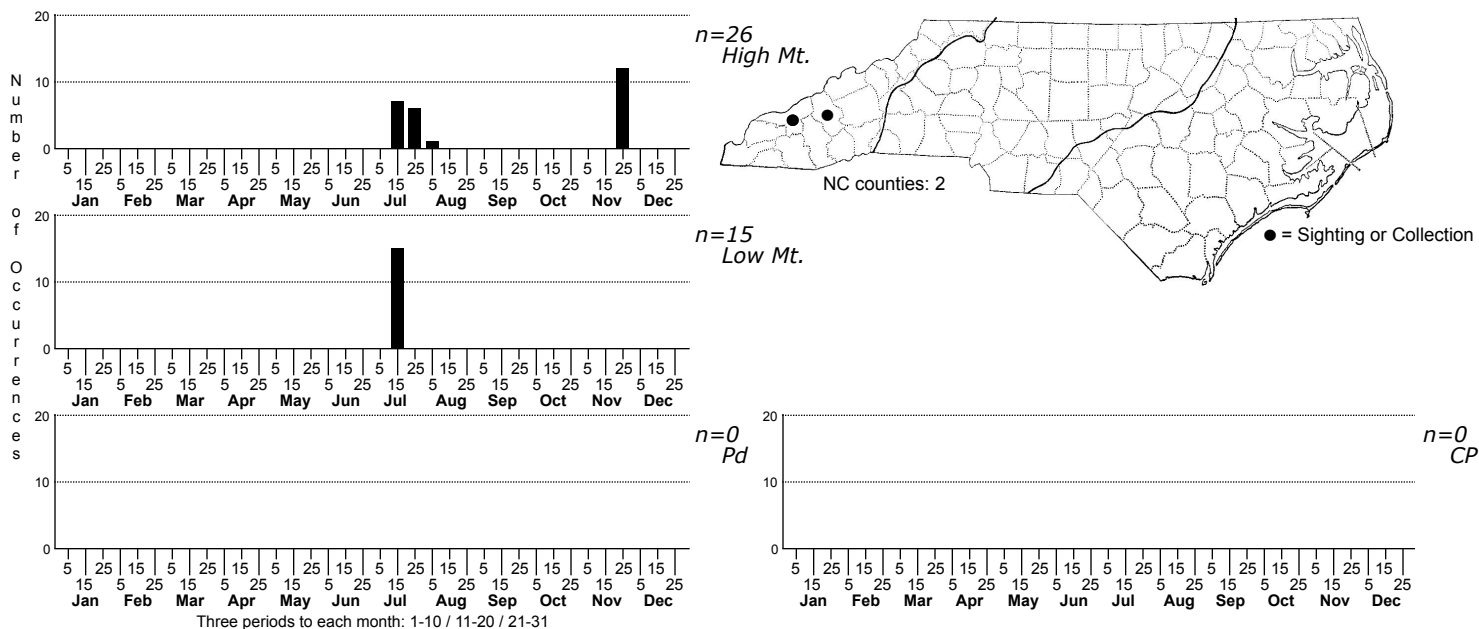


## *Diphascon pinguiforme*



FAMILY: Hypsibiidae SUBFAMILY: Diphasconinae

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: Morphologically matches species originally described from Italy, no molecular evidence for further comparisons. Family designation follows Tumanov & Tsvetkova (2023).

SPECIES COMMENTS: Terrestrial. No other US records.

ID COMMENTS: Body length up to 190  $\mu\text{m}$ ; eyes absent, cuticle smooth. In the holotype, 190  $\mu\text{m}$  long, the bucco-pharyngeal tube is 51.65  $\mu\text{m}$  long; the buccal tube, measured as specified above, is 19.13  $\mu\text{m}$  long (37.04% of the total length of the bucco-pharyngeal tube) and 1.20  $\mu\text{m}$  wide (ptd = 6.27). The stylet supports are inserted on the buccal tube at 58.25% of its length. The pharyngeal bulb (23.77  $\mu\text{m}$  long and 13.28  $\mu\text{m}$  wide) has apophyses, three rod-shaped macroplacoids, a small, granular microplacoid, and a septulum. The second macroplacoid is as long as the first one or slightly shorter; the third macroplacoid is clearly longer than the first two. In the holotype the first macroplacoid is 3.63  $\mu\text{m}$  long (ptd = 18.97), the second 3.63  $\mu\text{m}$  (ptd = 18.97), the third 4.57  $\mu\text{m}$  (ptd = 23.89); the septulum, clearly shorter than the first macroplacoid, is 2.25  $\mu\text{m}$  long (ptd = 11.76). The entire line of macroplacoids and septulum is 14.52  $\mu\text{m}$  long (ptd = 75.90), the line of macroplacoids 11.69  $\mu\text{m}$  (ptd = 61.11). The claws are slender. The position of the examined specimens is not good to measure all the claws; we were able to measure the outer claws on the third pair of legs in the holotype (8.28  $\mu\text{m}$ ; ptd = 43.28); in one of the paratypes, 150  $\mu\text{m}$  long and having the buccal tube 18.44  $\mu\text{m}$  long, we were able to measure the inner claws of the first pair of legs (4.83  $\mu\text{m}$ , ptd = 26.19) and the outer claws of the second pair of legs (7.08  $\mu\text{m}$ , ptd = 38.39). On all claws the main branches have accessory points. Lunulae and other cuticular thickenings on the legs are absent. - Pilato & Binda 1997/1998.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

HABITAT: Soil / leaf litter. Also found in tree lichen and tree moss.

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OBSERVATION METHODS: PC and DIC.