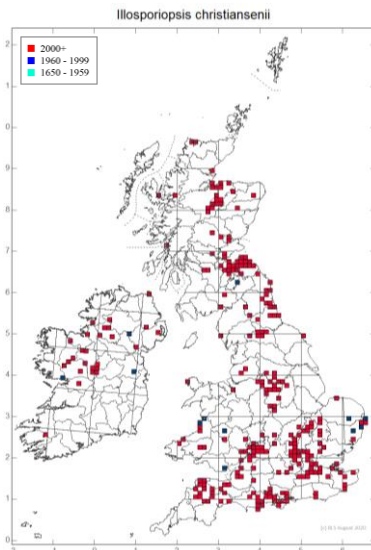
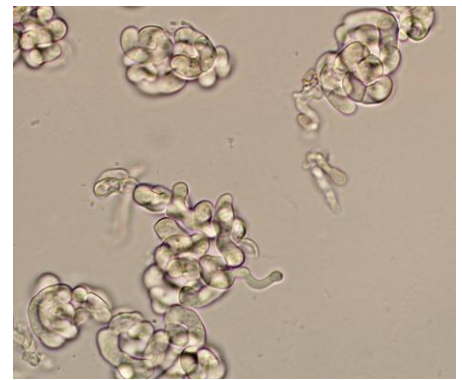


Illosporiosis christiansenii



Identification: Bright, shocking pink blobs on decaying lichens and nearby bark. The blobs are made up of thousands of coiled spores. The blobs appear to dissolve in water as the spores begin to wash away.

Similar species: *Marchandiomyces corallinus* forms less intense pink bulbils that do not contain coiled spores and do not appear to dissolve in water. *Laetisaria lichenicola* causes a bright pink stain on the thallus of infected lichens but no blobs or bulbils.

Habitat: On a number of lichen species, including species of *Parmelia*, *Physcia* and *Xanthoria*, in nutrient-rich communities on bark.

Distribution: Throughout the UK.

References: <http://fungi.myspecies.info/all-fungi/illosporiosis-christiansenii>

Lowen *et al* (1986) *Mycologia* **78**: 842-846 describes this fungus under the previous name *Hobsonia christiansenii*.

Photos Mark Powell (left) Mark Powell (top right) Lukas Large (bottom right) Text Fay Newbery

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