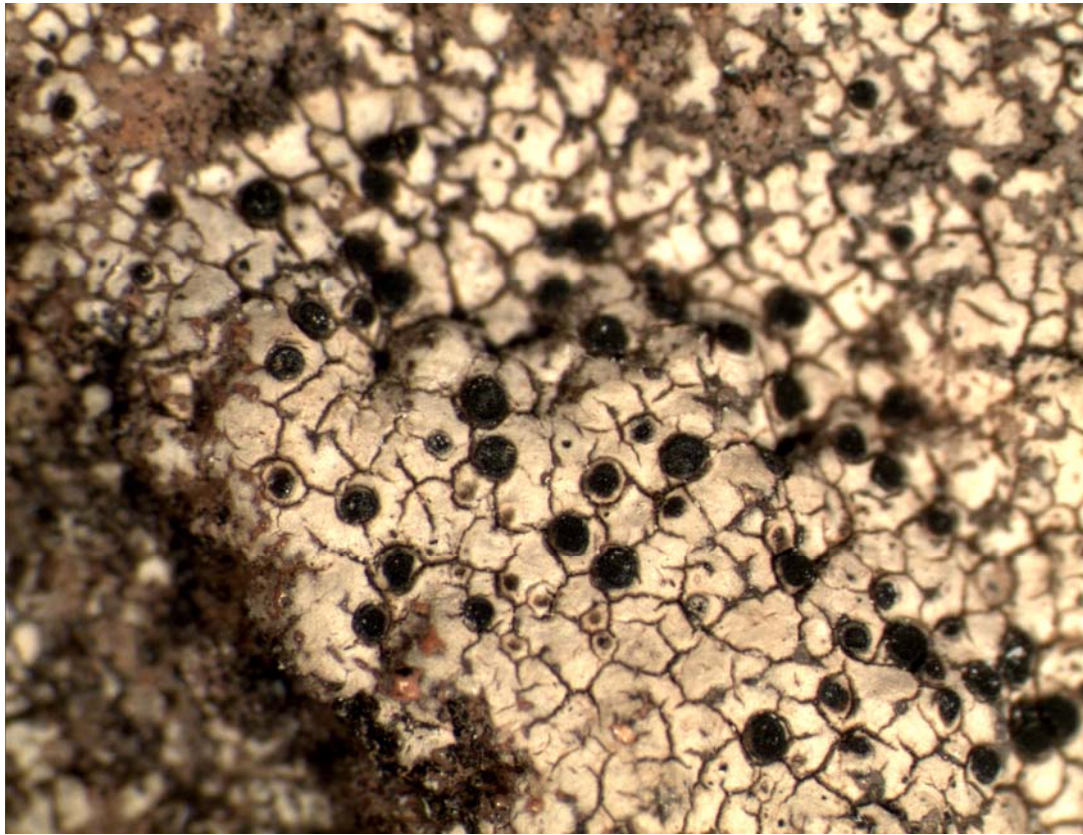


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Cryptogam of the Month – October 2012



Buellia kimberleyana

Buellia kimberleyana poorly known crustose lichen from the Kimberley region of Western Australia.

Thallus is grey to brown or ochre coloured with a matt finish. Thallus has a crazy path-like appearance (areolate) with slightly convex angular portions. Apothecia are initially immersed but become slightly adnate (on the thallus surface) as they mature and coloured black with an obvious grey rim and a convex centre. The apothecia have numerous asci with eight one septate brown spores.

Thallus spot test reactions are K⁺ yellow to red (Potassium hydroxide) and the medulla K⁺ yellow then red. Bleach reactions are negative and UV reaction is also negative.

Located growing on silica based stone and is endemic to the Kimberley area and part of the Northern Territory.

R.J. Cranfield. Science Division. DEC Manjimp.