

## Leisler's bat

Nyctalus leisleri

**Description:** A medium bat (body length 37-48mm), with a wingspan of 300-340mm. 12-20g. It has a post-calcarial lobe and a mushroom-shaped tragus. Dark brown, shaggy fur with a ruffled mane. Adult forearm length: 38-47mm.



**Droppings:** 6-9mm long, 2.5-3mm wide. Medium

texture.

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Flight description: Emerges 10-15 mins after sunset, although occasionally before. Fast hawking (catching prey on the wing). Fast straight flight above trees in open habitats. Dives steeply when **Lifespan**: Can live up to 10 years.

**Life cycle:** In the summer, maternity colonies of females gather in tree holes and sometimes in buildings where they give birth to a single young.

**Roost locations:** Loose crevices in trees, building and bat boxes. Most hibernation roosts are in tree holes, in cavities in buildings and occasionally in caves and tunnels.

**Habitats:** Open habitats and rivers or lakes, near woodlands.

**UK conservation status:** Widespread, but

relatively rare.

Oxfordshire: Infrequent but widespread

## Legislation:

- ♦ Habitat regulations 2010 Schedule 2
- ♦ Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Schedule 5

## **Echolocation:**

Lowest frequency: 20 kHz Highest frequency: 61 kHz Peak intensity: 25 kHz

Average call duration: 0.017 seconds

Description: Slow irregular, very loud metallic chinks

or 'chop chop'. Clicks at top of range.

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

120 Frequency (NILQ 100 — 80 — 80 — 40 — 20 — 0

