Lichens on trees - common, easily identified species

Oakmoss (Evernia prunastri)
Grey/green branches - whitish underneath
Branches flat - forks uniformly

Shaggy strap lichen (Ramalina farinacea)
Grey/green branches on top & underneath
Branches narrow, ‘knobbly’ - branches irregularly

Ramalina fastigata
Grey/green branches irregularly shaped
Branches ending in flattened fruits

Beard Lichen (Usnea)
Grey/green, much branched, fine branches

Netted shield lichen (Parmelia sulcata)
Bluey grey top, dark underneath. Network of ridges & depressions giving a ‘hammered metal’ appearance.

Yellow wall lichen (Xanthoria parietina)
Yellow or orange, often has ‘cups’
Very common, also found on rock, pollution resistant

Pearly lichen (Parmotrema perlatum)
Smooth & grey when dry, greener when wet
Black underneath, tiny black ‘eyelashes’ around edges

Speckled shield lichen (Punctelia)
Green when wet, grey when dry, cream or brown underneath
Speckled with coarse white dots

Rosette lichen (Physcia)
Grey top & underneath, long ‘whiskers’
Often has black ‘jam tarts’ (bottom left of picture)

Cup lichen (Cladonia)
Golf tee shaped cups, tiny green ‘leaves’
On mossy stumps

Dust lichen (Lepraria)
Thin, powdery, pale grey or blue-grey forms crust like covering on trunks.

Rim lichen & Disc lichen (Lecidella elaeochroma & Lecanora chlorotera)
There are many species similar to these, however, when they occur together on young trees they are often this pair.

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