

Plecotus austriacus (J. B. FISCHER, 1829)



R. Lindsay

Distribution

World: from Iberia and North Africa, north to southern England, eastwards throughout mainland Europe, except for Denmark and most of Scandinavia, to Mongolia, western China and the Himalayas. Also the Cape Verde islands.

Europe: from Portugal in the west and southern England, The Netherlands, northern Germany and northern Poland in the north, to south-west Belarus, the Ukraine and the Caucasus in the east, and Italy and Greece in the south. Also present on Madeira

Geographic variation

Many extralimital names. Of the two currently recognized European subspecies, *P. austriacus austriacus* has a broad distribution in temperate and a large part of meridional Europe, whereas *P. a. kolombatovici* Đulić, 1980 is geographically most probably limited to the Adriatic coast and islands of the former Yugoslavia. Morphometrically, *P. a. kolombatovici* is smaller than the nominate form.

Habitat

In central Europe, associated with lowland basins and open agricultural landscapes. Common in both small settlements and large towns, where it occupies various spaces in buildings. In southern Europe, inhabits a great variety of open and semi-covered areas in the subxerothermic country and roosts primarily in rocky cavities. Hibernates in buildings, caves, mines, and trees. Diet

Grey long-eared bat

AL Lakuriqnate veshgjate i hirte	LT Pilkasis ausylis
BG Сив дългоух прилеп	LU Gro Laangouer-Flëntermaus
CZ Netopýr dlouhouchý	LV Pelēkais garausainis
DE Graues Langohr	MK Сив ушет лилјак
DK Grå langøret flagermus	MT Farfett il-Lejl Widnejh Kbar
EE Hall-suurkõrv	NL Grijze grootoorvleermuis
ES Murciélago orejudo gris	NO Grå langøreflaggermus
FI Harmaakorvayökkö	PL Gacek szary
FO -	PT Morcego-orelhudo-cinzentu
FR Oreillard gris	RO Liliacul urecheat cenușiu
GR Μεσογειακή ωτονοχητερίδα	RU Серый ушан
HR Jezni dugouhi šišmiš	SE Grå långörad fladdermus
HU Szürke hosszúfülű-denevér	SI Sivi uhati netopir
IR -	SK Netopier sivý
IS -	TR Gri uzun kulaklı yarasa
IT Orecchione meridionale	YU Сиви дчгочки лыляк

dominated by Lepidoptera (Noctuidae and Hepialidae). Sedentary, longest recorded movement 62 km.

Population status

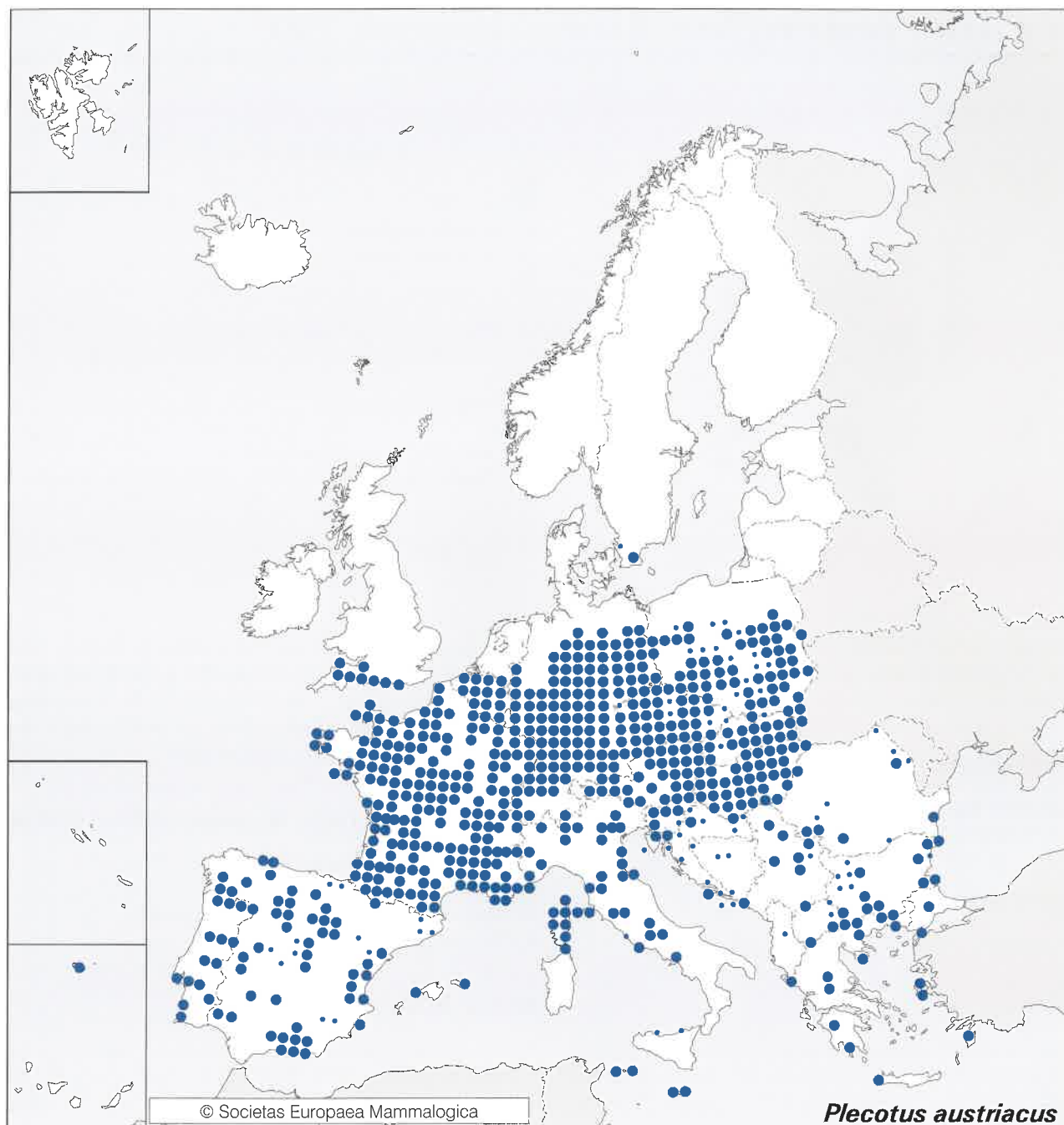
Relatively numerous in the Mediterranean and Transcaucasia and in the regions south of its northern border, including central Germany at about 50–52°N. In western Bohemia in the Czech Republic, summer population density was estimated to be around 0.1 ind./km². A density of up to 5 ind./km² has been recorded in the old residential quarters and garden areas of Brno. A decline in the 1970s in the northern part of its range has been attributed to cooler weather conditions.

International legal & conservation status

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

Other information

Vulnerable to remedial timber treatment. In Germany, found to be contaminated with residues of organochlorine insecticides, and seems to suffer badly from poisoning by wood preserving chemicals used during the renovation of buildings.



Literature

- Braun (1986)
 Corbet & Hill (1992)
 Gaisler (1979)
 Horáček *et al.* (in press) – review
 Hůrka (1989)
 Strelkov (1988)

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