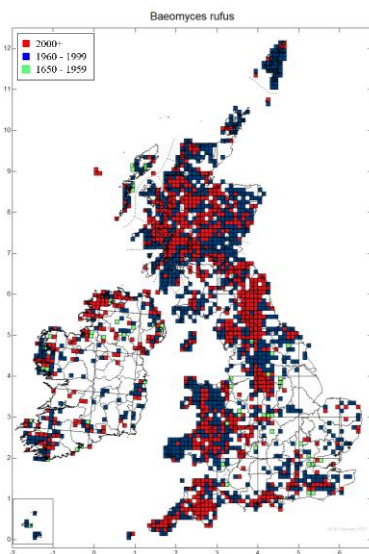


## *Baeomyces rufus*



**Identification:** The thallus is pale grey-green often with pinkish-brown patches and may form a crust, or consist of granules or scales. Pale greenish soredia may be present or there may be detachable flakes. The apothecia are up to 2 mm across, pink when wet to red-brown when dry. The sturdy whitish stalk is usually up to 3 mm tall and may be forked; it often has greenish scales near the base. Thalli may join across soil to cover large areas. Thalli are often sterile.

**Chemistry:** Thallus: K+ yellow, KC+ yellow, Pd+ orange.

**Similar species:** *Dibaeis baeomyces* grows in similar habitats but has a whiter thallus and the apothecia are pale pink.

**Habitat:** Shaded, damp situations on gravel, peat, siliceous rocks or soil, particularly near water. Rarely on sheltered walls and near the base of trees.

**Distribution:** Common, particularly in the uplands of Britain and Ireland.