Oxfordshire Mammal Group

Grey long-eared

Plecotus austriacus

Description: A medium bat (body length 41-58mm), with a wingspan of 255-300mm. 7-12g. Ears are long and joined, with a narrow tragus (5.2-5.6mm) (but wider than brown long-eared). They have obviously big feet. Thumb is smaller on grey longeared than brown long-eared (5-6.5mm). Grevbrown fur, often with darker mask around face. Adult forearm length: 37-45mm.

Similar to brown long-eared bat.

Droppings: 9-11mm long, 2.5-3mm wide. Medium to coarse texture. Knobbly with wings amongst droppings. Often found below roost locations, in a line along main ridge in building.

Flight description: Emerges 45-65 mins after sunset. Gleans prey off leaves and uses feeding perches. Slow fluttering agile flight in vegetation with occasional hovering pauses.

Lifespan: Typically 5-9 years but can live up to 12 years.

Life cycle: Mating in autumn, continues into winter. Maternity colonies (with males as well as females) established late spring where a single young is born per female. Weaned at 6 weeks.

(c) Hugh Clark/www.bats.org.uk

Roost locations: Buildings (churches, barns, lofts of large houses and mills. Free hanging and loose crevices), trees, bat boxes and caves. Hibernation roosts similar but less often in trees and buildings.

Habitats: Woodland, farmland, urban areas and parkland.

UK conservation status: Restricted to a few colonies in Sussex, Hampshire, Dorset, Devon and

Oxfordshire Conservation Status: None known.

Legislation:

♦ Habitat regulations 2010 Schedule 2

♦ Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Schedule 5

None recorded in Oxfordshire

Echolocation:

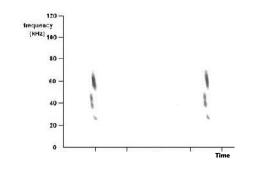
Lowest frequency: 28.1 kHz Highest frequency: 50 kHz Peak intensity: 35 kHz

Average call duration: 0.004 seconds

Description: Quiet ticks. More commonly seen than

heard.

Typical echolocation sonogram (from Brooks, A. The Bats of Britain and Europe).



Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

1995-2015 Present = yellow