

Myotis myotis (Borkhausen, 1797) **Greater mouse-eared bat**

Measurements – Head-body length (65) 67-79 (84) mm; Tail length (40) 45-61 mm; Forearm length (54) 58-66 (68) mm; Wingspan 350-450 mm; Weight (16) 28-40,7 g.

Ecology – Forages in woodland with thin undergrowth and in open areas such as freshly cut meadows and bare ground. It winters in caves and mines; in summer, it roosts in buildings, tree holes and in bat boxes. Occasional migrant, usually moves less than 100 km but the longest known distance covered between summer and winter roosts is about 2,000 km. It feeds on insects gleaned from the ground, especially Coleoptera Carabidae. Females usually give birth to one young, exceptionally two, from May to July.

Range – Occurs in eastern, southern and central Europe, north to southern England, in most Mediterranean islands, Anatolia and, possibly, east to Turkmenistan.

All Italian regions are included in the species' range, except Sardinia.