

FRUIT BATS

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Type living in Cyprus - *Egyptian fruit bat* (*Rousettus aegyptiacus*)

- belongs to the megachiropterids
- is the largest bat species in Cyprus
- nestles in large caves, rocks holes and old quarries

⚠️ Cyprus is the only European country that hosts populations of the species which places it in the most important species of the Cyprus Fauna.



This creature was able to be protected by the European legislation
when Cyprus joined the European Union on 2004 !

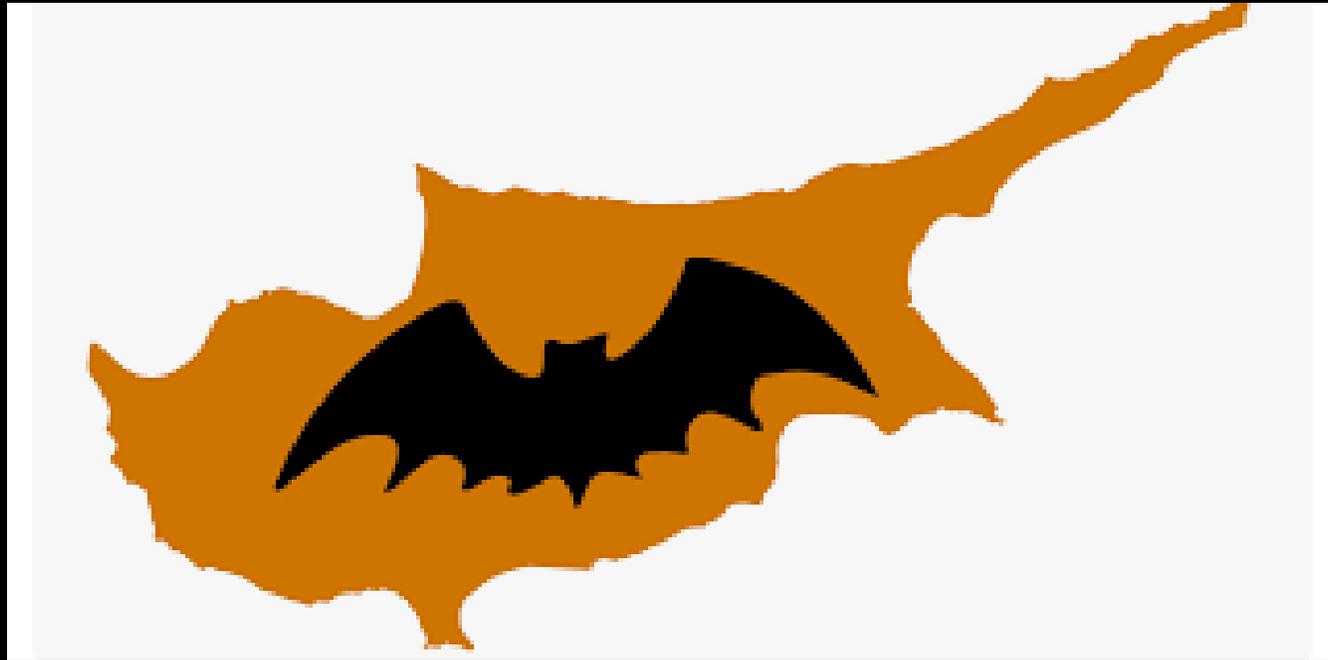
Why this kind of bat is special?



- Fruit bats are well known for their diet. They eat only fruits and that is what makes them so special.
- The fruit bat was wildly hunted down in Cyprus and in other countries because it was deemed harmful to crops, resulting in severe reduction of its population during the last 20 years.
- They are the only bats that doesn't hibernate and that makes them unusual.

Myths and truths about bats!

MYTHS	TRUTHS
They are being fed by human blood 	They are scare of humans 
They are blind at daylight 	They can see 
They don't help the environment 	They help the environment 
They are not an endangered species	Its illegal to hurt and kill the bats



Thank you all for your attention !!