

Natalus primus

(Cuban greater funnel eared bat)

Distribution: This species is endemic to Cuba. It was only known as a fossil record until 1992 where a population had been rediscovered in La Barca Cave, on Guanahacabibes Peninsula on the most western side of Cuba, and to date is the only known roost for this species. Due to its limited distribution it is considered critical and at risk of extinction.

Physical description: This is a medium-sized bat weighing in at 7-13 g. The forearm length is 46-52 mm. It is the biggest of the Cuban Natalidae. The muzzle is large and flattened. The ears are square, the tips rounded, and are relatively large. The fur is long and soft, the colour varying from grey to yellowy-orange.

Roost: It roosts exclusively in caves. Only a few hundred individuals live in La Barca. They roost where the ceiling is really low leaving space between each other.

Diet: They feed on insects.

