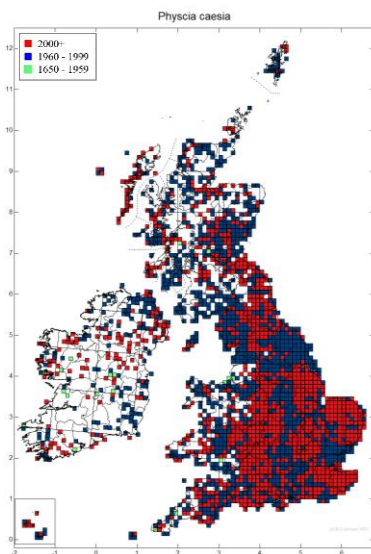


# *Physcia caesia*



**Identification:** The bluish-grey thalli are roughly circular, up to 7 cm in diameter, and lie very close to the substrate. Lobes up to 1 mm wide are more obvious near the margin and are covered with white mottling. Light grey, powdery soralia occur as mounds on the surface, particularly towards the centre. Apothecia are rare. They have a black disc, dusted with white and have a prominent margin.

**Chemistry:** Cortex and medulla: K+ yellow.

**Similar species:** *Physcia dubia* is brownish-grey with soralia along the edges and a K- medulla.

**Habitat:** Nutrient-enriched rocks, asbestos-cement, asphalt, tombstones and more rarely on dust impregnated trees and wood.

**Distribution:** Throughout Britain but rarer in the west.