



# News from Pape Ornithological Research Centre

Pape Ornithological Research Centre (University of Latvia Institute of Biology) has been an important bat research site for many decades. Thousands of bats migrate through the corridor between Pape lake and the Baltic sea.

Hundreds and thousands of various species of bats are caught and ringed each year. A number of our banded Nathusius' pipistrelles (*Pipistrellus nathusii*) have been found in several European countries, including Germany, France, United Kingdom and Spain, some covering distances larger than 2000 km!



Now we are focusing our efforts on species other than Nathusius' pipistrelles – Noctule bat (*Nyctalus noctula*), Parti-coloured bat (*Vespertilio murinus*) and especially Soprano pipistrelles (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*), because a recent study conducted at Pape (Lindecke et al. 2019) has shown that this species is a potentially long-distance migrant as well!

So far almost 1700 bats have already been ringed in autumn migration season of 2019 - more than 500 noctules and parti-coloured bats and around 1150 Soprano pipistrelles!

We urge bat researchers and volunteers in Europe to mist net, control bat boxes and look for ringed bats, to increase our understanding of bat migratory behaviour and patterns!

**If you have found a bat with a ring from Latvia**, please let us know by contacting Latvian Ringing Centre ([ring@latnet.lv](mailto:ring@latnet.lv)) or Bat Research Society of Latvia chairman prof. Gunārs Pētersons ([Gunars.Petersons@llu.lv](mailto:Gunars.Petersons@llu.lv)).

Kind regards,  
Ilze Brila and Gunārs Pētersons

Bat Research Society of Latvia  
e-mail: [siksparnu.biedriba@gmail.com](mailto:siksparnu.biedriba@gmail.com)  
webpage: <https://www.latvijassiksparni.org/biedriba?lang=en>