

## USE OF VARIOUS HABITAT TYPES BY BATS (CHIROPTERA: VESPERTILIONIDAE) IN MOLDAVIA AND DANUBE DELTA (ROMANIA)

IRINA POCORA<sup>1</sup> and VIOREL POCORA<sup>2</sup>

“Al. I. Cuza” University, Faculty of Biology, Carol I, 20A, Iași 700505, Romania;

<sup>1</sup>E-mail: irinaif23@yahoo.com; <sup>2</sup>E-mail: vyo2406@yahoo.com

Our investigations were carried out in Moldavia and the Danube Delta areas during the summer periods of 2006-2007. The importance of various habitat types to bats was assessed according to the mean numbers of the recorded species and according to the frequency of occurrence of each bat species. Various habitat types were important for 13 bat species (*B. barbastellus*, *E. serotinus*, *E. nilssonii*, *H. savii*, *Myotis* sp., *N. noctula*, *N. leisleri*, *N. lasiopterus*, *P. pipistrellus*, *P. pygmaeus*, *P. nathusii*/*P. kuhlii*, *Plecotus* sp. and *V. murinus*). The habitat types investigated were: 10 humid areas (channels from Letea, Sulina, Sf. Gheorghe – Danube Delta; Galati, Danube river, Prut river, Bahlui river, Rosu Lake - Moldavia), 5 woodlands (Letea Forest – Danube Delta; Cheile Bicazului, near Prut river, Natural Park Vanatori/Neamt – Moldavia), 3 settlements with streetlamps (Letea village, Sulina town and Secu Monastery) and 11 car surveys. Woodlands and humid areas are the most important habitat types for the majority of bat species, whereas the habitats along roads (mostly made in open areas) are less important. In the humid areas *Myotis* sp. (30.3%) and *P.nathusii*/*P. kuhlii* (29.2%) are the most abundant species, followed by *N. noctula* (12.3%), *P. pygmaeus* (9.8%) and *P. pipistrellus* (4.4%). In the woodlands, the most abundant species is *P. pipistrellus* (19.3%), followed by *N. noctula* (13.7%), *P. pygmaeus* (12.5%), *P. nathusii*/*P. kuhlii* (11%), and *Myotis* sp. (10.8%). Along the roads the most abundant species are *N. noctula* (31%) and *N. leisleri* (21%), followed by *E. serotinus* (19%), *V. murinus* (18.5%), *P. nathusii*/*P. kuhlii* (4%). At the streetlamps *N. noctula* (46.7%) and *N. leisleri* (17.3%) are the most abundant species, followed by *E. serotinus* (10.4%), *V. murinus* (10.1%), *P. pygmaeus* (7.2%), *N. lasiopterus* (4.7%) and *E. nilssonii* (2.6%). According to the frequency, *P. nathusii*/*P.kuhlii*, *N. noctula*, *E. serotinus*, *V. murinus* and *Myotis* sp. are very common, *N. leisleri*, *P. pipistrellus* and *P. pygmaeus* are common, while *E. nilssonii*, *N. lasiopterus*, *P. auritus*/*P. austriacus*, *B. barbastellus* and *H. savii* are considered as rare bat species in the habitat types of the primary importance