

New records of *Pipistrellus kuhlii* in Prague, Czech Republic (Chiroptera: Vespertilionidae)

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Abstract. The paper presents three new findings of handicapped individuals of *Pipistrellus kuhlii* from the territory of the capital city of Prague in the years 2022 and 2023. All three individuals were admitted to the Wildlife Rescue Center in Prague. One find comes from the hibernation period, two finds come from the end of the summer period and the early period of autumn migrations. Two finds come from built-up areas, one find is from the outskirts of Prague. The probability of the existence of a maternity colony in central Bohemia is discussed.

Key words. Kuhl's pipistrelle, distribution, Bohemia.

Distribution range of the Kuhl's pipistrelle, *Pipistrellus kuhlii* (Kuhl, 1817), in Europe has expanded northwards during the last forty years (ANCILLOTTO et al. 2016). The first record of this species from the Czech Republic was made at the Dyje riverbank in Znojmo in 2007 (REITER et al. 2007). Hibernation and



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Table 1. Individuals of the Kuhl's pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus kuhlii*) received by the Wildlife Rescue Station, Prague, in 2022 and 2023; W – weight [g], FA – forearm length [mm]

date	sex, age	W	FA	handicap	medicines
13 December 2022	♀ ad*	7	34	exhausted, avitaminosis	Dycinone† (baby bat)
10 July 2023	♂ ad	5	34	after stroke, critical state, immovability, partially paralysed, shakin, jerking	Rapidexon, Meloxicam, Catosal, B12, Milgama, C vitamin, Sanicell, wormconveyor
12 July 2023	♀ juv	5	33	little exhausted	

* gave birth to two females, released together;

† according to a laboratory examination (bacteriology, parasitology, virology).

reproduction of *P. kuhlii* is known in southern Moravia (WAWROCKA et al. 2012). The first individual from Bohemia was found in a house in the hibernation period (MICHÁLEK et al. 2017). Several other findings of this bat species were made in southern and northern Bohemia. So far, only one record was known from Prague (LUČAN et al. 2020).

Recently, three individuals of *Pipistrellus kuhlii* collected in Prague were received by the Wildlife Rescue Center in Prague, in the period from 13 December 2022 till 12 July 2023 (see Figures). The staff of the center and especially Lenka TŮMOVÁ took care of the bats that showed various types of handicaps (Table 1). The species identification was made based on the pelage colouration and the typical character, 1–2 mm conspicuous wide white fringe on the posterior margin of the wing membrane (see identification key by DIETZ & VON HELVERSEN 2004). All individuals recovered well and were released.

Pipistrellus kuhlii is known to occur in the Czech Republic whole year round. Two maternity colonies were recorded in Moravia, and a dead adult female in Prague was found in the summer period (WAWROCKA et al. 2012, LUČAN et al. 2020). We present a finding from the hibernation period, concerning a reproducing female. Considering this record and also the record of a juvenile in summer, a presence of maternity colony is very probable in Prague or in a broader region of central Bohemia.

A c k n o w l e d g e m e n t s

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