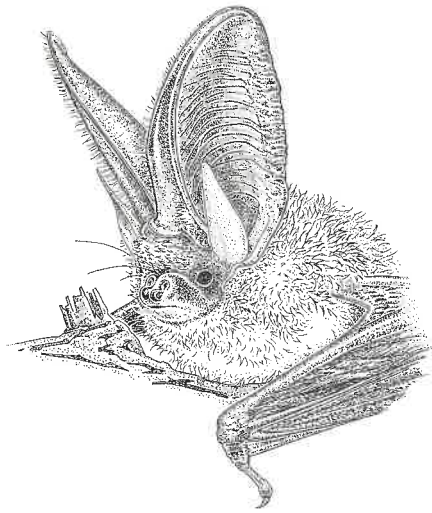


Plecotus auritus (LINNAEUS, 1758)



R. Lindsay

Similar in appearance to *Plecotus austriacus*, but generally smaller and its pelage is a browner colour; thumb usually over 6 mm, thumb claw long (2.5–3.0 mm) and pointed.

Distribution

World: Palaearctic, from the British Isles through Europe; disjunct distribution across Asia, with populations occurring in Mongolia, south-east Siberia, north-west China, and Japan.

Europe: widespread; as far south as southern Portugal, Italy, and Greece, and as far north as 63–64°N.

Geographic variation

Of the two currently recognized European subspecies, *P. auritus auritus* has a broad distribution in temperate and a large part of meridional Europe, whereas *P. a. begognae* de Paz, 1994 is practically limited to the centre of the Iberian Peninsula. Morphometrically, *P. a. begognae* is larger than the nominate form.

Habitat

Generally a woodland species, but will also hunt around isolated trees in parks and gardens. Lepidoptera and Diptera are the preferred prey and are often gleaned from foliage. Appears to forage in the vicinity of the roost, generally within 1 km. Uses the roof spaces of houses, barns, and churches, as well as tree holes in summer. Often roosts in older, wood-lined buildings, which are

Brown long-eared bat

AL	Lakuriqate veshgjate	LV	Garausainais sikspārnis;
BG	Дългоух прилеп		Brūnais garausainis
CZ	Netopýr ušatý	MK	Ушест лилјак
DE	Braunes Langohr	MT	-
DK	Langøret flagermus	NL	Grootoorvleermuis
EE	Suurkõrv; Pruun-suurkõrv	NO	Langøreflaggermus
ES	Murciélago orejudo dorado	PL	Gacek brunatny
FI	Korvayökkö	PT	Morcego-orelhudo-castanho
FO	-		
FR	Oreillard roux	RO	Liliacul-urecheat-brun
GR	Ωτονυχτερίδα	RU	Бурый ушан
HR	Sjeverni dugouhi šišmiš	SE	Långörad fladdermus
HU	Barna hosszúfülű-denevér	SI	Rjavi uhati netopir
IR	Ialtóg fhadcluasach	SK	Netopier svetlý
IS	Langeyrnablaka	TR	Kahverengi uzun kulaklı yarasa
IT	Orecchione comune		
LT	Rudasis ausylis	YU	Смеђи дчгочхи љиљак
LU	Laangouer-Flëntermaus		

situated close to woodland. Hibernates in caves, mines, buildings, and trees. Highest nursery roost 1660 m (Switzerland), otherwise up to 2000 m, but usually below that. Considered to be sedentary; longest recorded movement 66 km.

Population status

In summer distributed in many small colonies, with little interchange between them. Generally abundant in northern Europe, but rare in more southern countries. In central Europe (western Bohemia) summer population density about 0.1 ind./km². Evidence of local population declines in the Netherlands, and some suggestion of historical declines in north-eastern Scotland.

International legal & conservation status

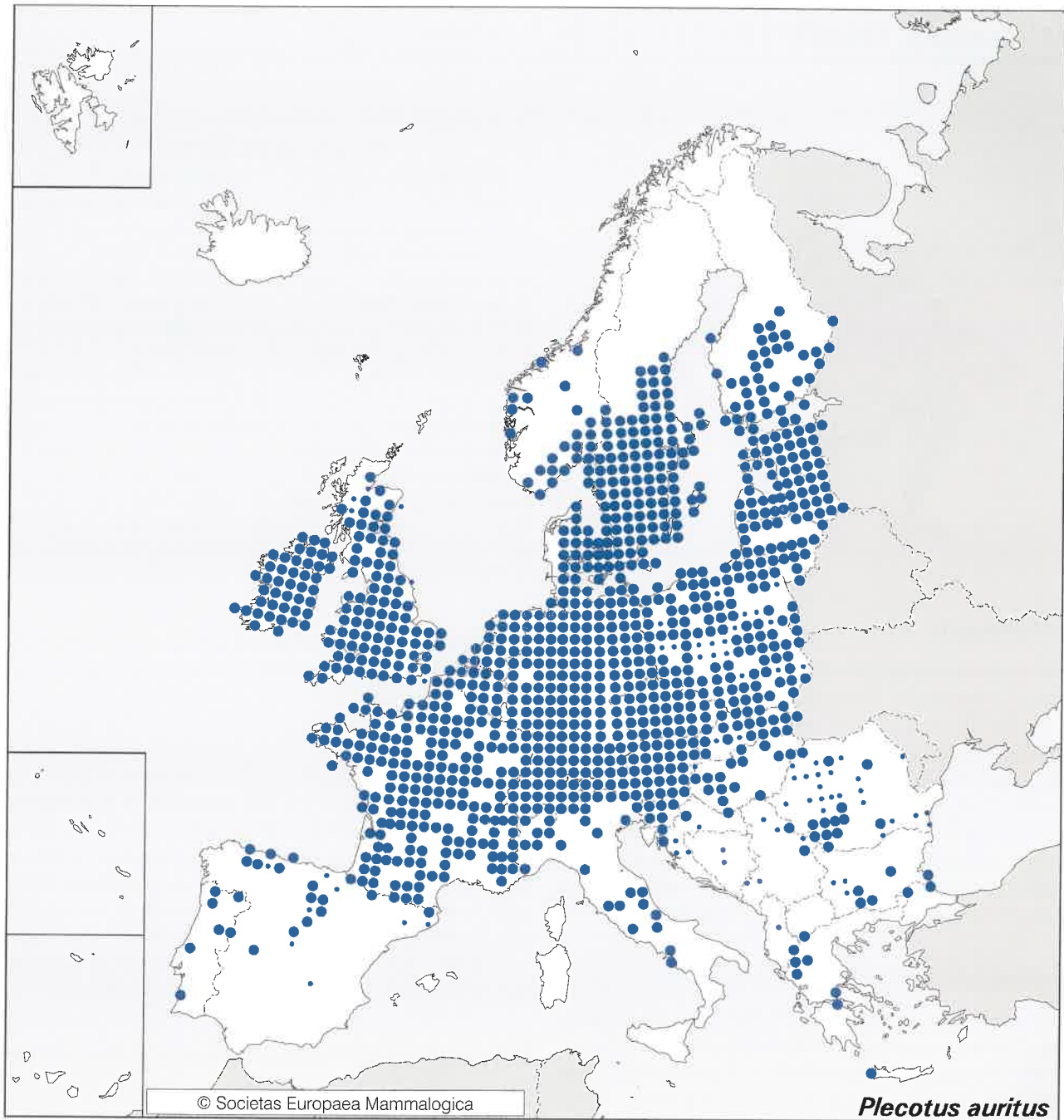
Bern Convention, Appendix II.

Bonn Convention, Appendix II.

EU Habitats & Species Directive, Annex IV.

Other information

Vulnerable to inappropriate pesticide applications within roosts. Bat-boxes may provide important roosts for this species.



Literature

- Entwistle *et al.* (1996, 1997)
 Heise & Schmidt (1988)
 Húrka (1989)
 Jansen & Buys (1997)
 Olsen *et al.* (1996)

A. C. Entwistle