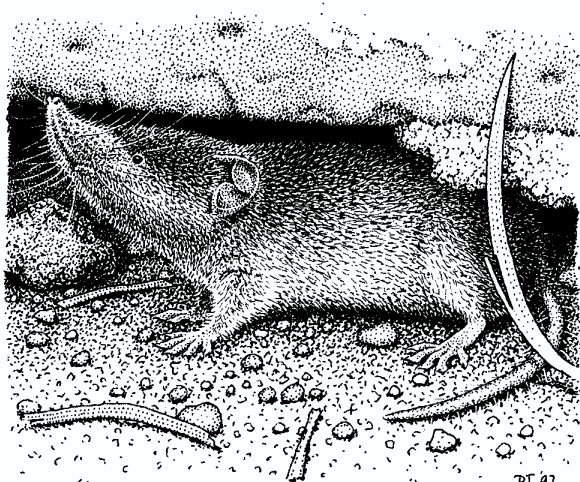


RAMALHINHO, M.G., LIBOIS, R. & FONS, R. (1999) *Crocidura russula* (HERMANN, 1780), the greater white-toothed shrew. Pp . 68-69 in « *The Atlas of European mammals* » Ed. Mitchell-Jones AJ ; Amori G ; Bogdanowicz W; Kryštufek B ; Reijnders PJH ; Spitzenberger F ; Stubbe M ; Thissen JBM ; Vohralik V & Zima J. Ed. Poyser Natural History, London.

Crocidura russula (HERMANN, 1780)



P. Twisk

Many Asiatic and African populations previously assigned to *C. russula* actually represent other species. Animals from central and eastern Europe, Asia Minor and Israel must be considered as *C. suaveolens* according to allozyme and karyotype analyses.

Distribution

World: Palaearctic including North Africa (Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco).

Europe: Iberian Peninsula, France, some Atlantic and Channel islands, Benelux states, Germany, western Switzerland and western Austria. Also on some Mediterranean islands: Ibiza, Sardinia and Pantelleria. Missing from the British Isles and absent south of the Alps.

Geographic variation

Many subspecies have been described, but biochemical studies showed a remarkable genetic uniformity. Only *C. russula ichtusae* Festa, 1912 from Sardinia and *C. r. yebalensis* Cabrera, 1913 from North Africa seem to be valid.

Habitat

In the northern part of its range and at higher altitudes it is mainly associated with human settlements, living in gardens and houses. Commensalism more pronounced during winter, when, specially in mountainous habitats, territoriality is lost. In the

Greater white-toothed shrew

AL	-	LU	Hausspätzmaus
BG	Сивокоремна белозъбка	LV	Mājas baltzobcirslis
CZ	Bělozubka tmavá	MK	-
DE	Hausspitzmaus	MT	-
DK	Husspidsmus	NL	Huisspitsmuis
EE	Kodukarilik	NO	Husspissmus
ES	Musaraña gris	PL	Zębielek myszaty
FI	Isokotipäästäinen	PT	Musaranho-de-dentes-brancos
FO	-	RO	Chițcanul-de-casă
FR	Crocidure musette	RU	Длиннохвостая белозубка
GR	Σποτρομυγαλίδα	SE	Husnåbbmus
HR	Vrtna rovka	SI	Hišna rovka
HU	Házi cickány	SK	Bielozúbka dlhochvostá
IR	-	TR	Ev sivriburunu
IS	-	YU	-
IT	Crocidura rossiccia		
LT	Paprastatis baltadantis kirstukas		

Mediterranean region it occurs in a great variety of habitats, but seems to prefer open or semi-open grasslands, cultivated areas, low shrubs, as well as ecotone formations and, above all, old terraces with dry stone walls.

Population status

Quite common and well distributed all over its range. Can reach high densities and, in the Mediterranean region, is often the dominant prey species in the barn owl's diet. Due to its synanthropic habits, can suffer from the use of insecticides and other toxic chemicals.

International legal & conservation status

Bern Convention, Appendix III.

Fully protected in some countries.

Literature

Catalan *et al.* (1988)

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M. G. Ramalhinho, R. Libois and R. Fons

