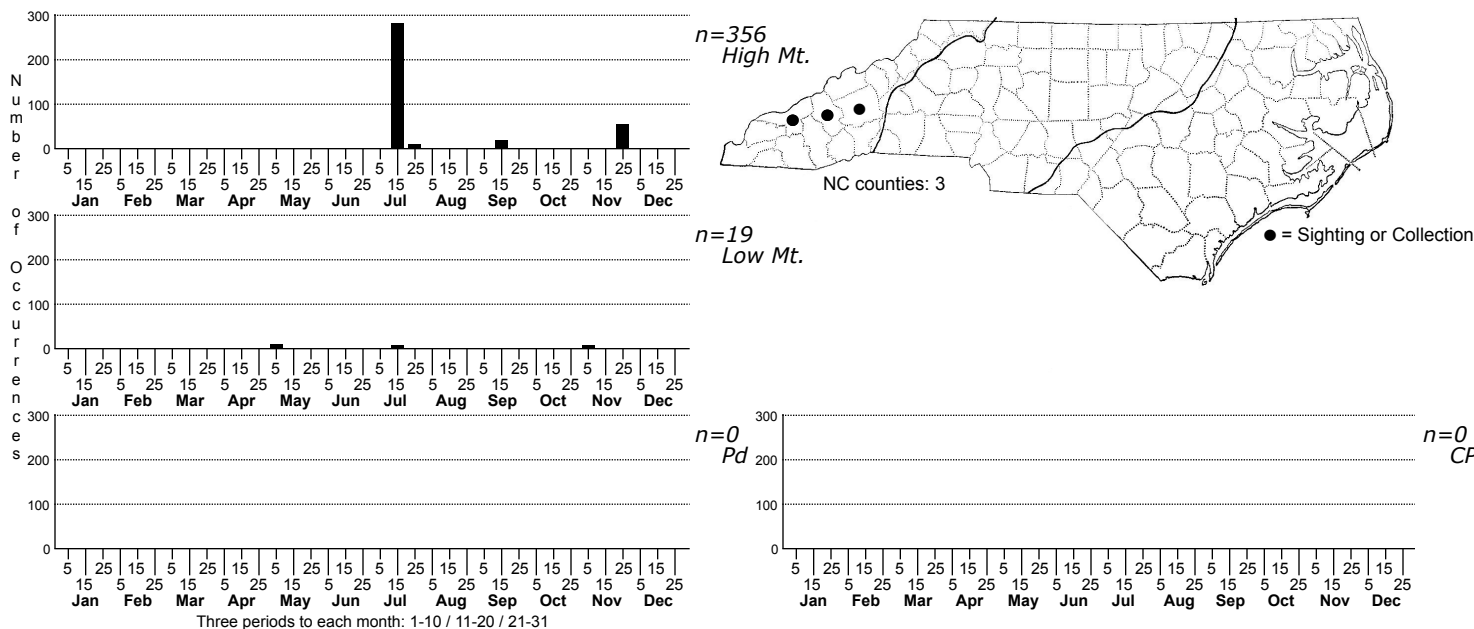


Macrobiotus martini



FAMILY: Macrobiotidae

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: This is a new species discovered in the GSMNP reported in Bartels et al. 2009. It is named in honor of Robert Martin, founder of Martin Microscopes, in appreciation of his long-term support of tardigrade research through the loan of microscopes and in particular for his enthusiasm in displaying tardigrades in his microscopy exhibits at regional meetings, especially the Association of Southeastern Biologists and early meetings of the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory in the GSMNP.

SPECIES COMMENTS: Terrestrial. So far only observed in the GSMNP and Asheville area. Apparently a Southern Appalachian endemic.

ID COMMENTS: Colorless; cuticle with pores, some of which are elliptical and very large; granules on the legs present; large eyes present; buccal armature in oral cavity very simple, without bands of teeth, and with only two dorsal and two ventral thin transverse ridges present (mediodorsal and medioventral ridges absent); buccal tube narrow; stylet supports inserted on the buccal tube at 73.4-74.9% of its length; two macropylacoids and small micropylacoid present. Claws of the hufelandi-type; accessory points and lunules present. Eggs of the hufelandi-type with processes in the shape of inverted goblets with a terminal disc, which has a generally convex central portion, and the egg shell with a large-mesh reticulation.

-Bartels et al. 2009

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

HABITAT: Tree moss and lichen, less commonly rock moss and lichen and soil.

OBSERVATION METHODS: PC and DIC.