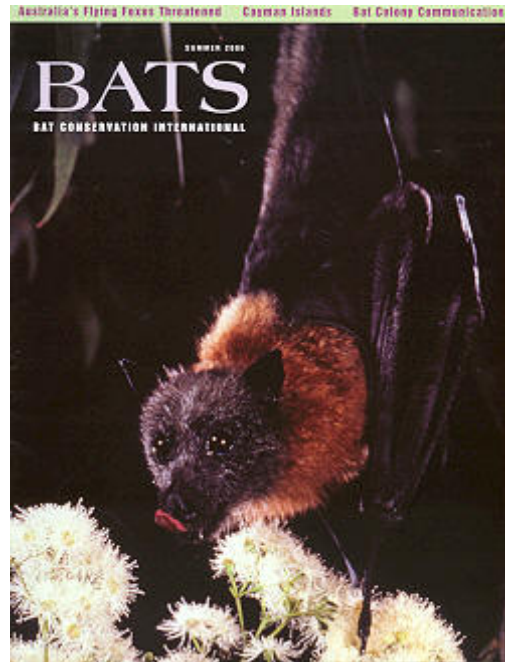


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On the Cover

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This grey-headed flying fox (*Plecotus poliocephalus*) is feeding on the flowers of an apple gum tree, one of a variety of blossoms and fruits that make up its diet. As these bats fly from tree to tree, they disperse seeds and pollen, assisting in the reproduction of important Australian plants such as figs and tea trees. Found exclusively along the eastern edge of Australia, from New South Wales to Victoria, this species may appear to be plentiful due to its habit of forming large colonies, but once large populations are now disappearing at alarming rates (see article on page 5).

Cover Photo by Merlin D. Tuttle

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