

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

Three periods to each month: 1-10 / 11-20 / 21-31

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

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

HABITAT: North Carolina records come from both high elevations in the Mountains to relatively low ones in the Piedmont; habitat at these sites appears to be mainly forest. In Maryland, this species appears to prefer bushy vegetation and is found along forest edges and in woodlands with significant understory (Shultz, 2018).

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: This species is diurnally active and can be found by direct search of appropriate habitats

NHP\_RANKS: [GNR] [S3S5]

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: We have too few records for this species currently to estimate the conservation status of this species. However, it appears to be associated with common types of habitat and probably will turn out to be secure within the state.