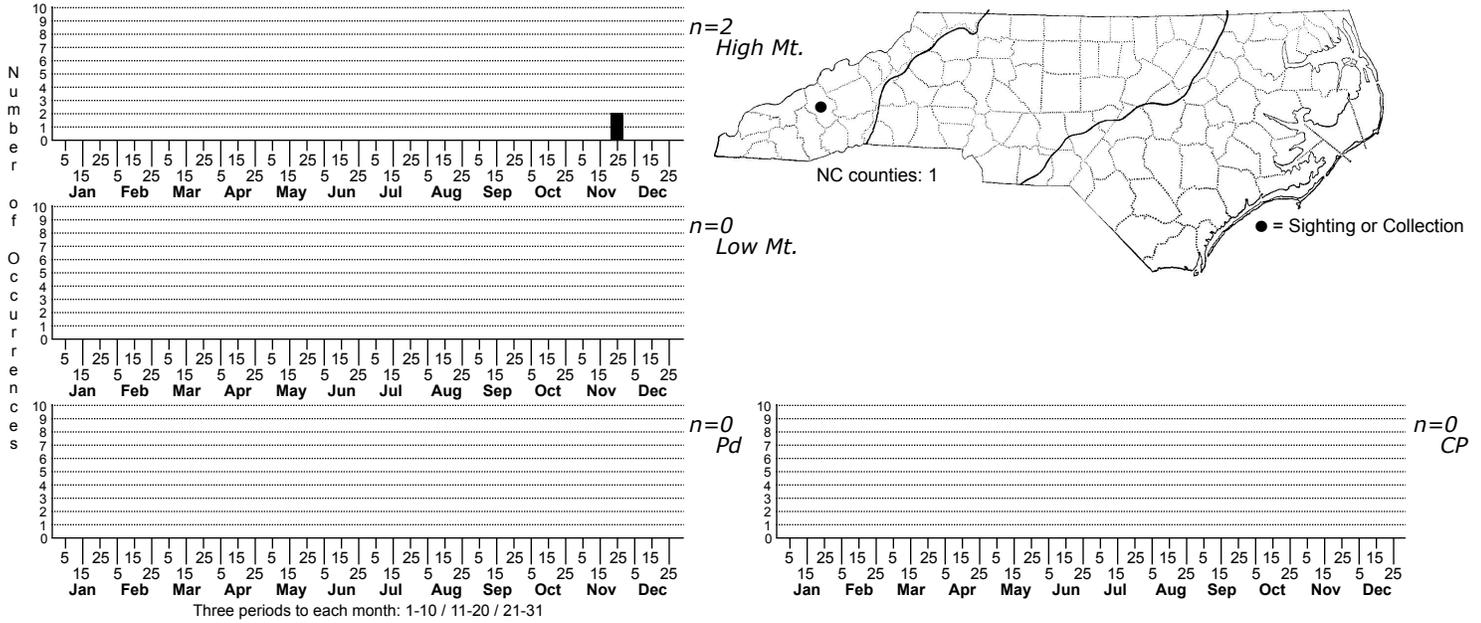


Pilatobius bullatus



FAMILY: Pilatobiidae SUBFAMILY: Pilatobiinae

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: Transferred from Diphascion by Bertolani et al. 2014. Morphologically indistinguishable from species first described in Scotland. No DNA evidence available for further comparison. Family designation follows Tumanov & Tsvetkova (2023).

SPECIES COMMENTS: Terrestrial. Reported infrequently but widely in US.

ID COMMENTS: Length up to 400 μm , maximum width of the body occurs at the 3rd pair of legs; eye spots present or absent, legs rather short. The cuticle bears a sculpture composed of rounded granules, especially in the dorso-caudal region; there exists dorsally up to 9 transverse rows of two gibbosities each, which may be reduced to only the last two caudal rows; the pair of gibbosities of the first (rostral) row are sometimes in contact on the dorsal-median line, but the distance between the gibbosities increases caudally; the caudal gibbosities are the largest. Pharyngeal tube narrow, with external diameter of about 2 μm , rather longer than the oval pharynx (length:width ratio between 1.8:1 and 1.3:1); the "drop" formation is present on the buccal tube. In the pharynx there are apophyses, two macroplacoids in the shape of rods, and septula; the macroplacoids may have approximately the same length, or else the first is longer than the second and with a constriction slightly posterior to the middle. In some, both macroplacoids may have a constriction. The two doubleclaws of each leg differ slightly in length and are rather small. Near the claws the first three pairs of legs bear a short cuticular bar.
-Ramazzotti & Maucci 1983

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

HABITAT: Soil/leaf litter, predominantly.

OBSERVATION METHODS: DIC and PC.