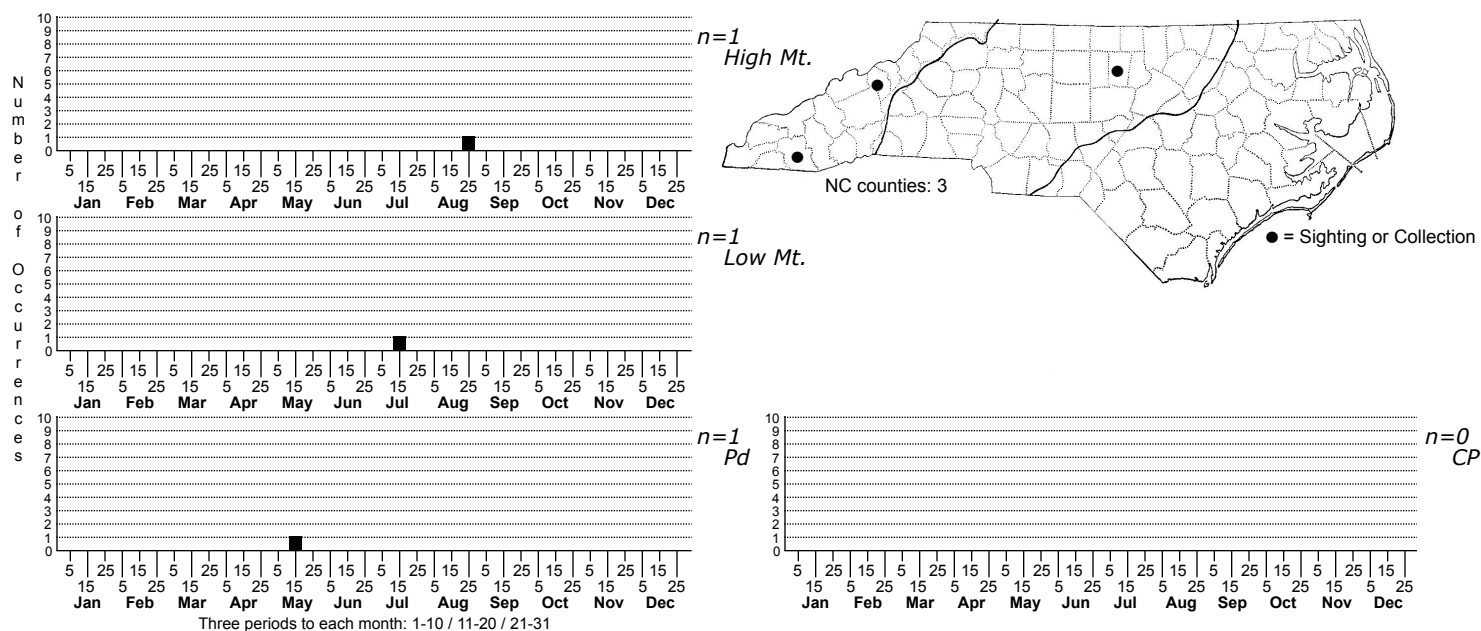


Diphascon pingue



FAMILY: Hypsibiidae SUBFAMILY: Diphasconinae

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: Species morphologically indistinguishable from original specimen from Europe, but no molecular evidence for further comparison. The *Diphascon pingue* group was separated into multiple species by Pilato & Binda 1997/98, 1999. Older records of *pingue* could be *D. pinguiforme*. Family designation follows Tumanov & Tsvetkova (2023).

SPECIES COMMENTS: Terrestrial. Apparently cosmopolitan distribution. Reported widely throughout US.

ID COMMENTS: Eyes absent, cuticle smooth. In a specimen 190 microns long the bucco-pharyngeal tube is 55.94 microns long; the buccal tube, measured as specified above, 21.16 microns long (37.8% of the total length of the bucco-pharyngeal tube) and 1.63 microns wide (ptd=7.70). The stylet supports are inserted at 57.63% of the buccal tube length. The pharyngeal bulb is 25.41 microns long and 19.24 microns wide; it has apophyses, three rod-shaped macroplacoids, a small, granular microplacoid, and a well-developed septulum. The macroplacoid length gradually increases from the first to the third macroplacoid; the difference in length between the third and the second macroplacoid is very similar to that between the second and first one. The septulum is almost as long as the first macroplacoid. The claws are not very long and have a basal portion normally developed. On all claws the main branches have well-developed accessory points. Lunulae and other cuticular thickenings on the legs are absent. Smooth eggs are laid in the exuvium. -Pilato & Binda 1997/98.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

HABITAT: Moss and leaf litter.

OBSERVATION METHODS: DIC, PC microscopy.