

PRELIMINARY DATA ON MOLECULAR TAXONOMY OF ROMANIAN BATS

RUXANDRA NASTASE-BUCUR^{1, 1a}, DANIELA BORDA^{1, 1b},
JOACHIM KOSUCH², and ANDREAS KIEFER³

¹“Emil Racovitza” Institute of Speleology, 5 Clinicilor, Cluj Napoca - 400006, Romania;

^{1a}E-mail: rosie@yahoo.com; ^{1b}E-mail: dborda@biolog.ubbcluj.ro

²University of Trier, Department of Biogeography, Am Wissenschaftspark 25-27, 54286 Trier, Germany; E-mail: kosuch@uni-trier.de

³Johannes Gutenberg-University Mainz, Institut of Zoology, Department of Ecology, 55099 Mainz, Germany; E-mail: akiefer@uni-mainz.de

A fragment of the 16S mitochondrial gene has been sequenced for bats of the genera *Myotis*, *Nyctalus* and *Rhinolophus* from several places around Romania. The main aims of this study were:

1. to validate the identification of the specimens based on morphological characters by using molecular taxonomy;
2. the attempt to separate the sibling species *Myotis myotis* and *M. oxygnathus*, similar and hard to identify based strictly on morphological characters.

Our data were integrated into a more wide geographic context of similar taxa from Europe; the tree obtained suggests that the identification of bats is in accordance with the equivalent sequences from specimens.