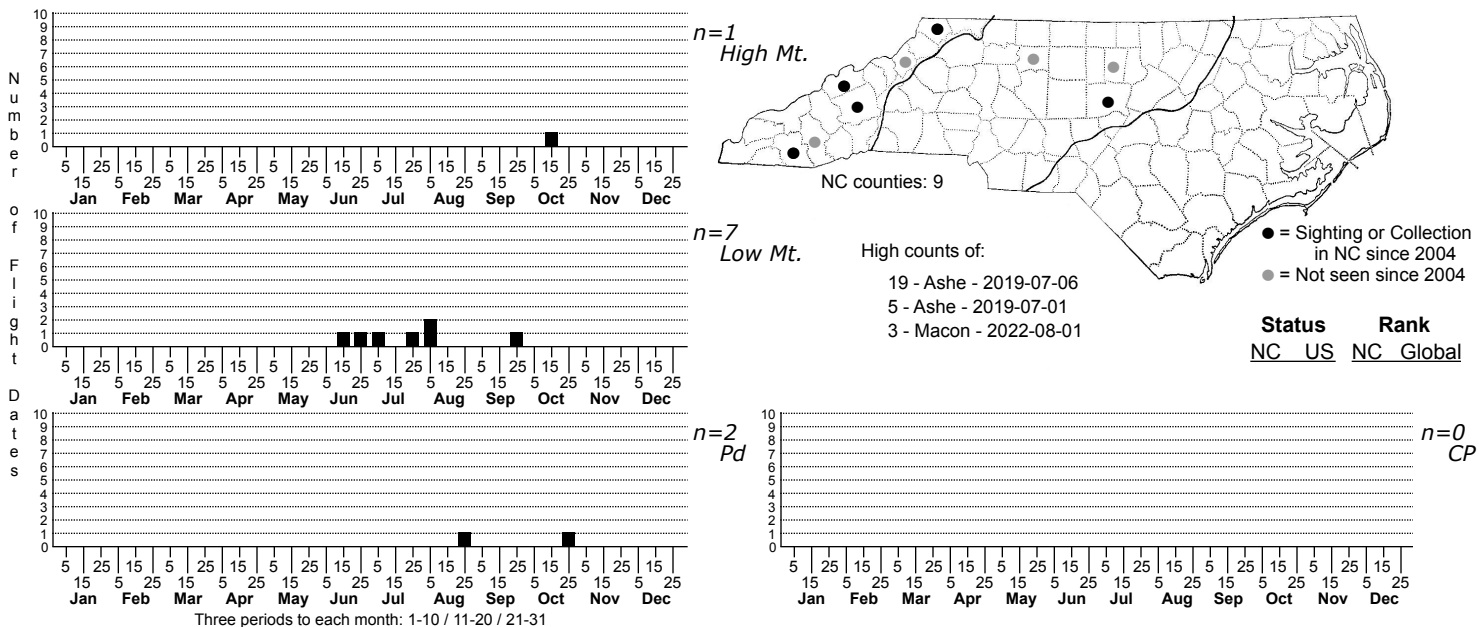


Leiobunum aldrichi No common name



ORDER:OPILIONES SUBORDER:Eupnoi
SUPERFAMILY:Phalangoidea FAMILY:Sclerosomatidae

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: Approximately 30 species in this genus have been identified as occurring in North America north of Mexico (Cokendolpher and Lee, 1993; Ingianni et al., 2011), with 16 recorded in North Carolina. However, the validity of several of these species is suspect, with several that will probably be determined to be synonyms of other species, e.g., *davisi*, *speciosum*, and *zimmermani* in North Carolina Burns et al., 2012; Shultz, 2018). According to Shultz (2018), moreover, recent phylogenetic studies indicate both that more species are waiting to be described and that the name *Leiobunum* may eventually be restricted to European species, requiring new generic names for most, if not all, of our species.

ONLINE PHOTOS: BugGuide, The Harvestmen of Maryland

DISTRIBUTION COMMENTS: Our records so far come from the Mountains to the eastern edge of the Piedmont

HABITAT: Shultz (2018) reports that *aldrichi* is most common in undisturbed forests and can be absent from seemingly suitable but second growth forests.

OBSERVATION METHODS: This species is diurnally active and is found on the surface of the ground or up on tree trunks (Shultz, 2018)

NHP RANKS: [GNR] [S3S4]

STATE PROTECTION: Arachnids are not protected under state law, although permits are needed to collect them in State Parks and other public and private nature preserves

STATUS COMMENTS: Not enough is yet known about its distribution, habitat associations, abundance, and population trends in North Carolina to accurately assess the conservation needs of this species.