

ORDER:OPILIONES SUBORDER:Eupnoi SUPERFAMILY:Phalangioidea 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: Originally recorded in North Carolina in the Swannanoa River Valley near Black Mountain. Recently, the species has been reported from Orange County in the Piedmont

HABITAT: In Maryland, this species reportedly occurs in and near wooded areas (Shultz, 2018). The record from Orange County comes from a semi-wooded residential neighborhood with remnants of the original native vegetation still present.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: Should be looked for in the spring (April and May)

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: This species appears to occur widely across the state, from the Blue Ridge to the eastern Piedmont. Its habitat does not appear to be restricted.