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### 33 years, a new longevity record for a European bat

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On August 13<sup>th</sup> 1999, we (RA and PC) captured in the attics of the church of Fully (Valais, Swiss Alps), a male lesser mouse-eared bat *Myotis blythii* (Vespertilionidae) carrying a ring (Museum of Natural History of Geneva, 365C). According to the record book of that institution, that male had been ringed at the same place by MD, on 18<sup>th</sup> July 1966, along with 212 other mouse-eared bats taken from the same cluster. The individual was presumably a juvenile at its capture time as mouse-eared bat males aged more than one year rarely cluster with other individuals in colonies. To our knowledge, 33 years constitutes a record of longevity as regards European bats.

The previous European records of longevity were a male greater horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*) recaptured 30 years and 6 months after its initial ringing (Caubère *et al.* 1984) and a 30 years old female long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*) (Leh-

mann *et al.* 1992). In North America, Davis and Hitchcock (1995) mention a male little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*) recaptured 34 years after its initial banding. Our finding would thus represent the second oldest wild-ranging bat ever recorded in the world.

These reports exemplify the extraordinary long lifespan in bats relative to non-flying mammals (Jügens and Prothero 1987). Because standardization of longevity to body mass makes the bats the longest-lived mammalian order (Austad and Fischer 1991), it has recently been suggested to use bats as models of ageing in gerontological studies (Lavery 2000).

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### **Présence de la Musaraigne de Miller (*Neomys anomalus* Cabrera, 1907) dans le site Gallo-romain de Melun-ZAC Grüber (Seine-et-Marne, France)**

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Le site de Melun ZAC-Grüber est constitué d'une série de puits dont l'utilisation commence au premier siècle de notre ère et s'achève au quatrième siècle (Lecoz et Langlois 1996). Il est situé à 49m d'altitude. La fouille et les échantillonnages ont été dirigés par G. Lecoz (Association pour les Fouilles Archéologiques Nationales) en 1996. Le tamisage de ces prélèvements a permis de récolter une microfaune abondante. La liste de taxons en présence est variée, avec 9 espèces d'insectivores (*Erinaceus europaeus*, *Talpa europaea*, *Crocidura russula*, *C. suaveolens*, *C. leucodon*, *Sorex araneus/coronatus*, *S. minutus*, *Neomys fodiens* et *N. anomalus*), 1 carnivore (*Mustela nivalis*), 10 rongeurs (*Eliomys quercinus*, *Clethrionomys glareolus*, *Arvicola terrestris*,