Field key to Lichens on Trees – notes – January 2025

A field key to Lichens on Trees 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 tests, which can help with many identifications.

Since 2013, 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 that are widely occurring (or regionally frequent) that should be included in the keys; several of these were not well understood up until 2013. 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/lgbi3 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

Arthonia cinnabarina = *Coniocarpon cinnabarinum*

Arthonia elegans = *Coniocarpon cuspidans* [interpretation also includes *Coniocarpon fallax*]

Arthonia leucopellaea = *Felipes leucopellaeus*

Arthonia muscigena = *Bryostigma lapidicola*

Arthonia pruinata = *Pachnolepia pruinata*

Arthonia punctiformis = *Naevia punctiformis*

Arthonia spadicea = *Diarthonis spadicea*

Arthopyrenia carneobrunneola = *Naetrocymbe carneobrunneola*

Arthopyrenia nitescens = *Naetrocymbe nitescens*

Arthopyrenia punctiformis = *Naetrocymbe punctiformis*

Bacidia adastra = *Bacidina adastra*

Bacidia delicata = *Bacidina delicata*

Bacidia incompta = Bellicidia incompta

Bacidia neosquamulosa = Bacidina neosquamulosa

Bacidia phacodes = Bacidina phacodes

Bacidia viridifarinosa = Aquacidia viridifarinosa

Caloplaca cerinella = Athallia cerinella

Caloplaca cerinelloides = Athallia cerinelloides

Caloplaca citrina = Flavoplaca citrina

Caloplaca coronata (and as *"corinata*") – this species has not been correctly reported from GB&I. Most records refer to *Flavoplaca dichroa* which has not been reported on trees and only very rarely on worked timber.

Caloplaca crenulatella = Xanthocarpia crenulatella

Caloplaca flavorubescens = Gyalolechia flavorubescens

Caloplaca flavovirescens Gyalolechia flavovirescens

Caloplaca herbidella = Blastenia herbidella. The interpretation is of *B. herbidella s. lat.,* which includes also *Blastenia coralliza.*

Caloplaca holocarpa = Athallia holocarpa; interpretation here may include other species, e.g. *A. pyracea*

Caloplaca luteoalba = Cerothallia luteoalba

Caloplaca marina = Flavoplaca marina

Caloplaca ulcerosa = Coppinsiella ulcerosa

Candelariella reflexa = Candelariella xanthostigmoides

Cavernularia hultenii = Hypogymnia hultenii

Collema fasciculare = Gabura fascicularis

Collema polycarpon = Enchylium polycarpon; there are no records in GB&I of this species on trees or worked timber

Cyphelium inquinans = Acolium inquinans

Cyphelium notarisii = Calicium notarisii

Degelia atlantica = Pectenia atlantica

Degelia cyanoloma = Pectenia cyanoloma

Degelia ligulata = Pectenia ligulata. Species not recorded in GB&I on trees or worked timber.

Degelia plumbea = Pectenia plumbea

Dimerella lutea = Coenogonium luteum

Dimerella pineti = Coenogonium pineti

Enterographa sorediatum = Syncesia myrtillicola (sorediate morph)

Fuscopannaria sampaiana = Nevesia sampaiana

Graphina anguina = Graphis inustuloides

Graphina pauciloculata = Allographa pauciloculata

Graphina ruiziana = Allographa anomala

Graphis scripta – interpretation here is for *G. scripta s. lat.*

Graphis alboscripta = Fissurina alboscripta

Gyalecta peliocarpa - on p. 109 - unclear what this is; not included in the keys

Hypocenomyce caradocensis = Xylopsora caradocensis

Hypocenomyce friesii = Xylopsora friesii

Lecanactis subabietina = Inoderma subabietinum

Lecania erysibe – best regarded as *L. erysibe s. lat.;* unclear what species is meant in a more strict sense.

Lecania erysibe f. sorediata = Lecania erysibe s. str.

Lecanora carpinea = Glaucomaria carpinea

Lecanora chlarotera – here meaning *L. chlarotera s lat*.; including *L. hybocarpa*

Lecanora hagenii = Myriolecis hagenii

Lecanora muralis = Protoparmeliopsis muralis

Lecanora persimilis = Myriolecis persimilis

Lecanora zosterae = Myriolecis zosterae

Lepraria lobificans = Lepraria finkii

Leprocaulon microscopicum = Leprocaulon quisquiliare

Leptogium gelatinosum = Scytinium gelatinosum

Leptogium lichenoides = Scytinium lichenoides

Leptogium schraderi = Scytinium schraderi; not known on trees or worked timber

Leptogium subtile = Scytinium subtile

Leptogium teretiusculum = Scytinium teretiusculum

Lobaria amplissima = Ricasolia amplissima

Lobaria scrobiculata = Lobarina scrobiculata

Lobaria virens = Ricasolia virens

Loxospora elatina – interpretation here includes also *L. chloropolia*

Micarea bauschiana = Brianaria bauschiana

Micarea lutulata = Brianaria lutulata

Micarea prasina = interpretation here is for *M. prasina s. lat.,* which comprises several similar species

Micarea sylvicola = Brianaria sylvicola

Mycobilimbia pulicaris = Mycobilimbia sphaeroides

Mycoblastus violella (fucatus) = Violella fucata

Opegrapha atra = Arthonia atra

Opegrapha corticola = Thelopsis corticola

Opegrapha gyrocarpa = Gyrographa gyrocarpa

Opegrapha herbarum = Alyxoria culmigena

Opegrapha multipuncta = Porina multipuncta

Opegrapha ochrocheila = Alyxoria ochrocheila

Opegrapha prosodea = Zwackhia prosodea

Opegrapha rufescens = Pseudoschismatomma rufescens

Opegrapha sorediifera = Zwackhia sorediifera

Opegrapha varia = Alyxoria varia

Opegrapha zonata = Enterographa zonata

Parmeliella triptophylla = Parmeliella thriptophylla

Parmelinopsis horrescens = Hypotrachyna horrescens

Parmelinopsis minarum = Hypotrachyna minarum

Pertusaria albescens = Lepra albescens

Pertusaria amara = Lepra amara

Pertusaria borealis = Lepra borealis

Pertusaria hemisphaerica = Varicellaria hemisphaerica

Pertusaria multipuncta = Lepra multipuncta

Pertusaria ophthalmiza = Lepra ophthalmiza

Piccolia ochrophora = Piccolia ochrophora

Polychidium dendriscum = Leptogidium dendriscum

Porina rosei – interpretation here also includes *Coenogonium nimisii*

Pseudocyphellaria crocata = Pseudocyphellaria citrina

Schismatomma cretaceum = Sporodophoron cretaceum

Schismatomma decolorans = Dendrographa decolorans

Schismatomma graphidioides = Schismatomma ricasolii

Schismatomma niveum = Snippocia nivea

Schismatomma quercicola = Schizotrema quercicola

Sticta fuliginosa – the concept here is *S. fuliginosa s. lat*., including also *S. ciliata* and *S. fuliginoides*

Strigula jamesii = Swinscowia jamesii

Teloschistes chrysophthalmus = Teloschistes chrysophthalmos

Thelomma ocellatum = Pseudothelomma ocellatum

Thelotrema petractoides = Crutarndina petractoides

Tuckermanopsis chlorophylla = Tuckermannopsis chlorophylla

Usnea dasypoga = Usnea dasopoga

Verrucaria maura = Hydropunctaria maura; not known on trees or worked timber

Xanthoria candelaris = Polycauliona candelaris

Xanthoria elegans = Rusavskia elegans

Xanthoria fulva = Xanthomendoza fulva; presence in GB&I needs confirmation

Xanthoria polycarpa = Polycauliona polycarpa

Xanthoria ucrainica = Xanthoria ucrainica

Examples for addition

Species that should be included in the keys

Alyxoria viridipruinosa

Anisomeridium viridescens

Athallia pyracea

Biatora chrysantha

Blastenia lauri

Bryobilimbia sanguineoatra

Coenogonium nimisii

Dichoporis taylorii

Hyperphyscia lucida

Mycobilimbia epixanthoides

Ochrolechia arborea

Orcularia insperata

Xanthomendoza oregana

Xanthomendoza ulophyllodes

Species that could be included in the 'Notes on Rare Species'

Andreiomyces obtusaticus

Anisomeridium robustum

Blastenia coralliza

Blastenia ferruginea s. str.

Candelaria pacifica

Chaenotheca stemonea

Dichoporis phaea

Fuscopannaria ignobilis

Fuscopannaria mediterranea

Lecanora caledonica

Leptogium coralloideum

Leptogium hibernicum

Leptogium saturninum

Menegazzia subsimilis

Mycoblastus sanguinarioides

Pyrenula acutispora

Rinodina freyi

Rinodina griseosoralifera

Sclerophora pallida

Errors – incomplete list

Couplet 10 at the top of page 66 separates *Phaeographis smithii* and *Phaeographis dedritica*. Both the descriptions and the figures are the wrong way round. *Phaeographis dedritica* has the carbonaceous margin extending under the hymenium.