

Quick facts

Order Chiroptera

Conservation statusGB *Near threatened*



England Near threatened
Scotland Vulnerable
Wales Vulnerable
Global Least concern

GB trend Unknown

Size

Head & body 46 - 55 mm Forearm 32 - 38 mm Wingspan 228 - 250 mm

Weight 5.5 - 11g



Nathusius' Pipistrelle

Pipistrelle nathusii

A medium-sized pipistrelle with chestnut fur on the dorsal side and lighter fur underneath. The wings are broad, sometimes with a thin pale lateral edge. Until recently, this species was thought to be a vagrant in Great Britain.

Habitat

Around freshwater lakes, coastal areas, estuaries, canals, as well as agricultural areas, wind turbine sites, and woodland edges.

Behaviour

Activity peaks in spring and autumn, suggesting migration into UK - at least part of the British population is derived from Eastern Europe. No records of hibernating individuals in the UK.

Diet & Feeding

Preys mostly on flies and moths in flight.

Reproduction

Mating roosts have been identified in bat boxes and buildings. 5 maternity roosts known in England (none in Scotland or Wales) - 4 are in buildings, 1 in a bat box. This species migrates long distances and breeding areas are known in north-east Europe.

Conservation & Threats

Records are highly dispersed; concentrated survey effort is localised and appropriate recording equipment has been available for a relatively short time. Unclear to what extent records reflect individual migrants or vagrants rather than larger populations. Population in Britain probably at least several hundred. Climate change may have a positive impact on this species.

