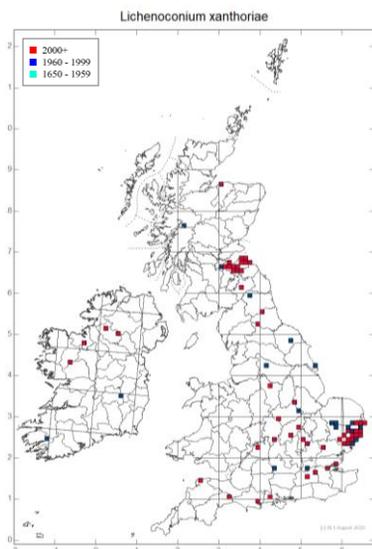
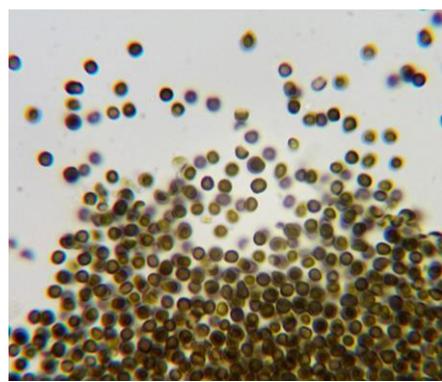
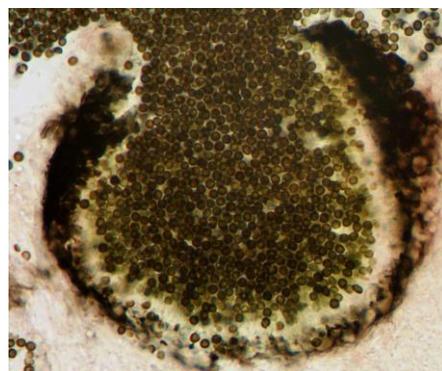


Lichenoconium xanthoriae



Identification: The pycnidia of this lichenicolous fungus can be scattered or grouped, in the apothecia of the host lichen. They develop immersed in the host but protrude at maturity. The pycnidia open by rupturing and become cup-shaped. They release brown, spherical spores which often have one flattened side. Few, if any, of the host's asci develop in infected apothecia.

Similar species: No other species with near spherical, brown, single-celled, smooth-walled spores are known on the same hosts.

Habitat: Most common on *Xanthoria polycarpa*. Also known in the UK on *X. parietina*, *Teloschistes chrysophthalmus* and *Cetrelia olivetorum*.

Distribution: Widespread but rarely recorded.

References: Christiansen (1956) *Friesia* **5**: 212-217

Hawksworth (1977) *Persoonia* **9**: 159-198