

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: North Carolina records come from both the Piedmont and Mountains, including at least one record from high elevations

HABITAT: Usually associated with trees or other woody vegetation (Shultz, 2018)

OBSERVATION_METHODS: Shultz (2018) describes vittatum as "the most common and visible of the late-season harvestmen in Maryland; dark, senescent individuals may persist into early winter."

NHP_RANKS: [GNR] S4S5

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 is likely to be found over most of the state and probably not in association with restricted habitat types. It is most likely secure within the state.