

## Second record of the Savi's pipistrelle (*Hypsugo savii*) in the Czech Republic

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**Abstract.** Subadult female *Hypsugo savii* was discovered on 24 February 2003 in Brno. The bat was crawling on the pavement but did not show any sign of injury. It was measured, banded, fed, given to drink and released on 26 February at night within the territory of the same town. Previous record of the species concerned a male found at Žabčice, 20 km to the south of Brno, on 21 May 2001 (Gaisler 2001).

### *Hypsugo savii*, Czech Republic, second record

The second author of this paper (M. V.) obtained a bat that was found on the evening of the 24 February 2003, as it was crawling on the pavement close to a building. The building is serving as the Technical Museum of the city of Brno, situated at Purkyňova Street, Královo Pole (name of a local district). Next day the bat has been brought to the office of the first author (J. G.) who confirmed the determination of the species. The bat did not show signs of exhaustion or injury, so it was investigated alive with the following results:

- (1) it was a female with no signs of previous reproduction, subadult, probably born in 2002;
- (2) its mass was 6.5 g (before feeding);
- (3) external measurements were: body 46 mm, tail 41 mm, forearm 35 mm, hind foot 7.2 mm, ear 10.5 mm, tragus 5 mm;
- (4) the tip of the tail was free, 3.5 mm long;
- (5) both P<sup>1</sup> were present but minute and invisible from outside;
- (6) dorsal fur of the bat was gold brown, wing membranes, ears and face dark in contrast to surrounding colouring and also other parts of the body were coloured as in European populations of *H. savii*.

Photographs were made using a digital camera and the photos have been stored electronically at the department (Zdeněk Řehák, Jaromír Vaňhara). Since climatic conditions of the day were unfavourable to release the bat, it was temporarily kept in captivity (Tomáš Bartonička). It was offered mealworms and water (what it accepted) and marked with the band N. Museum Praha X 22901. On 26 February at 19 h (full darkness) the bat was released within the territory of Brno in another district (Komárov). Air temperature was 10 °C. The bat flew off without any apparent problems.

The only other reliable record of the species within the state territory has been made at Žabčice, 20 km south of Brno, on 21 May 2001 (Gaisler 2001). The specimen, an adult male, had its right forearm broken beneath the carpal joint and a 4×3 mm hole in the left plagiopatagium. The bat was put to death and preserved as a museum specimen (skin and skull) in the collections of the Department of Zoology and Ecology. In the paper mentioned above, taxonomy, nomenclature and distribution of the species have been discussed, mainly with respect to its status in Austria (Spitzenberger 1997). The individual found at Žabčice was assumed to have been an active rather than passively transported immigrant (Gaisler 2001). Meanwhile, another *H. savii* was recorded on the Austrian side of the Thayatal National Park at Merkersdorf near Hardegg, only 2 km from the Austrian-Czech border. It was a dead male found in a shop by Anton Mayer on 2 September 2002

(Spitzenberger, in litt.). Spreading of *H. savii* towards the north has now been confirmed by the Brno record of the species. The city of Brno seems to be actually the northernmost point of the species' regular occurrence, so far known. It is a challenge to Central European chiropterologists, mainly those working in southern Germany, Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary, to investigate any bats resembling *H. savii* as well as *Pipistrellus kuhlii* (cf. Mitchell-Jones et al. 1999)

### Souhrn

**Druhý nález netopýra Saviova (*Hypsugo savii*) v Česku.** Dne 24. 2. 2003 byla v Brně nalezena subadultní samice netopýra Saviova (*Hypsugo savii*). Netopýr byl objeven večer, jak lezl po chodníku u stěny budovy Technického muzea na Purkyňově ulici ve čtvrti Královo Pole. Netopýr nejevil známky vyčerpání ani zranění, byl proto následujícího dne vyšetřen zaživa. V anglickém textu uvádíme jeho váhu, rozměry a popis, vše odpovídá zmíněnému druhu. Netopýr byl nakrmen, napojen, okroužkován a vypuštěn v noci 26. 2. ve čtvrti Komárov v Brně; odletěl bez problémů. V diskusi je zmíněn předchozí nález dospělého samce *H. savii* v Žabčicích 20 km jižně od Brna dne 21. 5. 2001 (Gaisler 2001). Další jedinec, mrtvý samec, byl nalezen v obchodě v obci Merkersdorf u Hardeggu v Rakousku A. Mayerem dne 2. 9. 2002 (Spitzenberger, in litt.). Lokalita se nachází pouze 2 km od státní hranice. Brněnský nález tohoto druhu potvrzuje předchozí domněnku, že se *H. savii* aktivně šíří od jihu. Autoři doporučují středoevropským chiropterologům, aby bedlivě zkoumali a dokumentovali nálezy netopýrů, které by mohly reprezentovat tento druh. Dalším druhem, který by se zde mohl vyskytnout, je *P. kuhlii*.

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### Literature

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