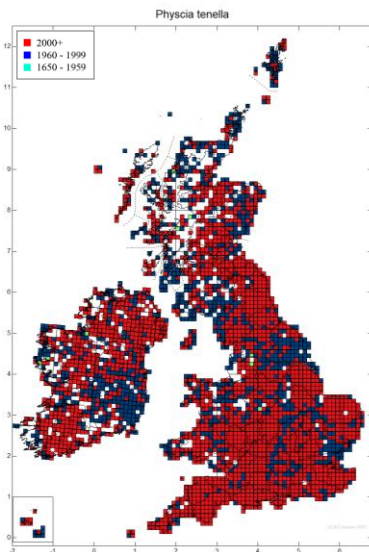


Physcia tenella



Identification: Thallus pale grey, seldom more than 5cm diameter. Lobes are long and rather erect, up to 1mm wide with white mottling and prominent marginal cilia. Under surface white with scattered darker-tipped rhizines. The lobe ends split and turn back to expose rather coarse cream coloured soredia. When fertile, apothecia to 2mm diameter on short stalks, the discs black and pruinose with thick margins.

Chemistry: Cortex K+ yellow, medulla K-

Similar species: *Physcia adscendens* is similar but has lobes which are hooded and burst to expose an internal mass of cream coloured soredia.

Habitat: Common on trees and twigs but rare on stonework/rocks except where overhung by tree branches.

Distribution: Throughout Britain and Ireland.