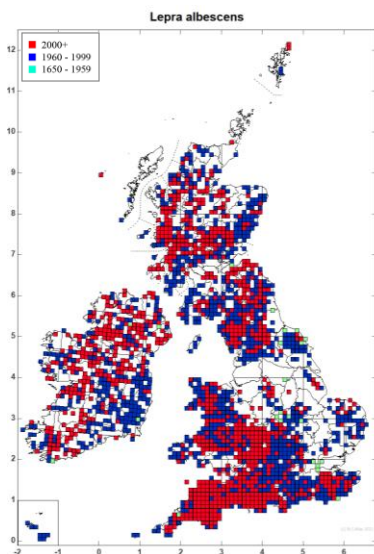


Lepra albescens



Previously known as *Pertusaria albescens*.

Identification: A crustose lichen. Thallus grey to green-grey, thick, knobby or cracked. The soralia are typically 1mm diameter, disc-like and somewhat scattered. Soredia 'sampled' with a moist finger do not have a bitter taste. Apothecia are rare, to 4mm diameter often several in a wart.

Chemistry: Negative

Similar species: Often difficult to separate visually from *Lepra amara* (previously known as *Pertusaria amara* but this has soralia with a bitter taste which are KC+ violet.

Habitat: Common on trees, often in light shade, rarer on mosses and rocks.

Distribution: Throughout Britain and Ireland.