

Coastal and seashore key – notes – January 2025

A field key to Coastal and Seashore Lichens by Frank Dobson is no longer available in hard copy, but the latest edition is now available from the BLS website as a PDF. This is undoubtedly a useful part of a learning lichenologist's library, not just for the keys but also for the introductory sections. The latter includes a section on chemical spot tests but was prepared before the now widely used UV test, which can help with many identifications.

Since 2014, there have been major developments in our understanding of lichen phylogenetics arising from the use of molecular techniques. This has led to a better understanding of generic delimitations, but with the consequence of many name changes. A list of these changes is given below. These can also be found by searching in the BLS Taxon Dictionary <https://britishlichensociety.org.uk/resources/lichen-taxon-database> or keying in a name into the latest version of the BLS recording spreadsheet <https://britishlichensociety.org.uk/recording/downloads>

While checking the names, it was apparent that there were some problems that did not concern just a name change. Some notes on these are given below but are by no means comprehensive.

It was also apparent that although several species were strangely included in the 'Keys', others were not included. Some examples of these are provided below in two sections. The first for species widely occurring that should be included in the keys; several of these were not well understood up until 2014. The second is for species occurring mostly in northern Britain that can be added to the 'Notes on some rare species'. For further information on these species, the reader is referred to the *Revisions of British and Irish Lichens* <https://britishlichensociety.org.uk/identification/lqbi3> and the Species and Maps pages on the BLS web site <https://britishlichensociety.org.uk/resources/species-accounts>

Name changes or later interpretations of names

Acarospora nitrophila = *Acarospora muddii*

Acarospora smaragdula = *Myriospora smaragdula*

Anaptychia ciliaris subsp. *mamillata* = *Anaptychia mamillata*

Arthonia atlantica = *Reichlingia dendritica*

Aspicilia caesiocinerea = *Circinaria caesiocinerea*

Aspicilia calcarea = *Circinaria calcarea*

Aspicilia contorta = *Circinaria contorta*

Aspicilia contorta subsp. *hoffmanniana* = *Circinaria hoffmanniana*

Aspicilia leproscens = *Circinaria leproscens*

Aspicilia recedens = *Lobothallia recedens*

Aspicilia tuberculosa = *Circinaria tuberculosa*

Bacidia bagliettoana = *Toniniopsis bagliettoana*

Bacidia carneoglauca = *Aquacidia antricola*
Caloplaca arcis = *Flavoplaca arcis*
Caloplaca arnoldii = *Calogaya oblitterata*
Caloplaca alociza = *Pyrenodesmia alociza*
Caloplaca aurantia = *Variospora aurantia*
Caloplaca britannica = *Haloplaca britannica*
Caloplaca ceracea = *Kuettlingeria ceracea*
Caloplaca chrysodeta = *Leproplaca chrysodeta*
Caloplaca cirrochroa = *Leproplaca cirrochroa*
Caloplaca citrina agg. = *Flavoplaca citrina* s. lat.
Caloplaca crenularia = *Blastenia crenularia*
Caloplaca crenulatella = *Xanthocarpia crenulatella*
Caloplaca dalmatica = *Flavoplaca itiana*
Caloplaca decipiens = *Calogaya decipiens*
Caloplaca flavescens = *Variospora flavescens*
Caloplaca flavocitrina = *Flavoplaca flavocitrina*
Caloplaca flavovirescens = *Gyalolechia flavovirescens*
Caloplaca holocarpa = *Athallia holocarpa*
Caloplaca marina = *Flavoplaca marina*
Caloplaca maritima = *Flavoplaca maritima*
Caloplaca oasis = *Flavoplaca oasis*
Caloplaca marmorata (lactea) = *Xanthocarpia fulva*
Caloplaca microthallina = *Flavoplaca microthallina*
Caloplaca oasis = *Flavoplaca oasis*
Caloplaca ochracea = *Xanthocarpia ochracea*
Caloplaca ruderum = *Flavoplaca ruderum*
Caloplaca saxicola = *Calogaya pusilla*
Caloplaca suaedae = *Haloplaca suaedae*
Caloplaca teicholyta = *Kuettlingeria teicholyta*
Caloplaca thallincola = *Variospora thallincola*
Caloplaca variabilis = *Pyrenodesmia variabilis*
Caloplaca verruculifera = *Polycauliona verruculifera*

Caloplaca xantholyta = *Leproplaca xantholyta*
Collema auriforme = *Lathagrium auriforme*
Collema crispum = *Blennothallia crispa*
Collema cristatum = *Lathagrium cristatum*
Collema multipartitum = *Callome multipartita*
Collema tenax = *Enchylium tenax*
Cyphelium inquinans = *Acolium inquinans*
Cyphelium notarisii = *Calicium notarisii*
Degelia atlantica = *Pectenienia atlantica*
Degelia cyanoloma = *Pectenienia cyanoloma*
Degelia ligulata = *Pectenienia ligulata*
Degelia plumbea = *Pectenienia plumbea*
Fulgensia fulgens = *Gyalolechia fulgens*
Gyalecta jenensis = *Secoliga jenensis*
Gyalecta jenensis var. *macrospora* = *Secoliga macrospora*
Gyalecta nidarosiensis = *Clathroporinopsis nidarosiensis*
Heterodermia leucomela = *Heterodermia leucomelos*
Lecanactis dilleniana = *Psoronactis dilleniana*
Lecania erysibe = concept here probably comprises *Lecania inundata* and *L. rabenhorstii*
Lecania erysibe f. *sorediata* = *Lecania erysibe* s. str.
Lecanographa grumulosa = *Paralecanographa grumulosa*
Lecanora actophila = *Myriolecis actophila*
Lecanora agardhiana = *Myriolecis agardhiana*
Lecanora albescens = *Myriolecis albescens*
Lecanora andrewii = *Myriolecis andrewii*
Lecanora crenulata = *Myriolecis crenulata*
Lecanora dispersa = *Myriolecis dispersa*
Lecanora fugiens = *Myriolecis fugiens*
Lecanora muralis = *Protoparmeliopsis muralis*
Lecanora poliophaea = *Myriolecis poliophaea*
Lecanora rupicola = *Glaucosporium rupicola*
Lecanora semipallida = *Myriolecis semipallida*

Lecanora straminea = *Myriolecis straminea*
Lecanora zosteræ = *Myriolecis zosteræ*
Lepraria lobificans = *Lepraria finkii*
Leprocaulon microscopicum = *Leprocaulon quisquiliare*
Leptogium gelatinosum = *Scytinium gelatinosum*
Leptogium plicatile = *Scytinium plicatile*
Leptogium schraderi = *Scytinium schraderi*
Leptogium teretiusculum = *Scytinium teretiusculum*
Leptogium turgidum = *Scytinium turgidum*
Llimonaea sorediata = *Ingaderia vandenboomii*
Moelleropsis nebulosa = *Fuscopannaria nebulosa*
Opegrapha calcarea = *Arthonia atra*
Opegrapha gyrocarpa = *Gyrographa gyrocarpa*
Opegrapha zonata = *Enterographa zonata*
Pertusaria aspergilla = *Lepra aspergilla*
Pertusaria corallina = *Lepra corallina*
Pertusaria excludens = *Lepra excludens*
Pertusaria lactea = *Varicellaria lactea*
Pertusaria monogona = *Lepra monogona*
Placidiopsis custnani = *Placidiopsis custnani*
Polysporina simplex = *Acarospora privigna*
Pseudocyphellaria crocata = *Pseudocyphellaria citrina*
Rimularia gyrizans = *Lambiella gyrizans*
Rinodina oxydata = *Mischoblastia oxydata*
Roccellographa sorediata = *Ingaderia sorediata*
Sarcogyne privigna = *Sarcogyne hypophaea*
Toninia aromatica = *Toniniopsis aromatica*
Toninia mesoidea = *Toniniopsis mesoidea*
Toninia sedifolia = *Thalloidima sedifolium*
Trapelia glebulosa – as used in these keys refers to *Trapelia involuta*
Verrucaria baldensis = *Bagliettoa baldensis* s. str.; but records not confirmed by molecular sequencing should be called *Bagliettoa parmigera* s. lat. Also included

here is *Bagliettoa calciseda*, which has often been misidentified as “*Verrucaria baldensis*” or “*V. sphinctrina*”

Verrucaria caerulea = *Verrucaria coerulea*

Verrucaria dufourii = *Parabagliettoa dufourii*

Verrucaria mucosa = *Wahlenbergiella mucosa*

Verrucaria striatula = *Wahlenbergiella striatula*

Xanthoria candelaria = *Polycauliona candelaria*

Xanthoria elegans = *Rusavskia elegans*

Xanthoria polycarpa = *Polycauliona polycarpa*

Xanthoria ucrainica = *Polycauliona ucrainica*

Further notes on included taxa

Circinaria (Aspicilia) tuberculosa – so far known only on flints from inland areas of chalk grassland.

Caloplaca soralifera – the correct name for what has been called this species in Britain remains to be established

Cliostomum corrugatum – most records probably refer to *C. griffithii* with larger tan usual pycnidia. In modern times, *C. corrugatum* is confirmed to occur only on old pine in the Scottish Highlands.

Lecanora cenisia – coastal and lowland records of this species are likely misidentifications.

Lithographa tesserrata – there are no records from on or near a sea-shore.

Pyrenula dermatodes – this rare corticolous species has not been found on or adjacent to a seashore.

Examples for additional species that should be included in the keys

Bacidia sipmanii – upper shore in gullies and crevices

Bacidina subfuscula – coastal turf

Dermatocarpon intestiniforme – flushed rocks on upper shore

Halecania laevis – upper shore (SW Ireland)

Haloplaca sorediella – turf and rocks on upper shore

Hydropunctaria oceanica – flushed rocks

Hydropunctaria orae – flushed rocks

Lecania fructigena – upper shore

Myriolecis massei – upper shore

Myriolecis salina – rock on upper shore and pebbles

Scythioria phlogina – cliff top turf

Species that could be included in the ‘Notes on Rare Species’

Athallia cerinelloides – cliff-top turf

Coccotrema citrinescens – gully behind shore (W Scotland)

Crocodia aurata – coastal turf (Scilly Isles)

Heteroplacidium fusculum – maritime limestone (Somerset)

Hydropunctaria aractina- littoral zone (NW Scotland)

Lecania granulata – cliff-top turf (northern coasts)

Lecania suavis - upper shore

Lecanora orae-frigidae – driftwood (Shetland)

Lecidea berengeriana – cliff-top turf (Shetland)

Parmeliella thriptophylla - coastal turf

Protopannaria pezizoides – coastal turf

Ricasolia amplissima – cliffs (e.g. Handa and St. Kilda)

Ricasolia virens – rock faces above shore (W Scotland)

Sarcogyne oceanica – coastal granite (Channel Islands)

Solenopsora liparina – coastal serpentine (Cornwall)

Thalloidima opuntioides – soil in cliffs (Scotland)

Vahliella atlantica – coastal turf

Verrucaria ceuthocarpa - shore rock (Scotland)

Verrucaria tephromela – flushed rocks above shore (Shiant Islands)