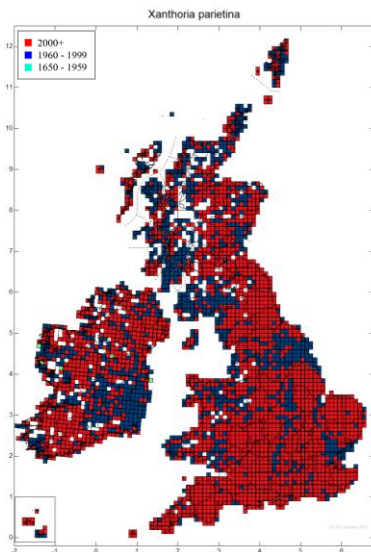


Xanthoria parietina



Identification: A bright yellow to orange foliose lichen (often grey in the shade). Thallus of large slightly wrinkled overlapping lobes. Underside white. Fruiting bodies numerous especially towards the centre- orange apothecia with paler margin

Chemistry: K+ crimson/purple

Similar species: *Xanthoria polycarpa* has narrow lobes and numerous stalked apothecia which almost hide the thallus. *X. aureola* is coastal with narrow strap-like lobes. *Caloplaca* species are also K+ crimson/purple but are crustose.

Habitat: Urban, rural and coastal. On nutrient enriched trees (e.g. elder), rocks, walls and roofs, especially if exposed to bird droppings or air pollution.

Distribution: Widespread, common and increasing due to nitrate and ammonia pollution.