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Annotated Checklist of the Lichens Observed at the Gordon Natural Area (West Chester University, PA) 2018–2020 (Version I)

Nur Ritter

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Annotated Checklist of the Lichens Observed at the Gordon Natural Area (West Chester University, PA) 2018—2020 (*Version I*)

Description

Lichen research at the Gordon is in its infancy. At this time, no faculty members or students have undertaken any directed lichen research. Hence, the only GNA lichen data come from observations from GNA staff, augmented by observations posted on iNaturalist (www.inaturalist.org). As with the bryophytes and fungi from the Gordon, there are numerous photos of unidentified lichens awaiting determination.

The checklist was compiled from Gordon Natural Area (GNA) Staff fieldwork from 2018 to 2020. The checklist contains 31 species in 23 Genera, 14 Families, and 7 Orders.

This number of species likely only represents a very small portion of the lichens present at the GNA. As we continue working with this group, we hope to amplify the current species list significantly.



Species

Candelariaceae (2 species)

Candelaria concolor (Lemon Lichen)

Years Observed: 2018; 2019; 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Candelariella efflorescens (Powdery Gold Speck Lichen)

Year Observed: 2019

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Cladoniaceae (5 species)

Cladonia caespiticia (Stubby-stalked Cladonia)

Years Observed: 2018; 2019; 2020

Identified By: C.J. Pasiche Lisboa (iNaturalist); **First Noted By:** N. Ritter

Notes: To date, a number of occurrences have been noted at the Gordon. One population was noted growing on a large, fallen Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) that still had much of its bark. A number of other occurrences have been noted on heavily decayed, decorticated stumps (all were likely hardwood species).

Cladonia coniocraea (Powder Horn Lichen)

Years Observed: 2019; 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter; **Also Noted By:** N. Long

Notes: Seemingly somewhat common at the Gordon, with three populations having been noted to date.

Cladonia gracilis (Smooth Horn Lichen)

Year Observed: 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter



Notes: Only a single 'population' noted: growing on a large, fallen Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*).

***Cladonia macilenta* (Lipstick Powderhorn)**

Years Observed: 2019; 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: Only a single 'population' noted: growing on a large, fallen Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*).

***Pycnothelia papillaria* (Nipple Lichen)**

Year Observed: 2019

Identified By: N. Ritter; **First Noted By:** N. Ritter & M. Beatty

Notes: Thus far, a single occurrence noted at the Gordon.

Graphidaceae (1 species)

***Graphis scripta* Complex (Common Script Lichen)**

Year Observed: 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: To date, a single 'occurrence' noted at the GNA, despite an inordinate amount of time spent looking for this easily identified species. Growing on a large, fallen Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*).

Lecanoraceae (4 species)

***Lecanora strobilina* (Mealy Rim-lichen)**

Year Observed: 2019

Identified By: C.J. Pasiche Lisboa (iNaturalist); **First Noted By:** N. Ritter

Notes: To date, just a single occurrence noted in the Gordon.

***Lecanora cf. thysanophora* (Fringed Stud Lichen)**

Year Observed: 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter



***Lecanoraceae* Indet #1 (Rim-lichen)**

Year Observed: 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: At this point, only a single occurrence noted. Growing on a small, fallen branch.

***Lecidella cf. euphorea* (Bark Disc Lichen)**

Year Observed: 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: At this point, only a single occurrence noted in the GNA. Growing on a small, fallen branch.

Lecideaceae (1 species)

***Porpidia albocaerulescens* (Smokey-eye Boulder Lichen)**

Years Observed: 2019; 2020

Identified By: C.J. Pasiche Lisboa (iNaturalist); **First Noted By:** N. Ritter

Notes: The most frequently encountered and abundant saxicolous lichen (i.e. one that grows on rock) in the Gordon. On boulders (as would be expected) throughout the Gordon.

Megasporaceae (1 species)

***Aspicilia cf. cinerea* (Cinder Lichen)**

Year Observed: 2019

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter



Parmeliaceae (4 species)

Flavoparmelia caperata (Wrinkled Shield Lichen)

Years Observed: 2018; 2019

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: Seemingly, common at the Gordon.

Flavopunctelia flaventior (White Dot Shield Lichen)

Year Observed: 2019

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Parmelia squarrosa (Squarrose Shield Lichen)

Year Observed: 2019

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: Seemingly, quite common at the Gordon.

Parmotrema crinitum (Granulated Shield Lichen)

Years Observed: 2019; 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter; **Also Noted By:** N. Long

Notes: Currently known from in the Gordon from two occurrences: 1) growing on a fallen Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*) branch in full sun in the meadow and, 2) growing on a fallen tree at the edge of secondary forest.



Pertusariaceae (1 species)

Pertusaria Indet. (Pore Lichens)

Year Observed: 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: To date, a single 'occurrence' growing at the GNA. Growing on the trunk of a Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*).

Phlyctidaceae (1 species)

cf. *Phlyctis argena* (Whitewash Lichen)

Year Observed: 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: A tentative ID.

Physciaceae (5 species)

Hyperphyscia syncolla (Smooth Shadow-crust Lichen)

Year Observed: 2019

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: A somewhat tentative identification. Only noted once in the Gordon: Growing on a small branch from a fallen, mature Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*).

Phaeophyscia pusilloides (Tiny Blister Lichen)

Year Observed: 2019

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Phaeophyscia rubropulchra (Orange-cored Shadow Lichen)

Years Observed: 2018; 2019

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter



Notes: Appears to be fairly common at the Gordon.

***Physcia* Indet. (Rosette Lichens)**

Year Observed: 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: Likely either *Physcia aipolia* or *P. stellaris*.

***Physcia millegrana* (Lace-tipped Lichen)**

Years Observed: 2018; 2019

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: Said to be very tolerant of air pollution. Frequently encountered in the GNA.

Pilocarpaceae (1 species)

***Micarea cf. peliocarpa* (Shadow Dot Lichen)**

Year Observed: 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: Noted growing on a rock in a shaded, 'moist' area (i.e., about 3m upslope from a stream).

Ramalinaceae (1 species)

***Bacidia* Indet. (Dot Lichen)**

Year Observed: 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: To date, just a single occurrence has been noted at the Gordon; however, this species is quite difficult to detect. Growing on a small rock with scattered bryophytes.



Stereocaulaceae (3 species)

Lepraria Indet #1. (Dust Lichen)

Year Observed: 2019

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: Growing on the lower trunk of a large Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*).

Lepraria cf. *finkii* (Fluffy Dust Lichen)

Year Observed: 2020

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Lepraria neglecta (Zoned Dust Lichen)

Year Observed: 2019

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: Thus far, only noted once in the Gordon. Growing in secondary forest on a small boulder.

Teloschistaceae (1 species)

Xanthomendoza Indet. (Sunburst Lichen)

Year Observed: 2018

Identified and First Noted By: N. Ritter

Notes: Too date, only noted once in the Gordon, despite a fair amount of effort attempting to relocate that 'occurrence' after it was first noted.



Metadata

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