



# Species fact sheet

## *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*

### Common pipistrelle

Zwergfledermaus  
Pipistrelle commune  
Pippistrello nano  
Pipistrel nanin

### Characteristics

Wingspan: 18-24 cm  
Weight: 3-6 g  
Max. age: 16 years  
Offspring/year: 1-2

### Status

Protection: protected by NCHA  
Red List: LC (Least Concern)  
National Priority: n (none)  
Other: -

**Synergies:** Whiskered bat, Soprano pipistrelle, Kuhl's pipistrelle, Nathusius's pipistrelle



Colony in a bat box

### Habitat use

#### Roosts

Uses various cavities on buildings during the day in summer, e.g. in roof interspaces, shutter cases, façade gaps, behind wall cladding or beams, but also bat boxes. Usually forms roosts of a few dozen, but sometimes up to 250 individuals. Roosts change every few days to weeks during the summer, with the same roosts often being used every year. Distance between roosts up to 20 km. Also, often on and in buildings in winter. Probably also hibernates in rock crevices.

#### Foraging grounds

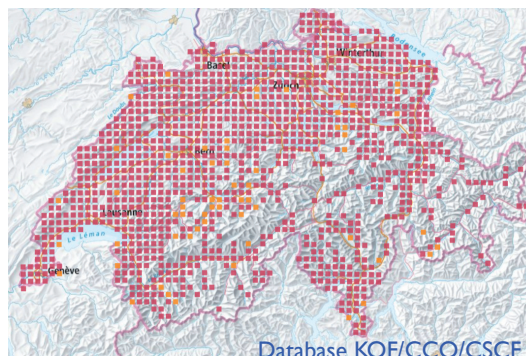
Opportunistic forager of semi-open, cultivated land. Foraging habitats include gardens, parks, water banks, forest edges, hedges, etc. Often forages near streetlights. Foraging grounds mostly in the immediate vicinity of roosts. Size of foraging areas: 10-100 ha.

#### Flight corridors

Little sensitive to light, with hardly any structural dependence. Flight corridors therefore of secondary importance. Distance between summer and winter roosts usually less than 20 km.

### Distribution

Apart from the high Alps, almost everywhere in Switzerland, with densities of up to 22 females per km<sup>2</sup>. Nursery roosts mostly below 1000 m.a.s.l., but individual records up to over 3200 m.a.s.l.



Database KOF/CCO/GSCF



## Threats

- Loss of roosts due to unaccompanied building works: Renovations, energetic optimization of the building envelope, closure of access points, conversions, use of toxic wood preservatives
- Decline in food supply, especially in the cultivated landscape: more intensive and large-scale agriculture, sterile, non-natural private gardens and problematic, often unnecessary use of pesticides in agriculture and private households.
- Possible displacement by Kuhl's pipistrelle (*P. kuhlii*).

## Mitigation measures

Due to the abundance of the species, no specific measures that go beyond the Nature and Cultural Heritage Protection Act are currently necessary. However, general measures that also benefit other (bat) species are well suited. Medium-term planning of monitoring due to suspected competition with Kuhl's pipistrelle.

### Roosts

Strengthening of the protection of existing nursery roosts (inclusion in regional planning acts). Consultation of the [Regional Coordination Center for Bat Conservation](#) in the event of structural changes to known roosts.

### Foraging grounds

Propagation of near-natural gardens with native, site-appropriate planting. Increase of the proportion of green spaces in residential areas. Reduction of the use of pesticides in private households and agriculture.

### Flight corridors

Synergies with other species to establish an ecological infrastructure through the settlement area (e.g. green spaces or dark corridors).



## Literature

- Bohnenstengel et al. (2014). [Rote Liste Fledermäuse, Stand 2011](#). Umwelt-Vollzug 1412.
- Dietz et al. (2018). Bats of Britain and Europe. Bloomsbury Academic, London.
- Krättli et al. (2012). [Konzept Artenförderung Fledermäuse 2013-2020](#). Schweizerische Koordinationsstelle für Fledermausschutz.

## Links

- [fledermausschutz.ch](https://fledermausschutz.ch)
- [institutions.ville-geneve.ch/fr/cco/pipistrelliticino.ch](https://institutions.ville-geneve.ch/fr/cco/pipistrelliticino.ch)