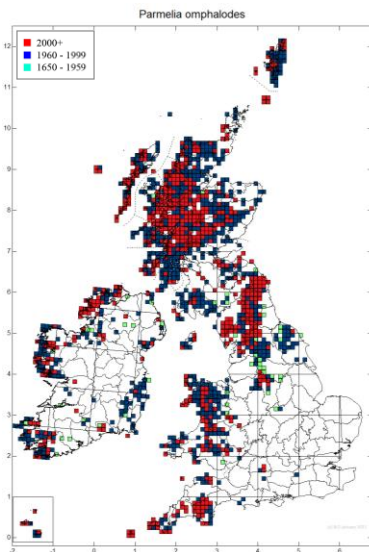


# *Parmelia omphalodes*



**Identification:** Thallus up to 15cm wide, dark brown to grey-brown with a purple, almost metallic hue and 2-4 mm wide lobes which overlap each other. The upper surface is covered in a network of white or pale grey lines (pseudocyphellae).. Lower surface black with simple or branched, rather sparse, rhizines. Apothecia fairly frequent, especially in north and west. Discs dark brown with a thin lighter margin.

**Chemistry:** Medulla K+ orange-red, P+ orange.

**Similar species:** *Parmelia discordans* has less marked white lines with narrower lobes that lie close to the rock and a K- medulla.

**Habitat:** Common on nutrient-poor, well-lit, siliceous rocks especially in upland areas. Very rare on bark and wood.

**Distribution:** Widespread north and west of Britain and Ireland.