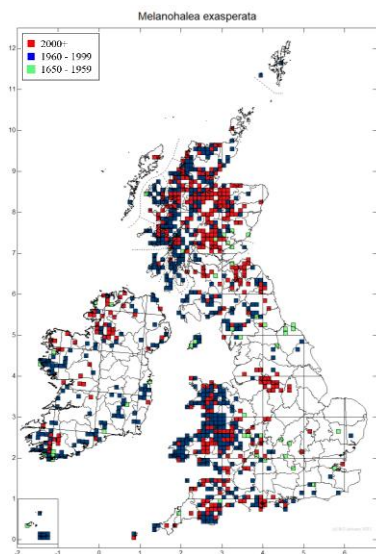


Melanohalea exasperata



Identification: The lobes of this usually abundantly fertile brown lichen are about 4mm wide, shiny brown when dry and greenish when wet with a pale brown lower surface. The lobe surface has numerous volcanic-like warts with a pale crater-like tip. Usually fertile. The discs are reddish brown with a thick, warty margin.

Chemistry: Reactions are negative.

Similar species: The evenly spaced, white topped warts are distinctive. The pale brown lower surface and the negative reactions distinguish it from *Melanelixia* species.

Habitat: On well-lit, acid-barked twigs and smooth branches of deciduous trees.

Distribution: Throughout Britain and Ireland but mainly to the west.