

***Plecotus auritus* (Linnaeus, 1758) Brown long-eared bat**

Measurements – Head-body length (38,8) 42-53 (55) mm; Tail length (32) 37-55 mm; Forearm length (34) 37-42 mm; Wingspan 240-285 mm; Weight (4,6) 6,5-9,2 (12) g.

Ecology – Found in woodland, parks and gardens. Winter roosts are caves and mines, cellars and also tree holes; in summer, roosts in tree holes, bat boxes and attics. Probably sedentary, the longest move recorded is 66 km. Feeds mainly on Lepidoptera but also on Diptera either caught on the wing or gleaned from the substrate. Females give birth to one young, exceptionally two, in June-July.

Range –Occurs throughout Europe up to 64° N, and, in Palaearctic Asia, to Japan and the Himalayan region. In Italy recorded in most peninsular areas and on Sardinia.