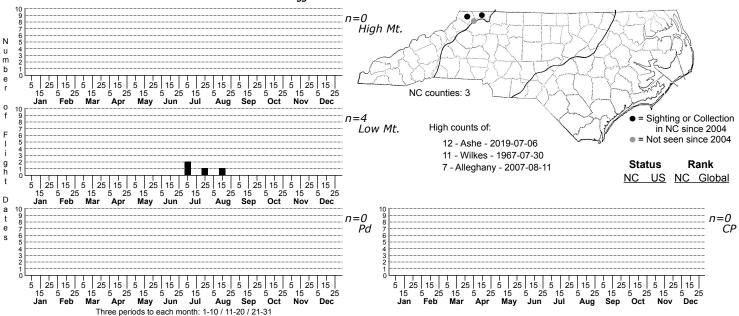
Leiobunum hoffmani No common name



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.

DISTRIBUTION COMMENTS: So far known only from the extreme northwestern corner of the state

HABITAT: Many of the records from Virginia come from the Spruce-fir zone at the summit of the highest peaks in that state (Ingianni et al., 2011). The two North Carolina records, however, come from relatively low elevations, 3,600' for one site and about 2,200' at the other. At the Ashe County location, the species was observed along a ridge top with an extensive stand of relatively mature cove hardwoods located on the north-facing slope.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: This species appears to come well to beer-banana bait painted on trees. It appears to be most active at night, but has also been found during the day on the outside of an out-building.

NHP RANKS: GNR [S2S3]

NHP STATUS: [W3]

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: The global rank of this species has not yet been determined, but it currently appears to occupy a very small range in the southern Blue Ridge. Hoffmani has so far been recorded from only two sites in North Carolina and there is much to be learned about its habitat associations, distribution, abundance and population trends.