

## Cryptogam of the Month- July 2009



### *Acarospora citrina*

*Acarospora citrina* a crustose lichen that can be located in almost every inland habitat. Common on a wide range of acidic rocks. In these extreme climatic areas this species can be seen clinging to underside of overhangs and rocky crevices. The lemon yellow thallus is composed of simple thick tile-like structure that may have a central reddish brown apothecia (fruiting body). This species can be found Australia wide in semi arid to sub tropical areas and some coastal areas but not associated with calcium based rocks. At present this species is well represented east and north of Perth with a record near Corrigin appears to be at its western extremity.

A related species that can cause confusion is *Acarospora novae-hollandiae* which is also lemon yellow and occurs on similar habitats and climatic areas. This confusing species can be separated from *Acarospora citrina* by the presence of a thinner thallus and closely clustered individuals appearing as a continuous tiled surface.

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