

SUMMARY

“Chiropterans in education of zoology at elementary and high schools”

This rigorous thesis can be considered as an extension and completion of the graduation thesis with the same name (finished by author on Charles University in April 2008), which processes the topic of Chiropterans and focuses on its use in education of biology at elementary and high schools. The main goal of the rigorous thesis is to verify usage of the topic at school praxis.

The thesis consists of two main parts.

Theoretical part provides basic information about Chiropterans, their characteristic signs, habits and way of life. Attention is focused especially on species of bats living in Czech Republic. The chapter deals with the factors threatening Chiropterans and problems of their protection in Czech Republic are addressed as well. Special chapter relate to the history of Czech Chiropterology.

Practical part of this work processes excursions to winter roosting sites of the bats and also proposes summer excursions to their hunting-grounds with the use of electronic device to monitor active bats. The same chapter deals with didactic and methodic too. Special attention is focused on verification of practical usage of the topic at schools.

PowerPoint presentation, intended for introduction Chiropterans to pupils and students at schools is enclosed to this work.

Major reason for choosing this topic is lack of zoological excursions at elementary and high schools. It is because zoological excursions are considered to be complicated to organize and difficult to prepare. Therefore students don't have a possibility to observe animals in their nature sites. Excursions to winter roosting sites provide good opportunity to change this situation.

Another reason for choosing the topic of this thesis is the current situation of the Chiropterans. Chiropterans are highly endangered animals and according to research they don't have positive public reputation. This notion could be influenced or changed by further education of young generation at elementary and high schools.

The goal of this thesis is to make zoological excursions much easier to organize for teachers and bring opportunity to observe bats on their nature sites for students. Both could help in the question of Chiropteran's protection.

