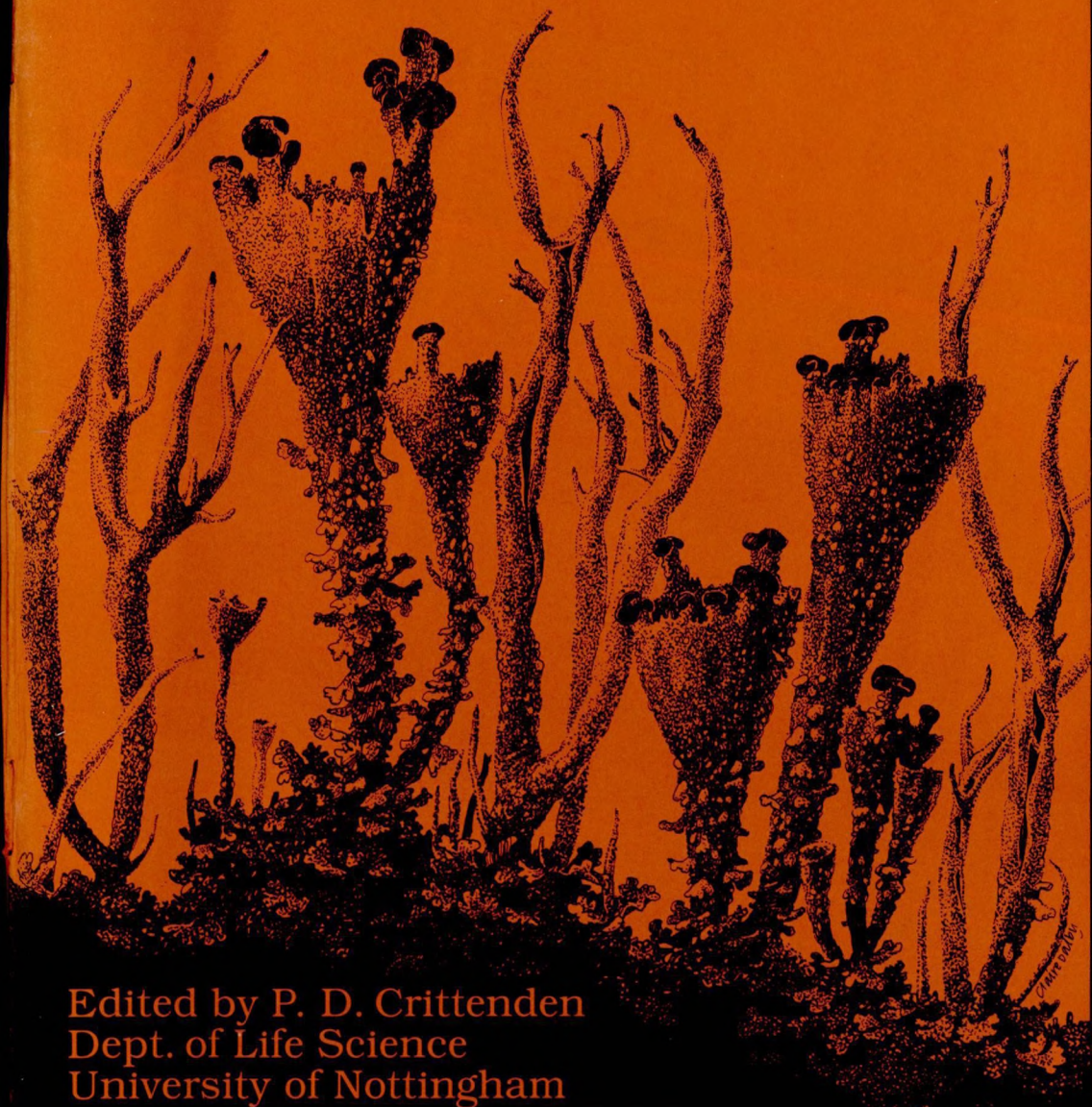


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+ key to non-yellow species of *Rhizocarpon*



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record is new to Orkney, then I will first let Mark Seaward know, and in any event I will see that the data is incorporated into all the relevant databases. The OFC/BRC ask for all records to be sent in through their recorders, and to have been properly verified (admirable quality control) - as unconfirmed records will not be 'recognised' in Orkney.

So here we see the start perhaps of an *Annotated List of Orkney Lichens* to balance the equivalent Shetland enterprise (now well under way) - part perhaps of a 20th Century postscript to the 13th century "Orkneyinga Saga"?

Kery Dalby

PARMELIA CAPERATA REACHES CENTRAL LONDON

The expansion of *Parmelia caperata* into the Greater London area has been dramatic, but the nearest site from which it was reported by Hawksworth & McManus (*Bot. J. Linn. Soc.* **100**: 99-109, 1989) was on *Salix* in Gunnersbury Park (TQ(51)/187785), 11 km west of Charing Cross. On 6 December 1995 I was privileged to be able to examine lichens within Buckingham Palace Gardens (TQ(51)/288796) in the City of Westminster and just 1.7 km south-west of Charing Cross, through the courtesy of Mark Lane (Head Gardener). I discovered a single 0.6 cm thallus of this sulphur dioxide sensitive species on an inclined *Salix* trunk (tree no. 1818) by the Lake. The ability of this species to withstand the current ambient sulphur dioxide levels in Central London would have been predicted from its known tolerance levels, and its colonization here may be a prelude to its establishment in other Central London gardens and parks. Fifteen lichenized species were found on this preliminary visit, and details of these and future discoveries will be published in the report of a fuller survey of the natural history of the Gardens currently being undertaken by the London Natural History Society.

David L Hawksworth