

# *Microtus lusitanicus* (GERBE, 1879)



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## Lusitanian pine vole

AL	-	LU	-
BG	Иберийска полевка	LV	-
CZ	Hrabošík iberský	MK	-
DE	Iberien-Wühlmaus	MT	-
DK	-	NL	Baskische woelmuis
EE	-	NO	-
ES	Topillo lusitano	PL	Darniówka iberyjska
FI	Lusitiantunnelimyyrä	PT	Rato-cego
FO	-	RO	-
FR	Campagnol basque	RU	Иберийская полёвка
GR	-	SE	Västiberisk gransork
HR	Iberski voluharić	SI	Luzitanska kratkouha voluharica
HU	Baszk pocok	SK	-
IR	-	TR	-
IS	-	YU	-
IT	Arvicola di Portogallo		
LT	-		

## Distribution

Endemic to Europe, where restricted to a small area in the north-western triangle of the Iberian Peninsula; of marginal occurrence also in south-west of France.

## Geographic variation

Although several subspecies have been described, cranial and biometric evidence hardly justifies any further division of the species. Specimens from central Portugal, ascribed to the nominate subspecies, seem to differ from the remainder (*M. lusitanicus mariae* Forsyth Major, 1905). Karyotype is variable with several pericentric inversions being involved.

## Habitat

Burrows in deep soil, mainly on grasslands, pastures and cultivated fields; also stays close to small stone walls. It is less fossorial than *M. duodecimcostatus*, with which it is sympatric in the central part of the Iberian Peninsula. Altitudinal range is between sea level and 2000 m (Sierra de Gredos).

## Population status

No multiannual cyclic fluctuations recorded so far. Reproduction continues throughout the year.

## International legal & conservation status

None.

## Other information

Pest of orchards and vegetable crops. Control measures can affect local populations.

## Literature

Niethammer (1982i) – review  
Winking (1976)

L. J. Palomo

