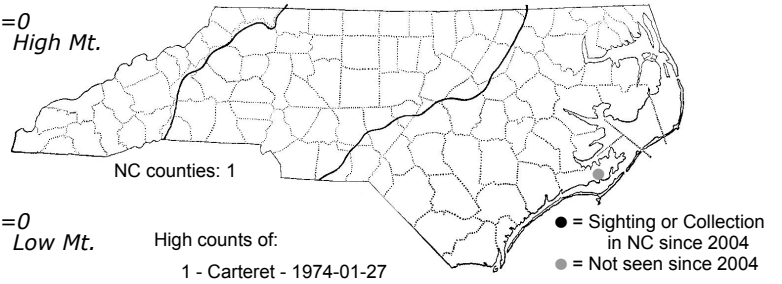
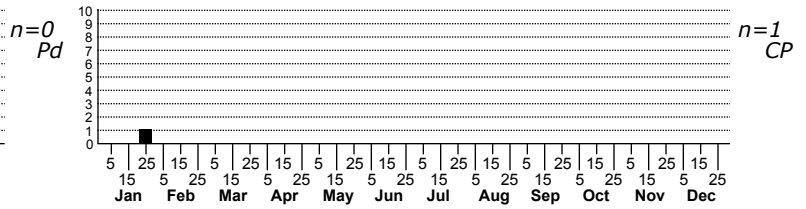


Donacula maximellus No common name



Status	Rank
NC	US
NC	Global



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Schoenobiinae TRIBE: [Schoenobiini]
 TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Martinez (2010)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following description is based on that of Martinez (2010). The frons, antennae, labial palps and thorax are yellow in females and pale-yellow in males. In males, the forewing ground is pale-yellow and irrorated with brown. The dark marks include a small discal spot, and an oblique row of spots that project from the apex to the outer two-thirds of the inner margin before ending or fading near the center of the wing. Scattered small spots occur along the fold that are sometimes inconspicuous, and a line of terminal dots is present along the outer margin. The forewing of females is yellow and irrorated with brown. There is a brown band between the costa and the discal cell from near the wing base to near the apex. An oblique line of spots projects from the apex to the outer two-thirds of the inner margin before ending or fading near the center of the wing. A line of terminal spots is present along the outer margin between the veins. The apex is acute versus more quadrate in the males. The abdomen is yellow and the anal tuft pale yellow. The hindwing of the females is yellowish-white and irrorated with pale-yellow, and there is a row of terminal spots on the outer margin between the veins. Males have a yellowish-white hindwing that is irrorated with brown, along with terminal spots on the outer margin between veins.

DISTRIBUTION: *Donacula maximellus* is primarily found in the southeastern U.S. in coastal wetlands. Specimens have been verified from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and Nebraska (Blanchard, 1963; Martinez, 2010).

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been found year-round in different areas of the range, including South Carolina and Louisiana. Our one record as of 2023 is from late-January.

HABITAT: Local populations are associated with marshes, shallow ponds and similar habitats that have emergent vegetation.

FOOD: Southern Wild-rice (*Zizaniopsis miliacea*) is the only documented host (Blanchard, 1963), but it is possible that other aquatic species are used.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S1-S3]

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

COMMENTS: This species appears to be rare in North Carolina with only one known record. It is a wetland species, but more information is needed on its distribution, abundance, and host plants before we can accurately assess its conservation status within the state.