



## Identify 100 Species - Lichens

10 species you are likely to find in Leicestershire and Rutland

How easy is it to identify?

Easy



Care needed



Target species

### [Lecanora chlarotera](#)



**ID:** Pale grey with pale brown fruits

**Similar species:** None (when seen as shown).

**Where to look:** Smooth bark tree trunks, twigs, fences.

**About:** Very common. Usually found growing together with *Lecidella elaeochroma* and *Arthonia radiata* on smooth tree bark.

**Recording:** Photo required. Also add a comment of where it was growing.



### [Lecidella elaeochroma](#)



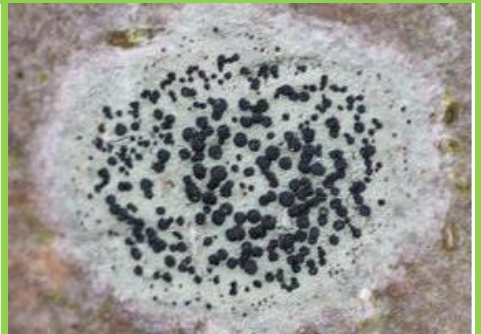
**ID:** Pale green with jet black fruits

**Similar species:** None (when seen as shown).

**Where to look:** Smooth bark tree trunks

**About:** Very common, usually found with *Lecanora chlarotera*.

**Recording:** Photo required. Also add a comment of where it was growing.



### [Xanthoria parietina](#)



**ID:** Yellow (green if shaded) with orange fruits.

**Similar species:** There are several other yellow lichens but recognisable if seen as shown.

**Where to look:** Anywhere birds roost! (trees, roofs)

**About:** One of the commonest and most visible lichens, often turning whole shrubs or trees yellow.

**Recording:** Photo required. Also add a comment of where it was growing.



### Other common Leicestershire lichens to check out:

*Evernia prunastri*,

### [Chewing Gum Lichen - Lecanora muralis](#)



**ID:** Green/grey thallus with orange fruits (green when fresh and wet). On paths the lichen is often worn.

**Similar species:** None when seen as shown and on paths.

**Where to look:** Walls, paths

**About:** Very tolerant of pollution and also of trampling!

**Recording:** Photo required. Also add a comment of where it was growing.



### [Arthonia radiata](#) ●

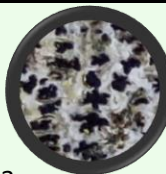
**ID:** Grey with black, squiggly fruits

**Similar species:** [Graphis scripta](#) (lines not squiggles)

**Where to look:** Smooth bark tree trunks such as young Ash.

**About:** Though common and often found with *Lecanora chlarotela* And *Lecidella elaeochroma*, it is harder to spot as it is smaller and pale. As with most lichens, a hand lens help!

**Recording:** Photo required. Also add a comment of where it was growing.



### [Hammered Shield Lichen - Parmelia sulcata](#) ●

**ID:** Grey-green with white tracery on the lobes.

**Similar species:** Other green foliose lichens but these don't have the pale lines on the lobes, except for *Parmelia saxatilis* – see below.

**Where to look:** Tree branches, fences

**About:** The centre of the lichen can be covered in 'soralia' which are reproductive propagules that can break off and develop into new lichens.

**Recording:** Photo required. Also add a comment of where it was growing.



### [Common Greenshield Lichen - Flavoparmelia caperata](#) ●

**ID:** Pale green – looks like melted wax. Has large lobes, up to 1cm.

**Similar species:** [Flavoparmelia soredians](#) (smaller lobes,

**Where to look:** Tree branches

**About:** Like most lichens, it is very tolerant of drying out but confusingly changes colour as it does so, turning grey.

**Recording:** Photo required. Also add a comment of where it was growing.



### [Punctelia subrudecta](#) ●

**ID:** Grey, up to 7cm with white spots on the outer lobes.

**Similar species:** *Punctelia jeckeri* also has spots, but has soredia (powdery growths) on the inner lobes and brown-tinged edges on the marginal lobes.

**Where to look:** Tree branches

**About:** This was the most commonly seen *Punctelia* but due to cleaner air, *P. jeckeri* is expanding and may become the commonest.

**Recording:** Photo required. Also add a comment of where it was growing.



### [Parmelia saxatilis](#) ●

**ID:** Grey, rosette-like. Can grow to 20cm.

**Similar species:** Distinguished from *Parmelia sulcata* by having isidia (columnar outgrowths) instead of soredia. A hand lens is useful to see these.

**Where to look:** Acid rocks (eg. granite)

**About:** Very common in Charnwood where it tends to cover many of the rocks and dry-stone walls. It also grows on trees.

**Recording:** Photo required. Also add a comment of where it was growing.



### [Map Lichen - Rhizocarpon geographicum](#) ●

**ID:** Yellow with joined-up black fruits.

**Similar species:** None (when seen as shown).

**Where to look:** Acid rocks (eg. granite)

**About:** The bright yellow colour helps this lichen to stand out. It is very slow growing so a large specimen may be over 200 years old.

**Recording:** Photo required. Also add a comment of where it was growing.

