

***Rhinolophus blasii*** Peters, 1866 **Blasius' horseshoe bat**

Measurements – Head-body length (44) 46-54 (56) mm; Tail length (20) 23-30 mm; Forearm length (42) 45-49 (50) mm; Wingspan 270-310 mm; Weight 10-16,5 g.

Ecology – Found in warm, limestone areas where it reproduces and hibernates in caves and mines. Probably sedentary, feeds mainly on Lepidoptera and Coleoptera. Females congregate in nursery colonies in late spring and give birth to a single young in June-July.

Range – Occurs from south-eastern Europe, to south-western Asia and Pakistan; also found in Maghreb and part of north-eastern and south-central Africa.

The species used to occur in north-eastern Italy but there are no known records after 1960's.