

REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA



Yerevan State University, Biological Faculty

Armenian National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Zoology

Ministry of Nature Protection of RA

Armenian Nature Protectors Union

Slavonic University (RAU), Medico-Biological Faculty



**Update to the National Report on the
implementation of the EUROBATS Agreement
in the Republic of Armenia**

Yerevan, 2009

Armenia

General Information

Non-Party Range: Republic of Armenia

Date of Report: May 2009

Period covered: August 2008 – May 2009

Competent Authorities:

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For the last eight months starting from submission of report in August, 2008 and the current one - in May, 2009, the team continued the research on the identification of the species composition of bats (*Chiroptera*), as well as the study of their habitats, ecology and lifestyle in territories of Republic of Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh.

The scientific group under the supervision of professor Eduard Yavruyan, consisting of assistant professors, graduate students, laboratory assistants, masters, bachelors and volunteers in the mentioned period managed the following:

1. to find out and register the habitat of *Myotis daubentonii* - a species new to the fauna of Armenia;

2. to reveal the new sanctuaries of *Rhinolophus blasii*, *R. euryale*, *Plecotus macrobularis*, *Miniopterus schreibersii*, *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* and *P. kuhlii*;

3. to fill data on ecology (activities, ration, stern composition and parasites) of *Myotis bechsteinii*, *Pipistrellus pygmaeus* and *Rhinolophus ferumequinum*;

4. to gain new data and analyze the results regarding flora composition, mycology, geology, microclimate and fauna of the caves encountered in Tavoush and Syunik regions;

5. to complete the maps and cadastres of the bats registered in Armenia and Artsakh (RNK);

6. to complete and publish “Bats Conservation Action Plan for the Caucasus” in English, Armenian, Georgian and Azerbaijani languages.

In the reporting period, 4 articles were published, and we participated in 2 conferences with regard to typing theses.

One PhD thesis devoted to “Ecology and anatomical-morphological particularities of some Mammals of Armenia and NKR” is being prepared for defense.

The scientific group of Armenian Nature Protectors Union NGO, in cooperation with employees and students from Yerevan State University and Slavonic University and with the assistance of Ministry of Nature Protection of RA fights with informal organizations who try to re-equip “Magela” cave (that was closed with a metal railing by ourselves) under museum and start there archeological excavations. Similar actions are going on in "Ptichiya" cave.

We keep on working with our Polish and Czech colleagues (Dr. Bogdanowich, Dr. Turleiski and Dr. Frinta).

The question of joining Armenia to EUROBATS is passed from Ministry of Nature Protection to Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Armenia.

The updated table of species composition of Chiroptera bats encountered in Armenia and RNK for 2009 is given below.

No	Species	Status	Trends	Habitats	Average number in colonies
1	Rhinolophus euryale	RBA, rare	stable	S,MS,MF	15-350
2	Rhinolophus mehelyi	RBA, rare	decline	MS,MF,S	5-30
3	Rhinolophus hipposideros	rare	decline	MS	1-175
4	Rhinolophus ferrumequinum	common	stable	V	10-7000

5	Rhinolophus blasii	New, rare	decline	MS,S	5-55
6	Myotis blythii	common	stable	V	1-10000
7	Myotis bechsteinii	New, numerous	decline (?)	V	1-7
8	Myotis nattereri	RBA, rare	decline	MS, MF	5-12
9	Myotis schaubii	New, numerous	decline (?)	MS, MF	1-3
10	Myotis emarginatus	rare	decline	V	1-5
11	Myotis mystacinus	rare	decline	V	1-12
12	Myotis hajastanicus	New, numerous	decline (?)	V	1-5
13	Myotis daubentonii	New, numerous	(?)	V ?	1-3
14	Plecotus auritus	common	decline (?)	V	1-142
15	Plecotus austriacus	rare	decline	MS	1-7
16	Plecotus macrobullaris	rare	decline (?)	V	1-5
17	Barbastella barbastella	rare	decline	MS	1-7
18	Barbastella leucomelas	RBA, rare	?	MS, MF	1-5
19	Nyctalus noctula	rare	?	LF, MS, MF	2-12
20	Nyctalus leisleri	numerous	?	MF	1-3
21	Pipistrellus kuhlii	common	stable	V	10-8000
22	Pipistrellus pipistrellus	common	stable	V	35-28000
23	Pipistrellus pygmaeus	New, numerous	stable	V	3-45
24	Pipistrellus nathusii	rare	decline (?)	MF, LF	3-9
25	Hypsugo savii	rare	?	V	1-2
26	Vespertilio murinus	rare	?	MS	2-5
27	Eptesicus serotinus	rare	?	V	1-3
28	Eptesicus bottae	numerous	?	MS, S	1-2
29	Miniopterus schreibersii	RBA, rare	decline	MS, MF	2-220
30	Tadarida teniotis	RBA, rare	?	MF	3-11

Status: RBA – Red Book of Armenian SSR (1987)

Habitats: MS – Mountain Steppe; MF – Mountain Forest; LF – Lowland Forest; S – Semi-desert; V - Various

Trends: decline (?) – status can be changed

Report was prepared on the basis of researches carried out by the researcher group of Armenian Nature Protectors Union NGO, Department of Zoology of Yerevan State University, Biological Faculty of Slavonic State University (RAU) and Medico-Biological Faculty of Yerevan State University.