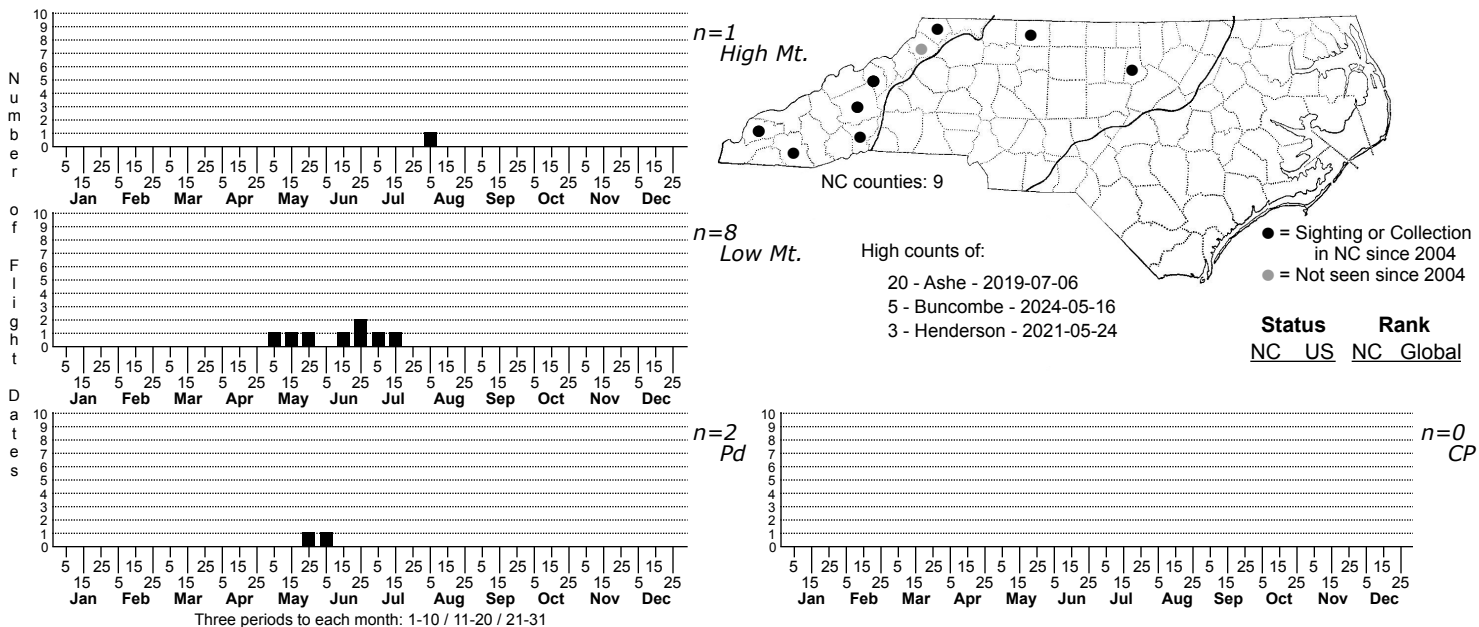


***Leiobunum ventricosum*** No common name



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., davisii, 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: North Carolina records come from along the Blue Ridge Escarpment, from the Swannanoa Valley to Blowing Rock

HABITAT: In Maryland, L. ventricosum is most common in moist woodlands (Shultz, 2018).

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: Overwinters as juveniles and matures in the spring; probably day-active and best found by direct searches in likely habitats

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: Although we have only three records for this species in our database, there are a number of well-vetted photographs on BugGuide from sites in North Carolina. This species does not seem likely to be limited by habitat and may turn out to be found over a fairly wide range in the Mountains.