

On the occurrence of Geoffroy's Bat, *Myotis emarginatus* (Geoffroy, 1806), in Turkey (Chiroptera: Vespertilionidae)

by Ahmet Karataş and Seyfi Arpat Özgül

Abstract. *Myotis emarginatus* was collected at eleven new localities in southern Turkey and Turkish Thrace, and specimens were examined from morphological and biometric points of view. Comparison of these characteristics with literature data revealed that the Turkish population belongs to the nominate subspecies. The distribution area extends mainly along the coastal zones of Turkey.

Kurzfassung. Die Wimperfledermaus, *Myotis emarginatus*, wurde in der Süd-Türkei und in Türkisch-Thrazien an 11 neuen Fundorten festgestellt. Die gesammelten Tiere wurden in morphologischer und biometrischer Hinsicht untersucht. Der Vergleich mit Literaturdaten ergab, dass die türkische Population zur Nominat-Subspezies gehört. Die Verbreitung erstreckt sich hauptsächlich entlang der Küstenzone.

Key words. Bats, distribution, ecology, Turkey, Mediterranean, Thrace, Middle East.

Introduction

Geoffroy's Bat, *Myotis emarginatus* (Geoffroy, 1806), is one of the eleven species of the mouse-eared bats, genus *Myotis* Kaup, 1829, recorded in Turkey (BENDA & HORÁČEK 1998b, BENDA & TSYTSULINA 2000). The range of this species extends through the Western Palaearctic Region: southern and central Europe, southwards to North Africa and the Levant, northwards up to Crimea, eastwards to Anatolia, Caucasus, Transcaucasia, Iran up to central Asia (e.g. BENDA 1996, CORBET 1978, KOOPMAN 1994, MITCHELL-JONES et al. 1999, SCHÖBER & GRIMMBERGER 1997). *M. emarginatus* was recorded in Turkey for the first time by DORIA (1887). However, KUMERLOEVE (1975) considered this record as doubtful and ÇAĞLAR (1961) and ALBAYRAK (1990, 1993) accordingly omitted this record. The first accepted records of the species in Turkish Thrace and Anatolia were by ÇAĞLAR (1961) and HELVERSEN (1989), and several records from various localities have been published subsequently (AKTAŞ 1990, AKTAŞ & HASBENLİ 1994, ALBAYRAK 1990, 1993, BENDA 1996, BENDA & HORÁČEK 1998a, 1998b, HASBENLİ 1997, HELVERSEN 1989, OBUCH 1994).

M. emarginatus has been divided into several subspecies of which, according to the author consulted, three to four are treated as valid (CORBET 1978, STRELKOV et al. 1978, DEBLASE 1980, HARRISON & BATES 1991, KOOPMAN 1994, TOPÁL 2001): *emarginatus* (Geoffroy, 1806) (*terra-typica*: Charlemont, Givet, Ardennes, France), *desertorum* (Dobson, 1875) (*t.-t.*: Jalk, Baluchistan, Iran), *saturatus* Kuzyakin, 1934 (*t.-t.*: Tashkent, Uzbekistan), perhaps also *turcomanicus* Bobrinskii, 1925 (*t.-t.*: Murghab Valley, Turkmenistan). Hardly any in-