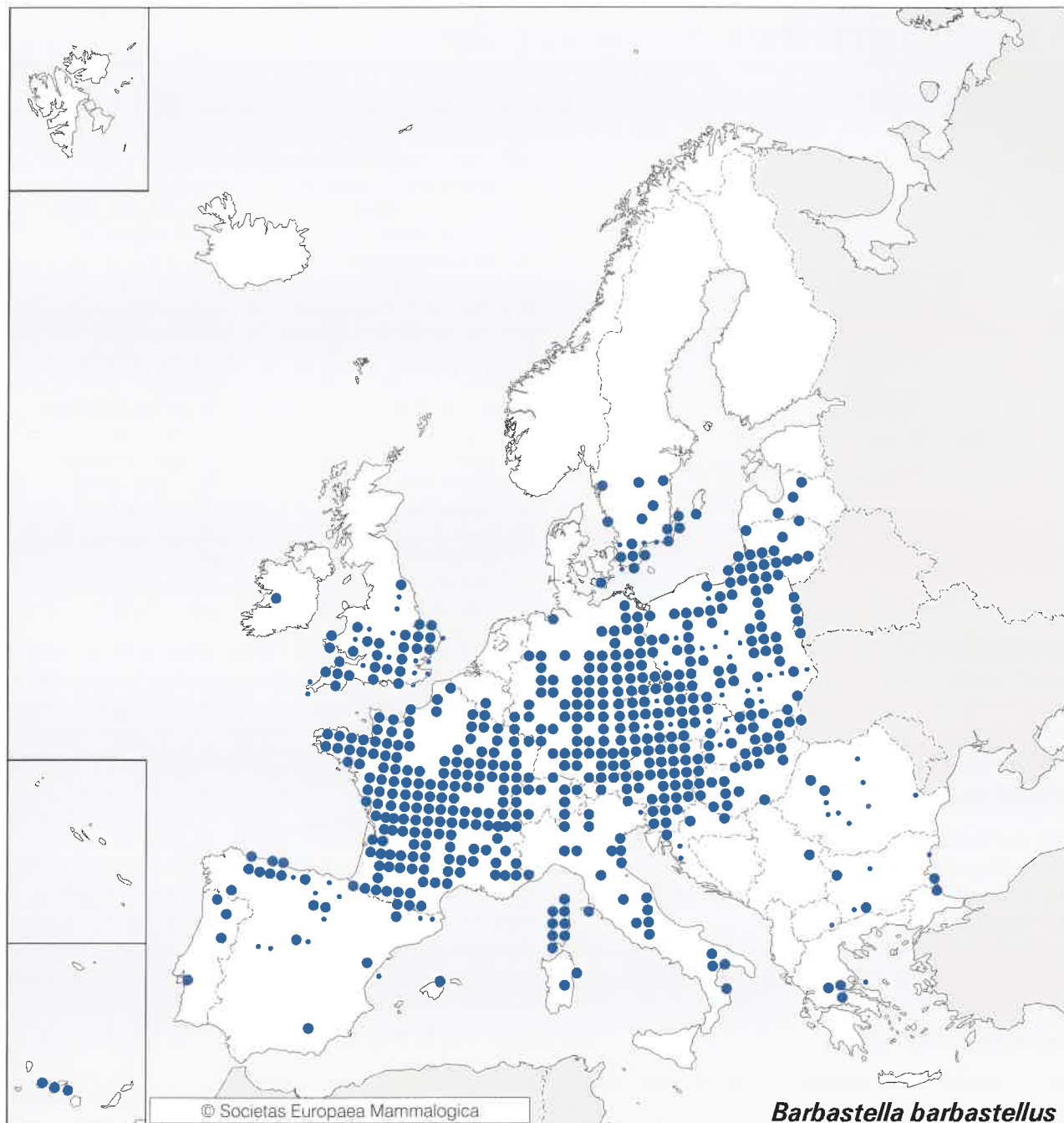
Bonn Convention, Appendix II.

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

IUCN Red List, Vulnerable.

Other information

May be subject to some illegal persecution. Very sensitive to disturbance and this factor, together with the loss of roosts and food, is probably causing a major population decrease. Protecting key sites and creating new roosts would be the most important conservation measures.



Literature

- Hollander & Limpens (1997)
 Richarz (1989)
 Rydell & Bogdanowicz (1997) – review
 Spitzenberger (1993)
 Stebbings (1988)
 Urbańczyk (1990)

Z. Urbańczyk