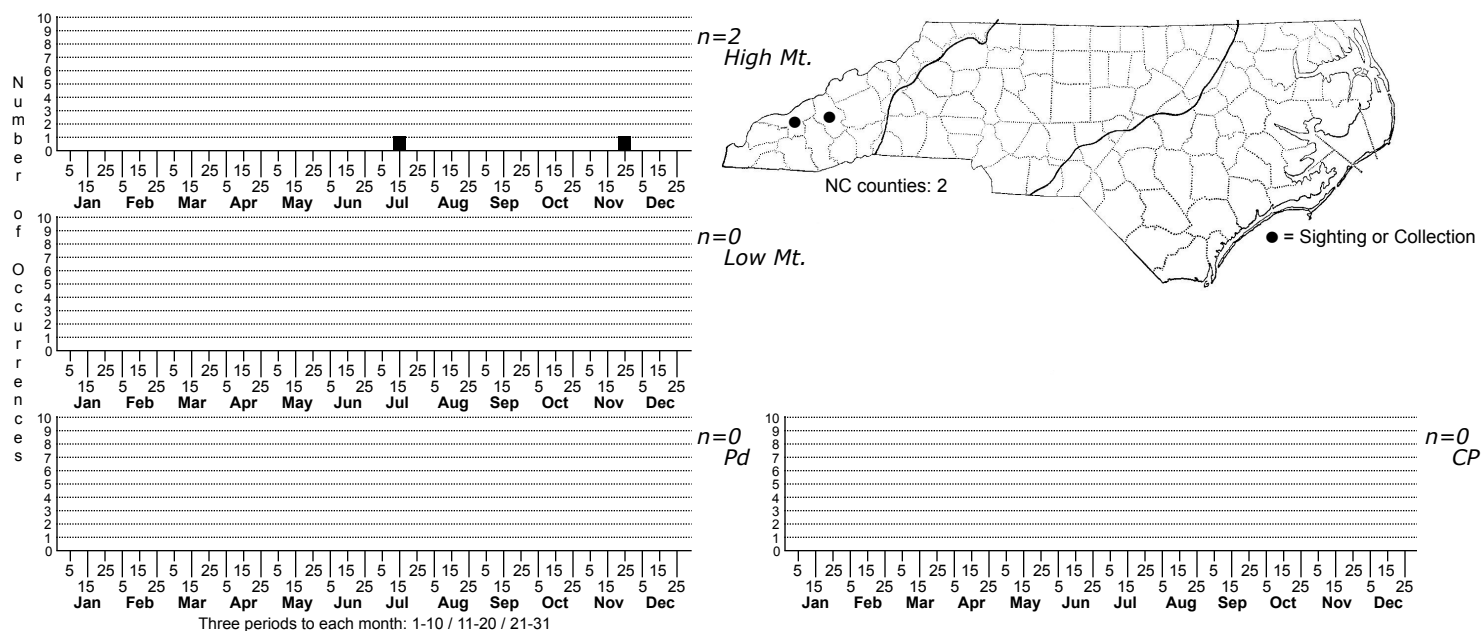


# *Pilatobius patanei*



FAMILY: Pilatobiidae SUBFAMILY: Pilatobiinae

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

SPECIES COMMENTS: Terrestrial. Only reported from GSMNP in US.

ID COMMENTS: Eyed. Cuticle sculptured with 8 transverse rows of hemispherical gibbosities (2 per row); cuticle with characteristic polygonal sculpture; the polygons are larger rostrally (1.5-2  $\mu\text{m}$ ). The gibbosities are dorsal in the first 7 rows, dorsolateral in the last. The first row (rostral) corresponds to the first pair of legs. Buccal tube (rigid) which is prolonged a short way beyond the stylet supports and presents a thickening in the shape of a "drop" near its connection to the flexible pharyngeal tube, which is a short oval (20-22  $\mu\text{m}$  x 18-16  $\mu\text{m}$ ), with length:width ratio equal to 1.21-1.25:1, containing apophyses, 2 macroplacoids, and septula, without microplacoid. The first macroplacoid (3.7  $\mu\text{m}$ ) is longer than the second (3  $\mu\text{m}$ ). Cuticular bar on the first three pair of legs. Eggs unknown. The principal differences between bullatum and elongatum are: the polygonal sculpture and not punctuation of the cuticle, with polygons of about 1.5-2  $\mu\text{m}$ . The species is near to iltisi, but this does not have gibbosities and the claws are different. The species was observed on Aeolian Islands (Stromboli and Salina), in Sicily, Istria, and Trieste Carso. -Ramazzotti & Maucci 1983

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

HABITAT: Soil/leaf litter. Also, rock moss, tree lichen, and tree moss.

OBSERVATION METHODS: PC and DIC.