

First record of Savi's pipistrelle *Hypsugo savii* (Bonaparte, 1837) in NW Slovenia

PRVA NAJDBA SAVIJEVEGA NETOPIRJA *HYPUSGO SAVII* (BONAPARTE, 1837) V SEVEROZAHODNI SLOVENIJI

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On 3rd November 2010, Mrs Lidija Mohorič, a teacher, informed SDPVN (Slovenian Association for Bat Research and Conservation) that her school children found an exhausted bat. The individual, a male Savi's pipistrelle (*Hypsugo savii*) (Fig. 1), was taken care of in captivity (fed with mealworms), but did not recover and died ten days later. The antibrachium (AB) of the bat, which weighed 4.5 g, measured 33.8 mm. Its carcass is temporarily stored in the author's private collection and will be later handed over to the Slovenian Museum of Natural History. Savi's pipistrelle was found in the centre of Kranj, lying in the street between block of flats (lat. 46°14'6, 34", lon. 14°21'34, 02"). The city has a population of 54.200 inhabitants (Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia, 2008). It is located approximately 20 km northwest of the capital Ljubljana and is part of the Ljubljana basin. Kranj is bordered by the Kamniško – Savinjske Alps to the north and the Julian Alps to the west. The region has subalpine climate. The annual precipitations are approximately 1500-1600 mm and the average yearly temperature is 8-10°C (ARSO 2006).

This is the first record of Savi's pipistrelle in northwestern Slovenia. Next closest records are app. 16 km towards southeast from Ljubljana and its surroundings (CKFF 2010). In Slovenia, this species is mostly known from the Submediterranean region (Žibrat 2009), but was recently also found in central and eastern Slovenia (CKFF 2010). This is not surprising, as this originally Mediterranean species has greatly

expanded its distributional range towards the north in the last few decades. Breeding colonies are concentrated in lowlands of eastern, northeastern and central Europe. Most mating and hibernation sites are located in western and southern Europe, although some individuals have been found as far as England, Scotland, Jersey and northern Germany (Dietz et al. 2007, Reiter et al. 2010). It is possible that the bat was found during its autumn migration. This finding confirms that this species' range has expanded and that further records can be expected in northern parts of Slovenia.

Literature

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Figure 1. Savi's pipistrelle (*Hypsugo savii*) found on 3rd November 2010 in Kranj, northwestern Slovenia (photo: Lea Likozar).

Slika 1. Savijev netopir (*Hypsugo savii*), najden 3.11. 2010 v Kranju (foto: Lea Likozar).