

Pipistrellus nathusii* (Keyserling & Blasius, 1839) *Nathusius' pipistrelle

Measurements – Head-body length (42,2) 46-56 (58) mm; Tail length (30) 33-40 (44,6) mm; Forearm length 31-37 mm; Wingspan 220-250 mm; Weight 6-15,5 g.

Ecology– A woodland bat, found in broad-leaved forests where forages along the edges, and wetland. Also occurs in urban parks. Winter and summer roosts in trees and buildings; may also hibernate in stone cracks and in bat boxes in summer. Migrant, the longest flight so far recorded is 1.905 km. Preys on small insects caught on the wing, including Diptera, Lepidoptera, Tricoptera and Coleoptera. Females give birth usually to two young, rarely one, between June and July.

Range – Occurs in Europe, especially in central Europe, north to Scotland and southern Finland; also found in Anatolia and Transcaucasia.

Italian records all refer to the north and the centre of the country; scarce or perhaps locally extinct in the south. No confirmed records from Sicily and Sardinia.