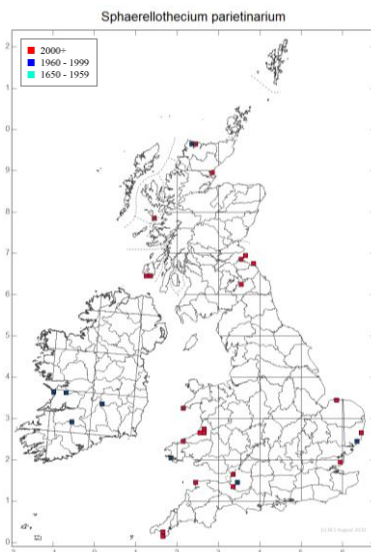


Sphaerellothecium parietinarium



Identification: This fungus occurs as crowded black perithecia on the apothecia, and sometimes on the thalli, of *Xanthoria* species. The perithecia are partially immersed in the host tissue. The asci are club- or pear-shaped with eight brown, 2-celled, smooth-walled ascospores.

Similar species: *Didymocyrtis slaptoniensis* also produces black perithecia with 2-celled, brown ascospores on *X. parietina* but these ascospores have tiny warts on the outside and are arranged in a single line in narrow asci.

Habitat: On apothecia and, occasionally the thalli of *Xanthoria parietina* and other *Xanthoria* species.

Distribution: Mainly coastal but this species may be under-recorded.

References: <http://fungi.myspecies.info/all-fungi/sphaerellothecium-parietinarium>