

## What is *Lichen oederi* Gunnerus?

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The name *Lichen oederi* Gunnerus is clarified by an interpretation of the illustration in “Flora Danica”, and epitypified accordingly on a Norwegian specimen of *Rhizocarpon petraeum* (Wulfen) A. Massal. from the Oslofjord region where it was originally collected. This is the older name for this species, but cannot be transferred into *Rhizocarpon* as this is blocked by the different, homonymic *Rhizocarpon oederi* (Weber) Körb.

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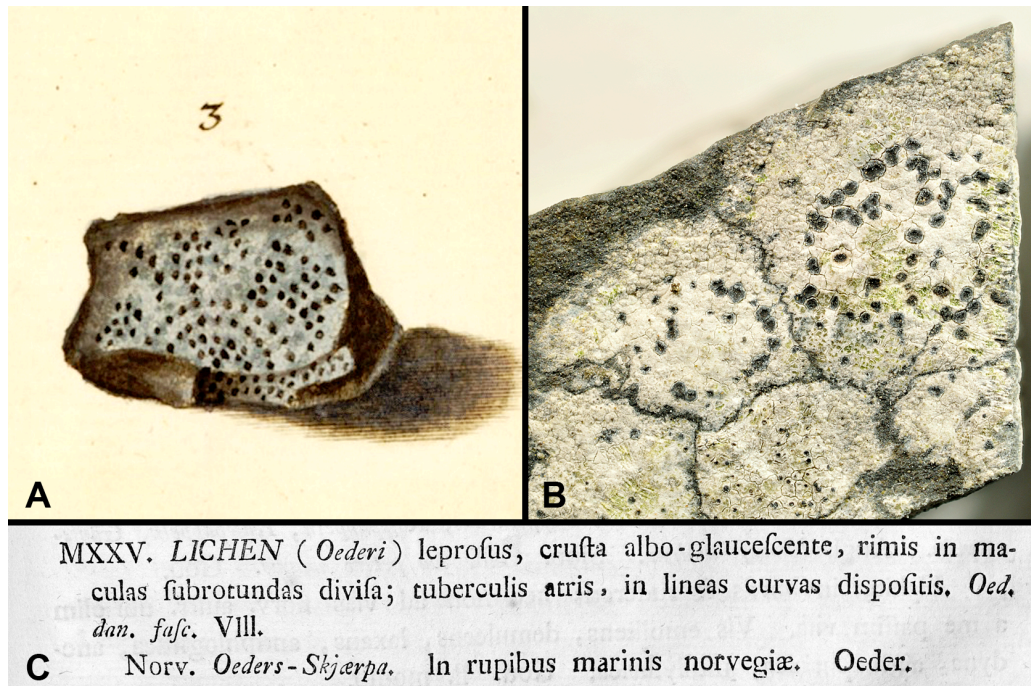
When Jørgensen (2012) went through Gunnerus’s *Flora Norvegica* (1766–1776), he found four lichen names which had previously been mostly overlooked and not properly typified before. He did not dare to interpret the illustration on which the name *Lichen oederi* Gunnerus was based, since the original material from coastal cliffs in Norway (leg. Oeder) had not been located. It had for good reasons been suggested by Lange (1887) that it represented *Lecidea lapicida* var. *pantherina* Ach., sometimes regarded as a species named as *Lecidea lactea* Flörke ex Schaer. This is a critical complex where taxonomy and nomenclature remain unsettled.

However, the second author has pointed out another, more likely interpretation. Both the description as well as the illustration (Fig. 1) clearly show that the apothecia occur in curved lines (concentric rings), which is a typical character of *Rhizocarpon petraeum* (Wulfen) A. Massal. (often cited as *Rhizocarpon concentricum* auct.). This illustration was according to Wagner (pers. comm.) made on

material from Oeder’s travels in Norway in 1755 (Wagner 2012), when he hired a boat to explore the islands of the Oslofjord, where this species is quite frequently collected. We accordingly here designate the following epitype:

*Lichen oederi* Gunnerus, Fl. Norveg. 2: 131 (1776); – Type: [icon in] Oeder, Fl. Dan. 3 (8): Table 472, Fig. 3 (1769) (holotype); epitype: Norway: Akershus, Nesodden, Langøyene island, near southwesternmost point, 59°52.11’N, 10°43.07’E (WGS84), 80 m alt., on calcareous rock, shady wall, 12 September 2010, E. Timdal 11815 (O-L-169123).

The specimen has been subjected to DNA extraction and sequences of the ITS and mtSSU regions will be deposited in GenBank. This action makes the name the oldest available for *Rhizocarpon petraeum* (see Ihlen 2004), but it cannot be combined into *Rhizocarpon* because of the existence of the different *Rhizocarpon oederi* (Weber) Körb.



**Figure 1.** A. Oeder's illustration in *Flora Danica*. B. The epitype (photo E. Timdal). C. The protologue of *Lichen oederi* Gunnerus in *Flora Norvegica*.

## References

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