

Giant Fruit Bats of Luzon Island



Pteropus hypomelanus
common island flying fox



Desmalopex leucopterus
white-winged flying fox



Pteropus vampyrus
large flying fox



Acerodon jubatus
golden-crowned flying fox



These magnificent animals are among the largest of all bats. They feed primarily on fruits (especially figs), and occasionally on flowers and leaves. They usually roost in large colonies in the tops of large trees. The fur color of each species varies somewhat; *Pteropus vampyrus* are often entirely black, and *P. hypomelanus* are often more reddish. *Desmalopex leucopterus* and *Acerodon jubatus* live only in forested areas. None of these species cause significant harm to agricultural products, and all contribute to reforestation by dispersing seeds. Severe over-hunting has depleted the populations of all of these species.



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