



Carectocultus dominicki None

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: ONLINE PHOTOS: TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Blanchard (1975) TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following description of the males is mostly based on that of Blanchard (1975). The palps, vertex, thorax and ground color of the forewings are all brown. The forewing has a prominent silvery white streak on the costal half that extends from the wing base to the subterminal area where it tends to become three-pronged because of thin brown dashes between the veins. In some specimens the streak may continue all the way to the apex. The streak is bounded on both sides by darker brown scales on the costa, and on the opposing side, with the region between the streak and the inner margin fading into a lighter brown color. The subterminal region between the white streak and the anal angle is usually dusted with whitish scales to varying degrees, and often finely streaked with darker lines on the apical half. The terminal line is narrow and white, with a row of black dots along its inner margin, while the fringe is brown and often checkered. A small brown discocellular spot is often evident at around one-quarter the wing length, and a postmedial line is sometimes evident that begins at the costa at around four-fifths the wing length and loops outward near the end of the white streak. From there it projects basally and parallels the white streak before ending with a short turn back towards the inner margin.

The hindwing is smoky tan and there is often a row of diffuse brown dots at the termen. The abdomen is smoky tan, and sometimes almost black at the tip. Blanchard (1975) noted that the females have the same pattern of wing maculation, but are paler overall. In addition, the abdomen and hindwings are white rather than smoky brown as seen in the males.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Carectocultus dominicki</i> is found in maritime habitats from Maryland southward to northern Florida, and westward along the Gulf Coast to southeastern Texas. As of 2023, we have only two records from coastal habitats in Carteret and Craven counties.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Our two records as of 2023 are from late-August and early-September.

HABITAT: Our one record is from a wetland site with a marsh and beaver pond.

FOOD: The hosts are apparently undocumented.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to light.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS:

STATE PROTECTION: Has no legal protection, although permits are required to collect it on state parks and other public lands.

COMMENTS: