

# Key to the Genera of Bright Green Foliose Lichens of Alberta v. 2025 Order Peltigerales, Suborder Peltigerineae: *Lobaria*, *Nephroma*, *Peltigera* & *Solorina*

Encompasses 45 species across 4 genera. The genus *Peltigera* is rife with undescribed molecular species, and work is ongoing to find morphological traits that distinguish them. At present we provide keys to the described species, along with notes on the level of molecular diversity encompassed within each species group.





## Updates to Goward et al. 1994

- *Peltigera extenuata* is treated as *P. didactyla* var. *extenuata*

## Keys to the Foliose Genera in the suborder Peltigerineae in Alberta

- 1a. Lobes relatively large and broad, averaging more than 3 mm across, loosely attached; includes but not limited to all tripartite foliose species in Alberta; not gelatinous when wet .....2
- 2a. Lower cortex typically absent to weakly developed; apothecia if present on upper surface; rhizines typically present; typically terricolous.....3
- 3a. Apothecia marginal and on upper surface of lobes, often forming erect saddle-shapes on lobe tips; lower cortex absent, smooth to 'veined'; commonly terricolous, or on logs and tree bases; lobes typically > 5mm wide....***Peltigera***
- 3b. Apothecia central & slightly depressed in thallus; lower cortex often absent with sparse rhizines; terricolous or saxicolous; species with bright orange pigment key here; lobes 0.5-3 mm (-10) wide on average ..... ***Solorina***
- 2b. Lower surface corticate, smooth to densely velvety-tomentose; typically epiphytic.....4
- 4a. Lobes 1-2 cm wide at most; apothecia common, on lower surface ..... ***Nephroma***
- 4b. Lobes >2 cm wide; apothecia rare, on upper surface when present; upper surface with reticulate network of pseudocyphellae and depressions, lower surface with patches of tomentum, interrupted with shiny, smooth corticated spots ..... ***Lobaria***
- 1b. Lobes relatively narrow or gelatinous when wet..... Not covered here

## Pictorial Guide to the Green Foliose Genera, with Example Species

			
<b><i>Lobaria pulmonaria</i></b>	<b><i>Nephroma expallidum</i></b>	<b><i>Peltigera apthosa</i></b>	<b><i>Solorina crocea</i></b>
Terricolous, rarely on wood, erect and often inrolled	Epiphytic, upper cortex appearing 'bombed', sorediate	Tubes inflated, on trees and downed wood, sorediate and/or apotheciate, lower cortex black	Apothecia embedded laminally and centrally in lobes