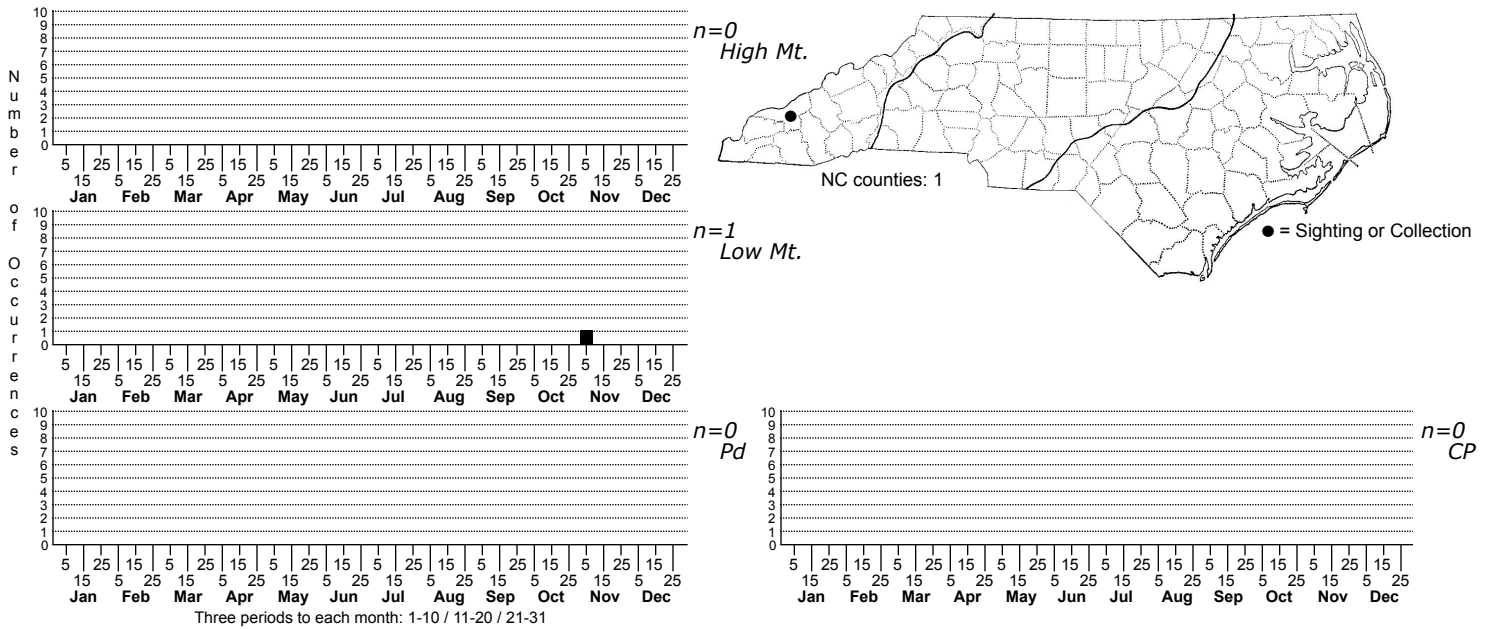


Dactylobiotus grandipes



FAMILY: Murrayidae

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: This species was re-described by Kaczmarek & Michalczyk 2010.

SPECIES COMMENTS: Freshwater. Described from NC, TN, NH, and CA. US endemic.

ID COMMENTS: Body yellow, eyes absent (Fig. 1). Cuticle smooth or slightly wrinkled, without gibbosities, spines or defined sculpture (Fig. 2). An oval papilla between legs III and IV on each side of the body is present (Fig. 3). Bucco-pharyngeal apparatus of the Macrobiotus type with ventral lamina and ten peribuccal lamellae (Fig. 4). Peribuccal papulae absent. Mouth antero-ventral. Oral cavity armature consisting of only one (i.e. second) band of teeth (Fig. 5). The first and the third band of teeth absent. The second band of teeth is placed in the posterior portion of the oral cavity. The band is continuous and composed of 4-5 irregular rows of small, dense teeth. Teeth in the shape of round or slightly oval granules/cones (spaces between teeth usually as wide as the teeth themselves). The band is continuous and looks the same on all oral cavity walls. At the end of the buccal tube, triangular pharyngeal apophyses present. Pharyngeal bulb spherical with two rod-shaped macroplacoids, with sharpened edges. Macroplacoids situated very close one to another (Fig. 6). The first macroplacoid longer, with a central constriction, second shorter and with subterminal constriction and terminal projections (i.e. macroplacoid length configuration is 1-2). Microplacoid and septulum absent. Claws of the Dactylobiotus type (configuration 2-1-1-2), similar in size and shape on all legs and with very short basal portions (Fig. 7). Primary branches of claws with small and short accessory points. Lunules are absent, but a robust semilunar cuticular connection between each external and internal claw is present. Claws I-III equal in length, but hind claws clearly larger. Eggs (for measurements see Table 2): Large, laid freely. Spherical or slightly oval, with 52-57 processes on the circumference (Fig. 8). Processes in the shape of short and wide cones (base diameter of each process similar to its height) (Fig. 9). Processes and the surface between them smooth, i.e. no reticulation, granulation or areolation is visible in PCM.

-Kaczmarek & Michalczyk 2010

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

HABITAT: Stream periphyton and sediment.

OBSERVATION METHODS: PC, DIC.