

Lichen Activity

ID and Recording Sheet

Some of the lichen you will try and spot today are very sensitive to air pollution and you may only see them where air quality is good. Some lichen actually thrive on pollution and you will see less of these where there is clean air. Record how many of the lichen you see below.


- Choose 4 trees in your school grounds or nearby area and record all the different lichens you see on each tree trunk (do not climb the trees).
- Be sure to check each tree carefully up to head height as some may be hard to spot.
- Put a tick next to the lichen that you have identified on each tree. Each time you see the lichen growing (even on the same tree) put an extra tick.
- Some lichen are difficult to identify. If you're not sure then don't put a tick in the box as some can look very similar. If in doubt ask your teacher or adult helper who may have a species identification sheet with them.

1. Usnea

Nitrogen-sensitive




- grey-green all round
- branches thread-like




2. Evernia

Nitrogen-sensitive




- grey-green on top, white below
- lobes flattened, strap-like




3. Hypogymnia

Nitrogen-sensitive

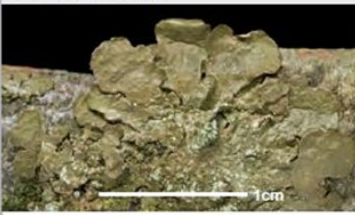


- lobes greyish on top, pale brown below
- lobes puffed up and hollow
- lobe ends often become powdery




4. Melanelixia

Intermediate

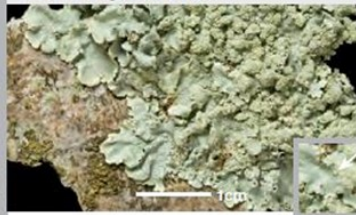


- dull brown lobes, closely attached to the bark
- paler areas show when surface is rubbed




5. Flavoparmelia

Intermediate

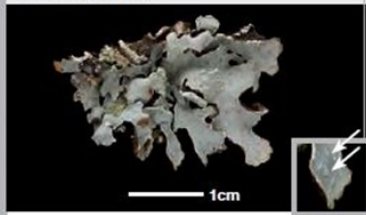


- broad, apple-green lobes
- wrinkled surface on which powdery spots may develop




6. Parmelia

Intermediate

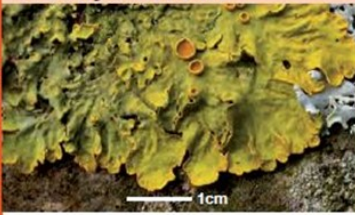


- lobes grey on top, dark brown below
- lobes thin, loosely attached to the bark
- pattern of white lines on the surface




7. Leafy Xanthoria

Nitrogen-loving




- lobes yellow/orange to greenish yellow
- lobes broad, spreading
- a few orange fruiting bodies present

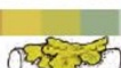


8. Cushion Xanthoria

Nitrogen-loving

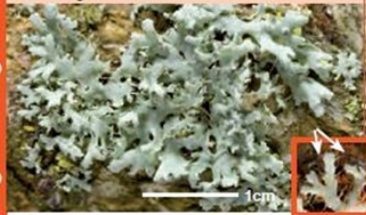


- lobes yellow to green-grey
- lobes small and clustered
- many orange fruiting bodies present




9. Physcia

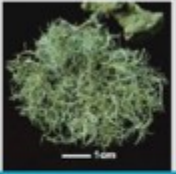
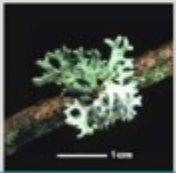


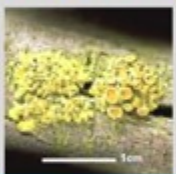

Nitrogen-loving



- lobes grey on top, whitish below
- lobe ends raised up becoming powdery
- black-tipped whiskers on the lobe edges



Lichen Activity Recording Sheet

	Tree 1	Tree 2	Tree 3	Tree 4
These Lichen hate pollution so may be hard to spot in high pollution areas				
				
Usnea				
				
Evernia				
				
Hypogymnia				
These Lichen don't mind pollution so much so you may spot these even in polluted areas				
				
Leafy Xanthoria				
				
Cushion Xanthoria				
				
Physcia				