

Pteronotus quadridens

(Sooty mustached bat)

Distribution: There are two subspecies recognized in the Greater Antilles: *P. quadridens fuliginosus* and *P. quadridens quadridens*, of which the latter is endemic to Cuba. It is the most common and gregarious species from this family. It can be found throughout the entire island including some of the keys to the north (Keys Romano and Sabinal).

Physical description. It is the smallest of the Cuban mormoopids weighing in at 3-6 g. The forearm length is 35-41 mm. It has a short muzzle. Above the nostrils a cavity can be observed. The ears are pointed. The fur ranges from brown to grey.

Roost: They are found exclusively in caves where colonies comprise several thousand individuals. They prefer the deepest chambers of the cave, which also happen to be the hottest. They cohabit with *Phyllonycteris poeyi* and other species.

Diet: They feed on insects, primarily those from Coleoptera (beetles) and Diptera (flies and mosquitos).



Photo by Melissa Donnelly