

Ecological factsheet

EF1 Exclusion flap (rigid plastic)

EF3 Exclusion flap XL & Rotatable (rigid plastic)

General information

Effectiveness

A monitoring study into the performance of the exclusion flaps found that all roosts had been vacated by the common pipistrelles present the morning after discouragement measures had been applied. Bats were also no longer found in any of the roosts at a later stage (Faunaprojecten, 2020). The study concerned apartment blocks scheduled for demolition that contained several common pipistrelle roosts. It had been expected that some bats would need several days to leave their roost, but the discouragement measures, including exclusion flaps, worked very quickly: the roosts had already been vacated the following morning.

In addition to this monitoring report, Unitura has regularly received feedback from ecologists that the exclusion flaps work well. Visual material is also available (see below).

The Bij12 Knowledge Document for the common pipistrelle also states that roosts can be made unsuitable by means of exclusion flaps (Bij12, 2024). The national guideline on making buildings free of protected species also recommends the use of exclusion flaps. Advantages mentioned include that exclusion flaps are proven to be effective, easy to use and applicable in many situations (RVO Nederland, 2023).

Visual material

- It has been recorded that bats are still able to leave their roost through the exclusion flap: <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6583391193898467328/>
- A bat unsuccessfully attempts to enter a building where the openings have been made inaccessible using exclusion flaps: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-y6xNP74MYs>
- A group of bats attempts to enter a building that has been made inaccessible using exclusion flaps: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NkKUbeBX0Ns>

Sources

Bij12 (2024). Knowledge Document: Common pipistrelle (version 2.0, April 2024). Accessed 10-06-2024 via <https://www.bij12.nl/kennisdocumenten/kennisdocument-gewone-dwergvleermuis/>

Faunaprojecten (2020). Monitoring report on the performance of exclusion flaps, demolition of 3 apartment blocks. Accessed 11-06-2024 via https://unitura.nl/app/uploads/2021/05/Unitura_verslag-monitoring-ontmoediging-exclusionflaps.pdf

RVO Nederland (2023, March). National guideline for making homes and buildings free of protected species during retrofit insulation and renovation. Arcadis Nederland B.V., commissioned by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency. Available at <https://www.rvo.nl/sites/default/files/2024-05/Landelijke-leidraad-natuurvrij-maken-bij-na-isolatie-en-renovatie.pdf>