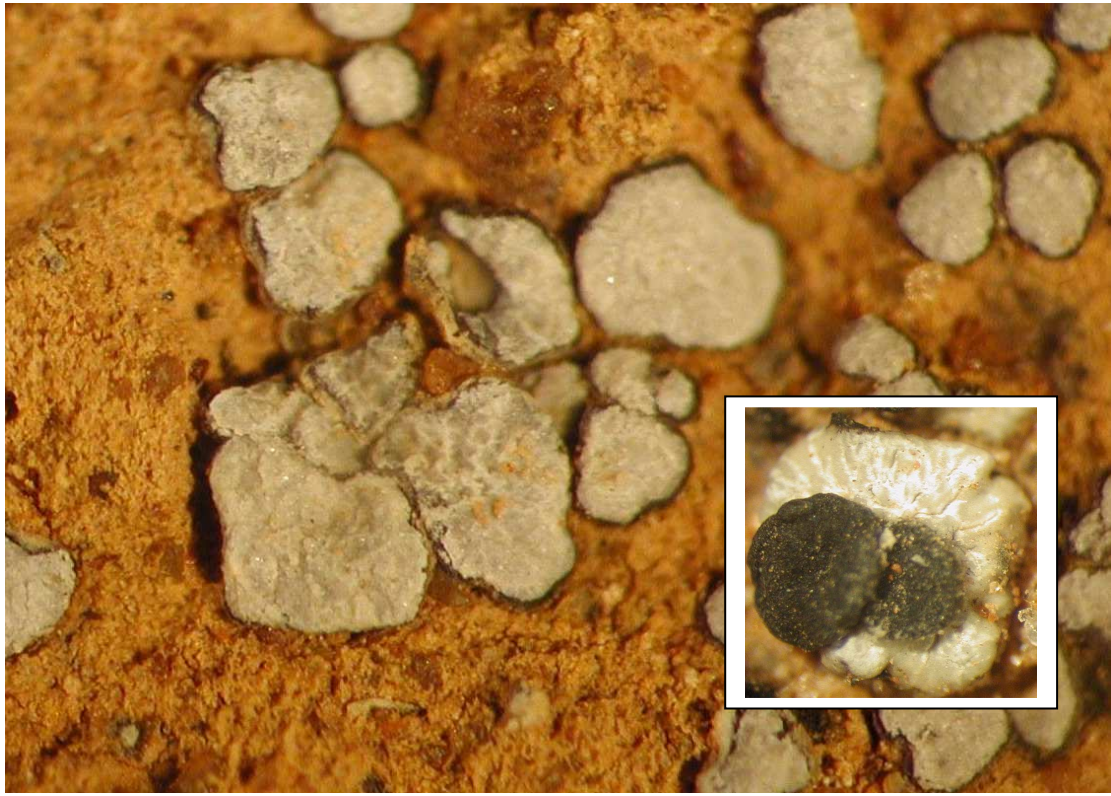


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Cryptogam of the Month – June-October 2011



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Lecidea globifera

A squamulose soil lichen that has a degree of confusion as to which name should be applied. It is known as *Psora globifera* in American lichen papers and is noted as having other close species which at present are not recorded for Australia.

The flat to slightly concave-convex squamules are around 5 mm in size and the top surface is covered with a white sugar like crystalline coating. Apothecia are attached to the top surface of the squamule and resemble a fried egg but appear to be dark brown or black in colour. No positive reactions are noted when using the standard chemical spot tests.

This species occurs in the southern arid regions of Western Australia and South Australia. Further collections and research on this species is required to determine the true identity of this unusual lichen.

R.J. Cranfield. Science Division. DEC Manjimup