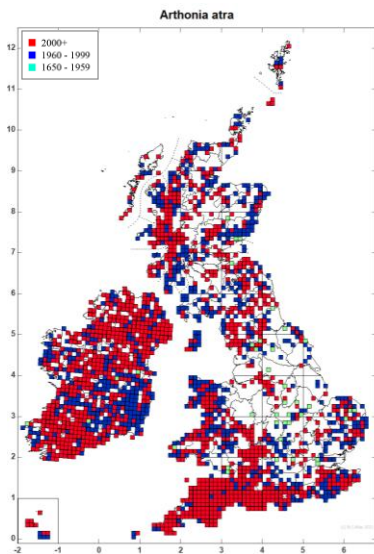


# *Arthonia atra*



Previously known as *Opegrapha atra*.

**Identification:** Thallus light grey or white usually with a well defined border but sometimes not clearly visible. Short, dark, slit-like lirellae (up to 2 x 0.3 mm) are densely crowded and often touching in the centre.

**Chemistry:** Reactions are negative.

**Similar species:** The small, densely packed lirellae should distinguish it from *Graphis scripta* and the many *Opegrapha* species.

**Habitat:** On trees, especially if lightly shaded and/or with smooth bark. Often in mosaics with other smooth bark species. Rarely on fences.

**Distribution:** Throughout Britain and Ireland but more common in the south west and Ireland.