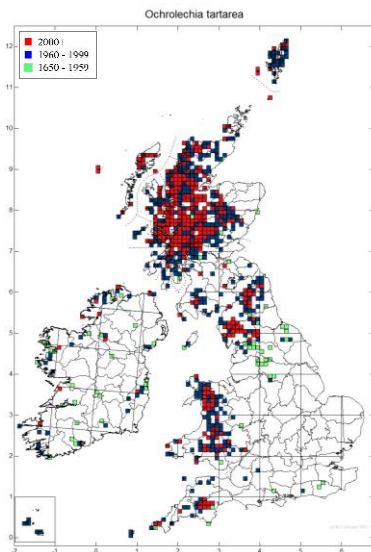


Ochrolechia tartarea



Identification: Thallus pale to dark grey, up to 4 mm thick, of compacted convex granules or warts, often with a paler, zoned margin. The thallus can cover large areas. Apothecia, up to 6 mm diameter, usually frequent. Disc flesh pink to brown, with a thick, often wavy, margin.

Chemistry: Cortex and disc C+ red.

Similar species: *Ochrolechia androgyna* has yellow-green soredia. *Ochrolechia parella* has apothecia with smoother margins and usually has grey-white crystals on the discs. Its cortex is C- or C+ yellow.

Habitat: Common on acid-barked trees, acid rocks and mosses in regions with high rainfall, especially exposed upland areas.

Distribution: Upland areas of Scotland, northern and south-west England, Wales and Ireland.