

Dreamy Duskywing

Dreamy Duskywings are rare in Alabama, only known from Jackson County. They are univoltine and fly solely in the spring. This species inhabits rich, moist woodlands. Flight is very low, often only a foot above the ground. Males perch very low—even on the ground—to find females and frequently mineralize with other duskywings.



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- Small—the smallest of the duskywings.
- Sexes are similar. Males have a costal fold on the ventral forewing. They tend to be darker than females.
- Keep in mind that palps can be lost with age and wear.
- May be confused with Sleepy Duskywings. Dreamies are smaller. They have a small forewing spot near the leading edge that Sleepies lack. Their abdomens are often ringed with gray; Sleepies seldom exhibit these rings. Dreamy DW's have a more silvery-gray coloration, especially when fresh. Dreamies tend to inhabit richer habitats than Sleepies. They are not nearly as common and fly somewhat later, although there is an overlap.





Dreamy Duskywing

Dorsal Male

Costal fold

Long palps

*Small light dot

Silver-gray spot at “wrist”

Inner third darker than rest of
ground color

Gray rings on abdomen

Chain-like band

Dreamy Duskywing *Erynnis icelus*

© Sara Bright

* *Reliable diagnostic marker*

Wingspan: 1 - 1¼ inches (2.5 - 3.5 cm)



Dreamy Duskywing

Dorsal Female

Long palps

*Small light dot

Silver-gray spot at “wrist”

Inner third darker than rest of ground color

Chain-like band

Gray rings on abdomen

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Dreamy Duskywing

Ventral View

Plain brown with rows of light dots

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Wingspan: 1 - 1¼ inches (2.5 - 3.5 cm)



Dreamy Duskywing

Male/Female Dorsal Comparison

FEMALE: Somewhat lighter

MALE: Somewhat darker
Costal fold

Dreamy Duskywing *Erynnis icelus*

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* *Reliable diagnostic marker*

Wingspan: 1-1 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches (2.5-3.5 cm)



Dreamy Duskywing

Male/Female Ventral Comparison

MALE: Smaller
Somewhat darker

FEMALE: Larger
Somewhat lighter

Dreamy Duskywing *Erynnis icelus*

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* *Reliable diagnostic marker*

Wingspan: 1-1 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches (2.5-3.5 cm)

Similar Species

Dreamy Duskywing



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Sleepy Duskywing



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