

Lichens on Twigs Workshop, with Jennifer Bannister and Allison Knight.

26 July, Saturday 10 am- 4pm. Department of Botany, 464 Great King St

Snow has been falling and wind blowing, exposing and dropping twigs. Lichens growing on the newly exposed bark of twigs are good environmental monitors. We thought it would be interesting to get an indication of what is growing on twigs in the wider Dunedin area, and then talk about the possibility of a distribution map.

Do start collecting interesting twigs you come across. Please note where you found them and what tree or shrub they are from. Air-dry them and store them in a dry place (or in the freezer if you want to slow the browsing by invertebrates). **Bring:** lichens on twigs, hand lens, and lunch. Microscopes, and laboratory space are generously made available by the Department of Botany. Tea and coffee will be supplied by BSO.

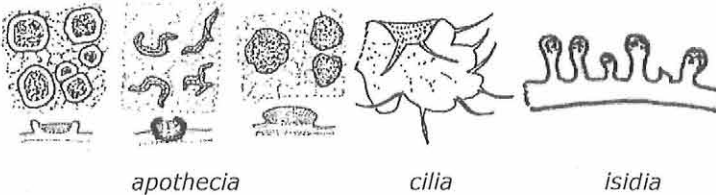
Related reading and websites

Try the British website on lichens on twigs interactive keys to UK lichens on twigs and an illustrated glossary: <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/botany/lichen/twig/>
Also the Farlow Herbarium web page on how to identify a macrolichen: <http://www.huh.harvard.edu/collections/lichens/howto.html>

For a guide to common New Zealand species, see: *Lichens on Trees; Identification guide to common lichens and plants on urban and rural trees in New Zealand*, by PN Johnson and DJ Galloway, Landcare Research, Dunedin, 1999.

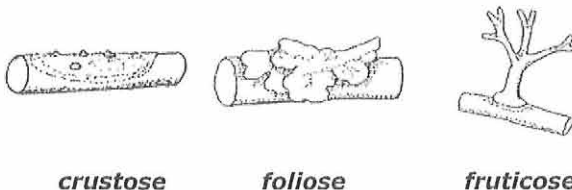
Brief Lichen Glossary - from <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/botany/lichen/twig/>

apothecia - spore-producing fruiting bodies of the fungal partner.



cilia - whisker-like projections from the margin of a foliose or fruticose lichen.

crustose lichens - crust-like lichens that grow directly on or under the bark surface and cannot be removed without cutting the bark.

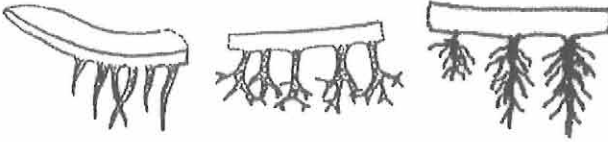


foliose lichens - leaf-like lichens with spreading to upright flattened lobes that are attached to the twig from the lower surface of each lobe.

fruticose lichens - branched, shrub-like lichens that are attached to the twig by a single sucker-like holdfast.

isidia - darker (than thallus) finger- to knob-like propagules.

rhizines - root-like attachments from the lower surface of a foliose lichen. They may be simple (left), branched (centre) or bottle brush like (right).



soredia - paler (than thallus) powdery to granular vegetative propagules containing algal and fungal partners. Often occurring in specialised bodies called soralia (far left), on the lobe margins or ends (center left), on the upper surface in cracks (center right), or as dots (far right).



sorediate - with soredia.

spores - produced in fruiting bodies following sexual reproduction.

thallus - the lichen body, usually with lobes in foliose lichens.

Condolences

BSO committee

We wish to extend our sympathy to BSO member Jane Wright, on the tragic loss of her husband Brian, who died accidentally in Wellington on 16th March. Jane was an active and appreciated member while she worked at the Dunedin Botanic Garden and she has maintained links with us through her shift to Wellington to work at Otari. Now she has now moved even further up in the world to look after plant propagation for the Auckland Regional Council and we wish her every success for the future.

Our sympathy also goes to Rex and Janet Malthus, who lost their son Peter, 48, on June 25th after a long illness.