

# KEY TO THE GENERA OF OHIO MACROLICHENS

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- 1 Thallus foliose (subfruticose in *Pseudevernia* and *Cetraria*).....2  
Thallus fruticose or cladoniform .....63

## FOLIOSE LICHENS

- 2(1) Thallus bright lemon-colored (tinged with green) or golden-yellow or orange (tinged with red).....3  
Thallus some shade of gray, green, yellow-green, brown, or black; not as above.....5
- 3(2) Thallus some shade of yellow, K- .....*Candelaria*  
Thallus some shade of orange, K+ purple .....4
- 4(3) Thallus attached to substrate by pointed rhizines .....*Xanthomendoza*  
Thallus attached to substrate by hapters (like a rhizine but with a wider 'foot' which anchors to the substrate) .....*Xanthoria*
- 5(2) Thallus thin and brittle when dry, gelatinous when wet; medullary fibers apparently absent, the interior a homogeneous mixture of cyanobacteria and hyphae; color slate gray, olive-brown, or dark greenish-black .....6  
Thallus thick or thin, not gelatinous when wet; white medullary fibers usually apparent, color various .....7
- 6(5) Thallus some shade of gray, very thin upper and lower cortex present, or thallus quasi-cellular throughout .....*Leptogium*  
Thallus usually dark greenish-black or olive-brown in color, lacking an organized upper and lower cortex .....*Collema*
- 7(5) Rhizines lacking .....8  
Rhizines present from lower surface (may be massed as a felty mat or umbilicate) .....13
- 8(7) Foliose, with narrow lobes .....9  
Sub-fruticose, thallus channeled below; free-growing over soil or on twigs and branches .....12
- 9(8) Thallus not inflated or perforated, very tightly appressed .....10  
Thallus inflated and hollow (at least at lobe tips) .....11
- 10(9) Thallus light gray, always on rock ..... *Dirinaria frostii*  
Thallus gray-brown to brown, usually on bark .....*Hyperphyscia*
- 11(9) Thallus with perforations .....*Menegazzia terebrata*  
Thallus without perforations .....*Hypogymnia physodes*

12(8) Lobes flattened, channeled, narrow and ciliate-spinulate; growing on soil; green-brown to darkening in color .....	<i>Cetraria arenaria</i>
Lobes flattened, channeled, and narrow, but lacking cilia; growing on bark; light mineral gray in color .....	<i>Pseudevernia consocians</i>
13(7) Perithecial openings dotting the upper surface; perithecia imbedded in thallus; lower surface smooth to pimply .....	14
Perithecia absent; apothecia, if present, saucer-shaped and superficial on the surface of the thallus .....	15
14(13) Thallus on rock, umbilicate or attached to the surface by hapters (footed rhizines) .....	<i>Dermatocarpon</i>
Thallus on soil or bark (very rarely on rock), attached to the substrate by a mat of short, numerous rhizines; .....	<i>Placidium</i>
15(13) Thallus umbilicate, attached to the substrate at one point by a holdfast; on rock only .....	16
Thallus not umbilicate, broadly attached to the substrate with scattered rhizines; on rock, soil or bark .....	17
16(15) Thallus pustulate above, pitted below .....	<i>Lasallia</i>
Thallus not pustulate, smooth below with short, felty rhizines .....	<i>Umbilicaria</i>
17(15) Thallus containing cyanobacteria .....	18
Thallus containing green algae .....	21
18(17) Only the upper cortex present; lower surface fibrous and usually with raised vein-like ridges .....	<i>Peltigera</i>
Upper and lower cortex present; lower cortex often thin, sometimes covered with a velvety nap or rhizines or with a fibrous hypothallus .....	19
19(18) Thallus slate-blue, usually small; lower surface a dense mat of blue-black rhizines .....	<i>Coccocarpia palmicola</i>
Thallus brownish or blue-gray .....	20
20(19) Thallus subfoliose to squamulose, usually with a fibrous hypothallus showing from below; apothecia on surface of lobes .....	<i>Fuscopannaria/Pannaria</i>
Thallus distinctly foliose, without a hypothallus; apothecia on the underside of the lobes, often at tips .....	<i>Nephroma helveticum</i>
21(17) Medulla yellow, red-orange, or red, especially beneath the soredia and/or apothecia .....	22
Medulla white or whitish, sometimes stained pale buff or pink due to aging, chemicals, or weathering .....	26
22(21) Medulla red to red-orange .....	<i>Phaeophyscia rubropulchra</i>
Medulla pale yellow, golden-yellow, or orange-yellow .....	23

<b>23</b> (22) Medulla bright golden-yellow or sulphur-yellow .....	<b>24</b>
Medulla light yellow or orange-yellow .....	<b>25</b>
<b>24</b> (23) Medulla golden-yellow; upper cortex chocolate-brown when dry, green when wet, with yellow soredia and yellow pores in the lower cortex; lobe margins yellow .....	<b>.....</b>
.....	<b><i>Pseudocyphellaria aurata</i></b>
Medulla sulphur-yellow; upper cortex yellowish-green; light yellowish below or white below, without pores .....	<b><i>Vulpicida viridis</i></b>
<b>25</b> (23) Pruina massed or spotted on the surface of the lobe tips; lower surface with white- tipped, dark rhizines; medulla yellow or yellow-orange; always sorediate .....	<b><i>Pyxine</i></b>
No massed pruina as above; thallus pustulate-sorediate, isidiate, or NIS; medulla pale yellow at least beneath the soredia and/or the apothecia; rhizines dark, but lacking white tips .....	<b><i>Myelochroa</i></b>
<b>26</b> (21) Thallus with rounded paw-shaped, or fist-shaped lobe tips .....	<b>27</b>
Thallus various, but without paw-shaped or fist-shaped lobe tips .....	<b>28</b>
<b>27</b> (26) Undersurface black, ecorticate, a dense felty mat of dark hyphae ...	<b><i>Anzia colpodes</i></b>
Undersurface pale brown, corticate, light-colored rhizines present ...	<b><i>Physcia adscendens</i></b>
<b>28</b> (26) Lower surface of thallus with a dense, brownish, velvety nap of short rhizines; broadly foliose, the lobes consistently more than 3 mm wide .....	<b>29</b>
Lower surface with sparse to moderate or occasionally numerous rhizines, variable in color and length but not forming a uniform, brown, velvety nap .....	<b>30</b>
<b>29</b> (28) Lower surface of thallus with holes having a cortical rim (cyphellae); upper cortex brownish .....	<b><i>Sticta beauvoisii</i></b>
Lower surface of thallus more or less uniform; if white-spotted, the spots irregular and without a cortical rim (pseudocyphellae); upper cortex mineral-gray or brownish .....	<b>.....</b>
.....	<b><i>Lobaria</i></b>
<b>30</b> (28) Upper cortex instantly K+ deep yellow, lobes rarely exceeding 3 mm in width .....	<b>.....</b>
.....	<b><i>Imshaugia</i></b>
Upper cortex K- or K+ weak yellow, lobes variable in width .....	<b>31</b>
<b>31</b> (30) Lower surface without a cortex, fibrous at least beneath the lobe tips; thallus lobes narrow .....	<b><i>Heterodermia</i></b>
Lower surface with a cortex throughout; lobes narrow or broad .....	<b>32</b>
<b>32</b> (31) Thallus with tiny white markings (pseudocyphellae) on the upper surface (use hand lens for magnification) .....	<b>33</b>
Thallus without pseudocyphellae, may be uniform or variously cracked, ridged, or white-maculate .....	<b>37</b>
<b>33</b> (32) Upper surface color some shade of brown .....	<b><i>Melanelia</i></b>
Upper surface some shade of gray, gray-green, or yellowish green .....	<b>34</b>

<b>34(33)</b> Lower surface pale brown to white .....	<i>Punctelia</i>
Lower surface black, sometimes with a dark brown marginal zone .....	<b>35</b>
<b>35(34)</b> Thallus yellow-green in color .....	<i>Flavopunctelia</i>
Thallus mineral-gray in color .....	<b>36</b>
<b>36(35)</b> Lobes of intermediate width (up to 1 cm), lower surface not mottled .....	<i>Punctelia borrieri</i>
Lobes very broad (usually greater than 2 cm) and rotund, lower surface mottled light and dark .....	<i>Cetrelia</i>
<b>37(32)</b> Thallus some shade of gray, gray-green, greenish, brown, or gray-brown .....	<b>38</b>
Thallus yellow-green in color, usnic acid present .....	<b>58</b>
<b>38(37)</b> Thallus brown, bronze or green-brown in color .....	<b>39</b>
Thallus some gray, gray-green, or greenish in color .....	<b>41</b>
<b>39(38)</b> Thallus appressed, either sorediate-isitiate, OR with regularly scattered pseudocyphellate warts; apothecia and pycnidia laminal (when present) .....	<i>Melanelia</i>
Thallus partly ascendant OR appressed and with very narrow and linear lobes; NIS and without pseudocyphellate warts; apothecia and pycnidia marginal to submarginal .....	<b>40</b>
<b>40(39)</b> Thallus 2-7 cm wide, lobes 1-4 mm wide .....	<i>Tuckermanopsis</i>
Thallus 1-2 cm wide, lobes less than 1 mm wide .....	<i>Tuckermanella fendleri</i>
<b>41(38)</b> Thallus broadly foliose, the lobes 4-20 mm wide, apically rounded; thallus usually loosely attached with lobe tips somewhat ascending .....	<b>42</b>
Lobes generally narrow and linear, 0.5-6 mm wide, apically obtuse; thallus usually adnate to appressed .....	<b>44</b>
<b>42(41)</b> Lower surface with marginal bare zone free of rhizines, cilia usually present; upper surface smooth to wrinkled but not pitted .....	<i>Parmotrema</i>
Lower surface with rhizines to the margins, upper surface various, may be patterned maculate or wrinkled and pitted .....	<b>43</b>
<b>43(42)</b> Cilia absent, lower surface wrinkled and reverse-pitted, white to cream-colored; marginal pycnidia numerous .....	<i>Platismatia tuckermanii</i>
Cilia present, lower surface brown .....	<i>Canomaculina</i>
<b>44(41)</b> Undersurface white to tan .....	<b>45</b>
Undersurface black, at least centrally (sometimes pale at lobe margins) .....	<b>51</b>
<b>45(44)</b> Apothecia and/or pycnidia common, marginal; lobes ascending .....	<b>46</b>
Apothecia and pycnidia, if present, laminal or terminal; lobes appressed .....	<b>47</b>
<b>46(45)</b> Soredia present on lobe margins .....	<i>Allocetraria oakesiana</i>
Soredia lacking .....	<i>Ahtiana aurescens</i>

47(45) Upper cortex usually hard, composed of horizontally oriented, interwoven hyphae (difficult to separate from the medulla below when using a razor blade), lower cortex usually absent .....	48
Upper cortex usually rather soft (like cutting into a bar of soap), lower cortex present .....	49
48(47) Thallus usually densely lobulate or squamulate towards the center and along the lobe margins, dark colored when dry, green when wet .....	<i>Anaptychia palmulata</i>
Not densely lobulate, some shade of gray .....	<i>Heterodermia</i>
49(47) Upper cortex K+ yellow, lower surface light colored .....	<i>Physcia</i>
Upper cortex K- .....	50
50(49) Thallus gray-brown, up to 3 cm broad, closely adnate but with conspicuous rhizines; lobes sorediate, rounded to short-elongate .....	<i>Physciella</i>
Thallus gray-brown, usually less than 2 cm broad, tightly appressed and lacking rhizines; lobes sorediate or not, elongate or strap shaped; (see <i>Physcia</i> key) .....	<i>Hyperphyscia</i>
51(44) Lower surface fibrous or cottony, white at the tip of the lobes but darkening at the center .....	<i>Heterodermia</i>
Lower surface smooth, corticate and shiny, black to dark brown near the margins .....	52
52(51) Upper surface with irregular white markings towards the tips of the lobes; lobes often strap-shaped to linear (if upper surface has pseudocyphellae, see <i>Punctelia</i> ) .....	<i>Parmelia</i>
Upper surface without distinct white markings at the lobe tips; upper surface may be smooth, convex, or reticulate-cracked, but lacking the irregular white markings .....	53
53(52) Upper surface reticulately cracked, patterned or ridged to the lobe tips; lobes without cilia .....	<i>Canoparmelia</i>
Upper surface plain to irregularly wrinkled, not reticulate-patterned or cracked; ciliate or not .....	54
54(53) Upper cortex K+ yellow .....	55
Upper cortex K- .....	57
55(54) Lobes without cilia (do not confuse projecting rhizines for cilia); rhizines dichotomously branched .....	<i>Hypotrachyna</i>
Lobes or lobe axils with cilia, sometimes sparsely so, rhizines not dichotomously branched .....	56
56(55) Medulla white, C+ rose and/or KC+ red; marginal cilia present .....	<i>Parmelinopsis</i>
Medulla white or often pale yellowish, (especially beneath soredia and apothecia), C-, KC- or KC+ yellow-orange; marginal cilia sparse, usually found only in the lobe axils .....	<i>Myelochroa</i>
57(54) Upper surface pruinose, at least on lobe ends, sometimes completely so (see <i>Physcia</i> key) .....	<i>Physconia</i>
Upper surface not pruinose .....	<i>Phaeophyscia</i>

58(37) Lobes quite broad, apically rounded, 3-10 mm wide .....	59
Lobes narrower, 0.1-3 mm wide, usually linear .....	61
59(58) Margins of lobes ciliate .....	<i>Parmotrema</i>
Margins of lobes not ciliate .....	60
60(59) Upper surface with white markings (pseudocyphellae), sometimes quite small (use hand lens or magnification) .....	<i>Flavopunctelia</i>
Upper surface without pseudocyphellae .....	<i>Flavoparmelia</i>
61(58) On bark or twigs .....	62
On rock .....	<i>Xanthoparmelia</i>
62(61) Thallus sorediate .....	<i>Allocetraria oakesiana</i>
Neither soredia nor isidia present .....	<i>Ahtiana</i>

### FRUTICOSE LICHENS

63(1) Thallus fruticose, erect and bushlike, pendulous, or vinelike; one point of attachment often evident; primary thallus (on the substrate), if formed, usually soon disappearing .....	64
Thallus cladoniform, usually twofold; a primary thallus on the substrate, crustose or squamulose in form, and a secondary thallus of erect podetia (occasionally lacking) ...	75
64(63) Thallus golden-yellow, K+ purple, or sometimes almost gray with scattered yellow, K+ purple areas .....	<i>Teloschistes chrysophthalmus</i>
Thallus various shades of gray, gray-green, yellow-green, or brown .....	65
65(64) Thallus forming a dark, greenish-brown or blackish furry mat; usually near the waterline of streams or lakes; on rock .....	<i>Ephebe lanata</i>
Thallus elongate, tufted, bushy, or pendulous, not a furry mat .....	66
66(65) Thallus with the upper and lower (front and back) surfaces distinctly different; branches flattened, at least in part .....	67
Thallus with upper and lower (front and back) surfaces more or less alike; flattened or cylindrical .....	70
67(66) Thallus flabby, the interior more or less filled with webby hyphae .....	<i>Evernia mesomorpha</i>
Thallus rigid and brittle; erect, tufted, tangled, or in extensive mats .....	68
68(67) Thallus tufted or in dense mats on soil or rock, flattened squamules on upper surface, an apparent midrib on the lower surface .....	<i>Stereocaulon</i>
Thallus in extensive, loosely tangled mats on the soil or in loosely-tangled narrow-lobed, sub-fruticose thalli, channeled below; on twigs and branches .....	69

- 69(68)** Thallus growing on soil, brown or green-brown or darkening in color, margins spinulate-ciliate .....*Cetraria arenaria*  
 Thallus growing on twigs or branches, light mineral gray in color, lacking cilia .....  
 .....*Pseudevernia consocians*
- 70(66)** Thallus flattened, rigid, and tufted; (thallus flabby, see *Evernia*) .....**71**  
 Thallus cylindrical ..... **72**
- 71(70)** Thallus black, on calcareous rock .....*Thyrea confusa*  
 Thallus yellow-green to gray-green, on acidic rock or bark .....*Ramalina*
- 72(70)** Interior webby, uniform; branches usually dark shiny brown or brownish-green .....*Bryoria furcellata*  
 Interior hollow or with a solid threadlike core .....**73**
- 73 (72)** Interior with a hard, threadlike core; thallus bushlike or vinelike; on bark or rock .....*Usnea*  
 Interior hollow, pipelike; thallus bushlike and usually mat-forming; on soil, rarely on rock .....*Cladonia*
- 74(63)** Primary thallus squamulose, the squamules somewhat erect or not; poditia tipped with brown or red (sometimes pale), apothecia or pycnidia, when present; poditia usually club-shaped, cup-shaped, or pointed .....*Cladonia*  
 Primary thallus crustose, at times vaguely lobed, may look like a stain over the soil .....**75**
- 75(74)** Poditia without a cortex, tipped with pink or pinkish-brown, dough-like (in appearance) apothecia; interior not hollow, filled with webby hyphae .....*Dibaeis*  
 Poditia with a cortex, smooth, nipple-shaped, and sometimes branched; interior hollow, apothecia, when present, tiny, brown or darkening .....*Pycnothelia papillaria*