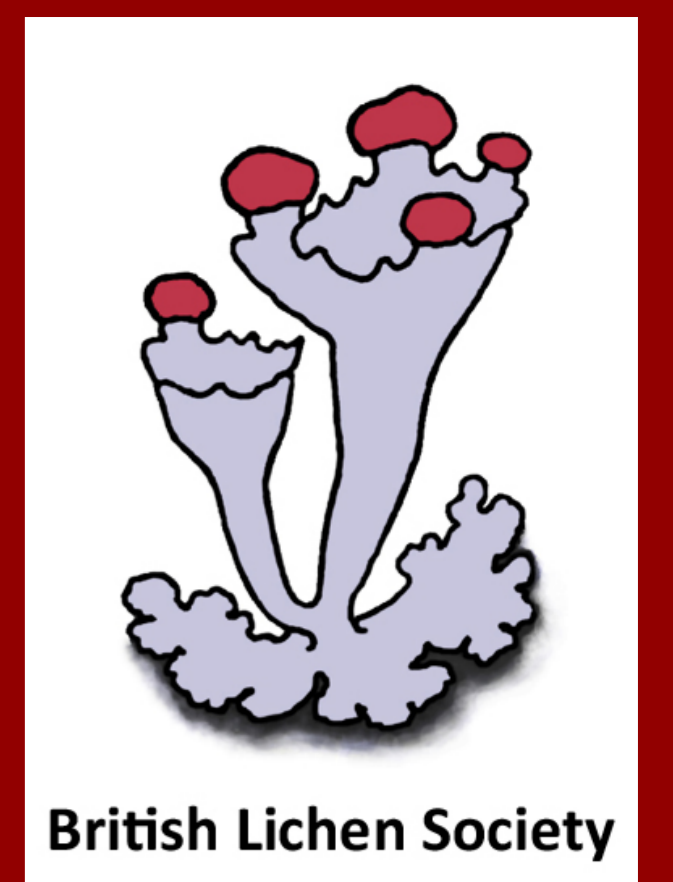


BLS Recording Scheme and Database



Janet Simkin email: records@britishlichensociety.org.uk

Database coverage

The database now holds nearly 1.5 million records that include details of location, date and recorders:

England	942,531
Scotland	378,863
Wales	128,892
Channel Isles	3,903
	<hr/>
	1,454,189

We are still loading up old records, currently from BJC's notebooks and herbarium det books, and new records are being added every week. Any records are welcome, for common species as much as rarities.

Taxa

We now have records for 2005 lichens and 477 lichenicolous fungi.

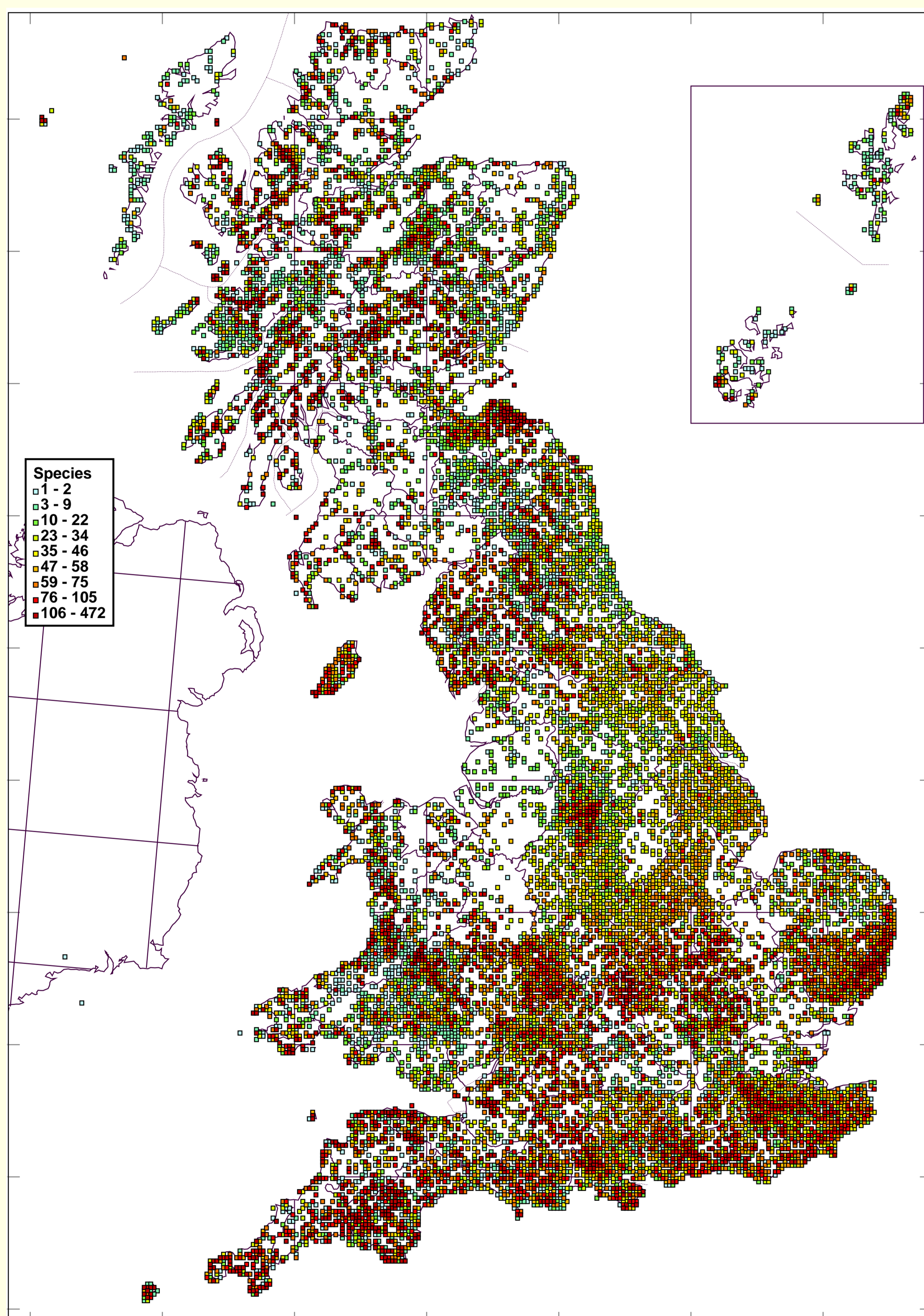
Taxa for which we have the most records:

<i>Xanthoria parietina</i>	19,104
<i>Parmelia sulcata</i>	17,188
<i>Lecanora dispersa</i>	15,694
<i>Candelariella vitellina</i>	15,665
<i>Lepraria incana</i>	14,971
<i>Hypogymnia physodes</i>	14,883
<i>Physcia adscendens</i>	14,732
<i>Parmelia saxatilis</i>	13,734
<i>Phaeophyscia orbicularis</i>	13,330
<i>Caloplaca citrina s.lat.</i>	13,215
<i>Lecanora expallens</i>	12,955
<i>Lecanora conizaeoides</i>	12,891

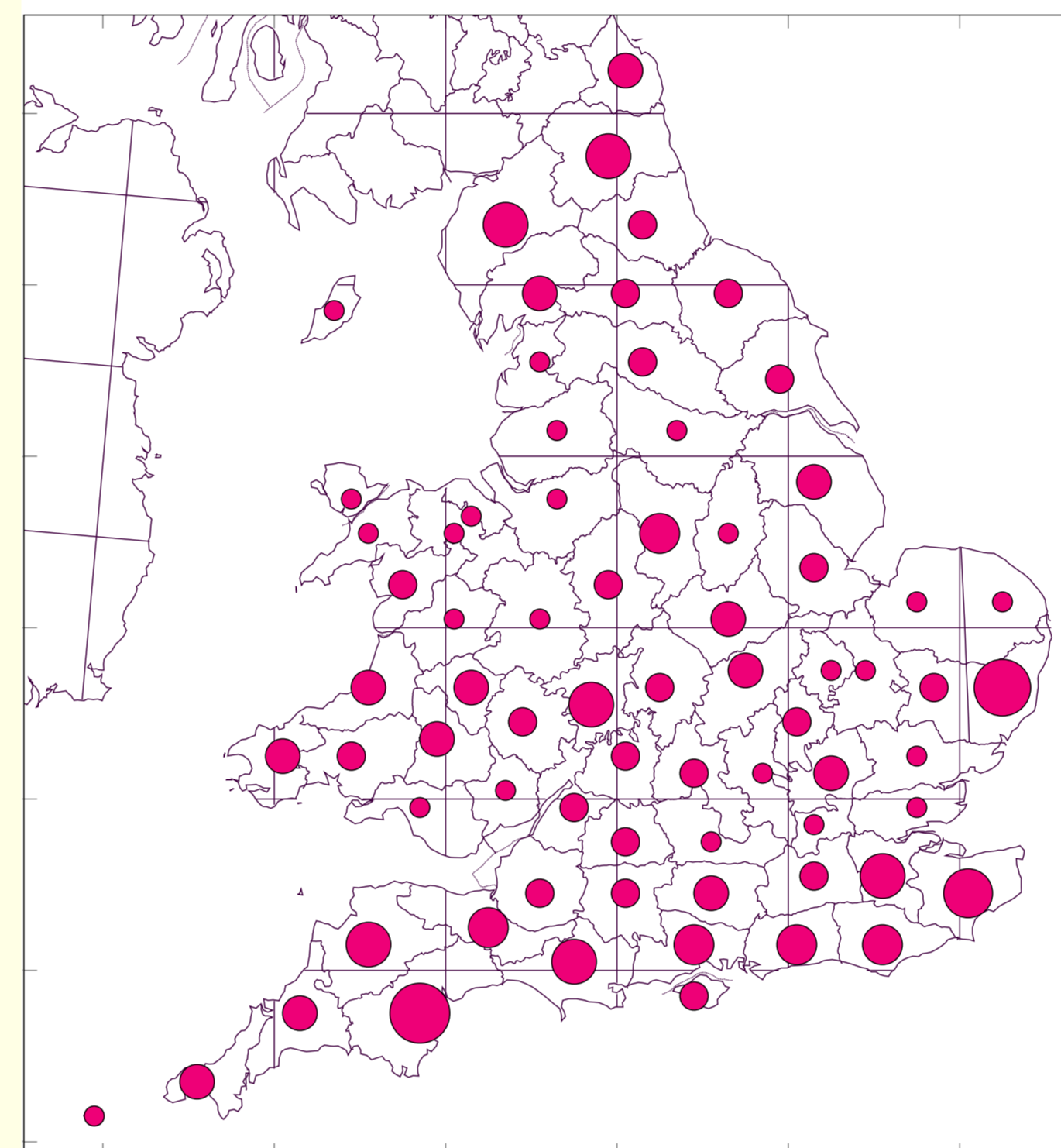
The most frequently recorded lichenicolous fungi:

<i>Arthonia punctiformis</i>	2,140
<i>Arthopyrenia analepta</i>	1,716
<i>Arthopyrenia punctiformis</i>	1,705
<i>Sarcopyrenia gibba var. geisleri</i>	841
<i>Mycoporum antecellens</i>	784

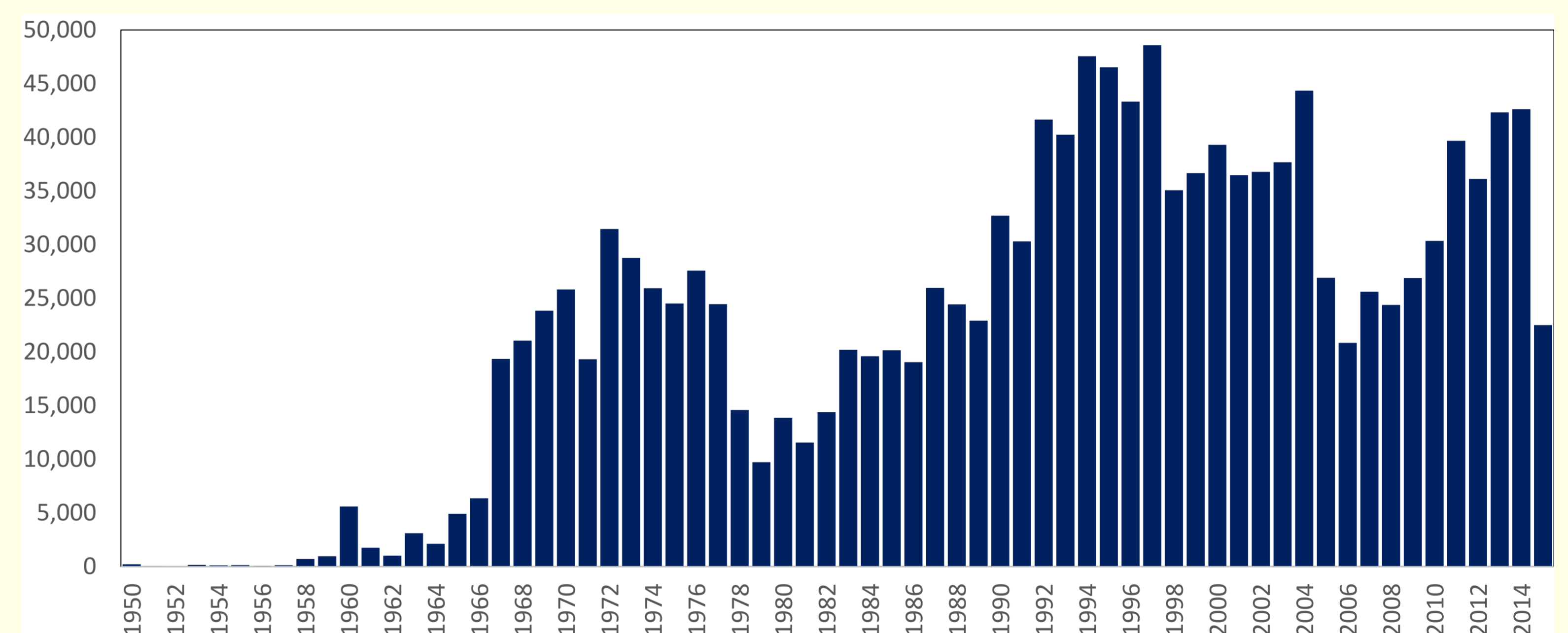
Species richness



Records by VC



Records by Year



Recording scheme

A modern recording scheme aims to encourage recording by individuals and local groups, and to support larger scale recording projects. We hope to do this by:

- Developing a **network of vice county recorders**
- Holding an annual **recorders conference**
- Providing a regular informal **e-newsletter**
- Adding to the **species accounts** on the BLS website
- Redeveloping Mike Sutcliffe's **British Lichens website** and linking it to the BLS website
- Developing **keys** to use on computers, tablets and smartphones
- Coordinating resources to help with **projects** such as the Lobarion and English Uplands surveys, and local atlas projects

Future developments

Now that the database is fairly complete and being kept up to date, our focus has shifted to doing more to support lichen recording, conservation and research. Technical aspects of this are being managed by the Data Committee, chaired by Les Knight.

Database

Much of this is already being done when time allows, but there is always more we could do:

- Enhancing access to our data by updating our datasets on the **NBN Gateway**, and making them available to local record centres and the national agencies
- Adding to the **historic records** in the database, from notebooks and det books, and improving the accuracy and detail of those we already hold. Also herbarium records?
- Supporting **research** by providing extracts of our data. Recently this has been for modelling by RBGE, CEH and others to assess the likely impacts of climate and pollution changes, and for the State of Nature report
- Developing **on-line recording** through iRecord
- Enabling **record verification** by national and regional exports, using the NBN Record Cleaner and iRecord