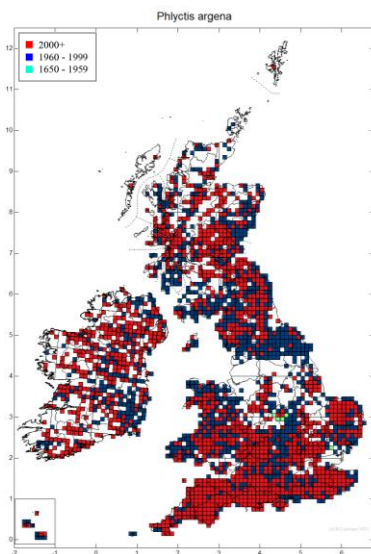


# *Phlyctis argena*



**Identification:** thallus thin, smooth and only slightly cracked, white to creamy-grey or greenish-grey, often covering extensive areas, with a white prothallus. Irregularly shaped soralia with granular soredia are scattered over the surface sometimes coalescing. Apothecia extremely rare.

**Chemistry:** thallus and soralia K+ yellow turning blood-red, P+ orange, UV-.

**Similar species:** *Pertusaria albescens* and *Pertusaria amara* are similar but these are K-.

**Habitat:** common on well-lit, nutrient rich trees, shrubs and hedges. Rarely on mosses or on shaded, somewhat basic, walls of churches etc.

**Distribution:** widespread throughout Britain and Ireland.