

***Miniopterus schreibersii* (Kuhl, 1817) Schreibers' bat**

Measurements - Head-body length (48) 50-62 (65) mm; Tail length (46) 56-64 mm; Forearm length (42) 45-48 mm; Weight 8-17 g.

Ecology – The species is found at low altitude in different habitats, hunts mainly along woodland edges or open habitat. Roosts mainly in caves and mines where it may both hibernate and reproduce. In warmer climates is sedentary but in temperate zones there are records of 550 km migratory moves. Its diet is based mainly on Lepidoptera it catches on the wing, but preys also on ballooning spiders. Maternity colonies can number thousands of females which give birth to one young, rarely two, in May and July.

Range – Sub-cosmopolitan species, occurs in southern Europe and from the south of central Europe to Japan, most of China, throughout Caucasus and south-western Asia. It also occurs in New Guinea, Solomon Islands (Bougainville Island included), Australia, Bismarck Archipelago, major islands of the Mediterranean, Maltese Islands, Mediterranean and sub-Saharan Africa, Madagascar and Comoros.

Occurs throughout Italy.