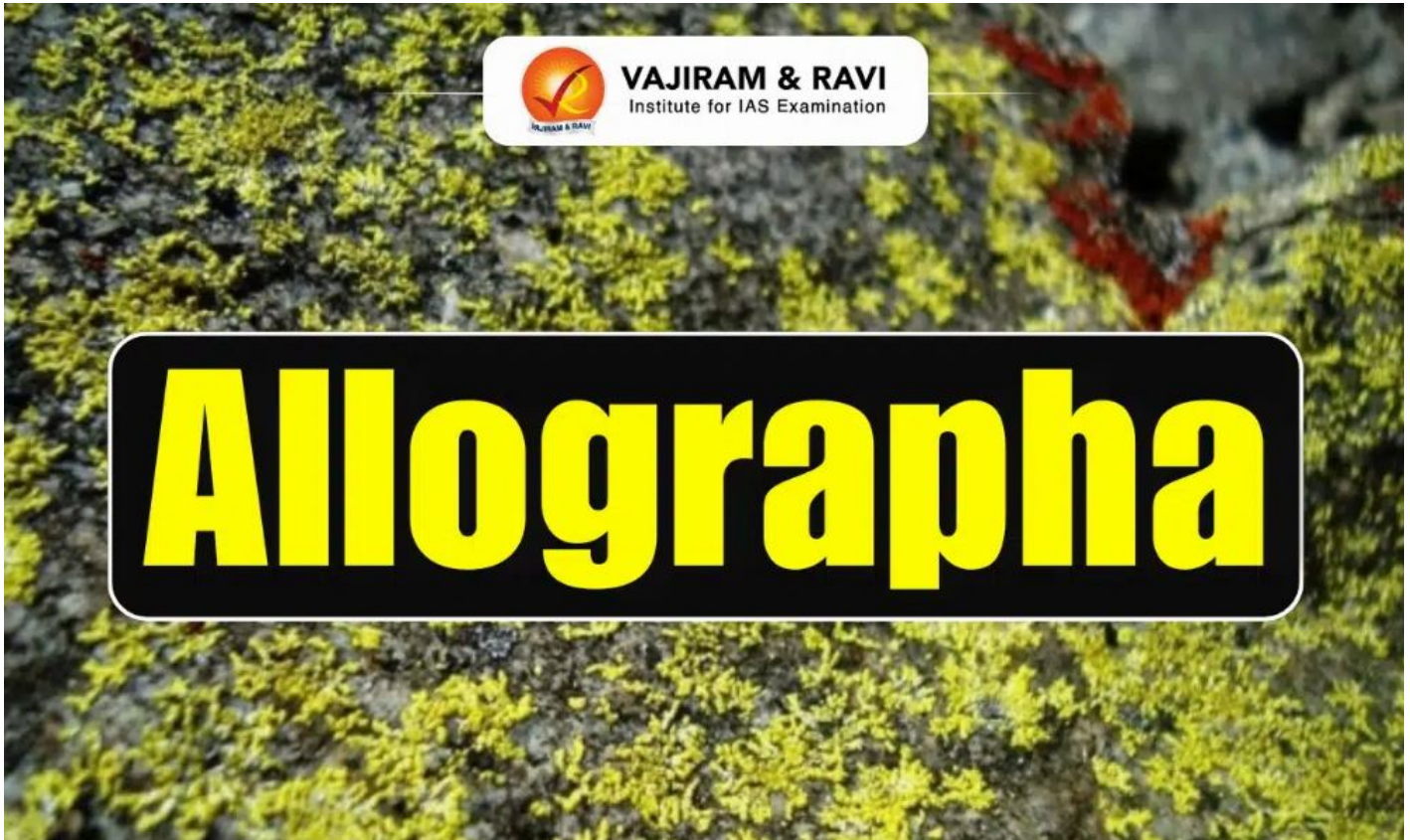


Allographa

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Allographa Latest News

Recently, a team of researchers has unveiled five new species of lichen-forming fungi belonging to the genus Allographa.

About Allographa

- It is a **genus of script lichens** or lichen-forming fungi (a fungus that teams **up with algae** or cyanobacteria to **create a lichen**) with elongated fruiting bodies in the family **Graphidaceae**.
- It has more than 200 species and **in India** these **Allographa species** are limited, particularly **from the Western Ghats**.
- **Ecological Role:** These are **highly sensitive to pollution**, climate shifts and habitat disturbance, making them **reliable indicators of ecosystem health**.
- The recently discovered **five new Allographa species from Western Ghats are:** Allographa keralensis, A. paraconsanguinea; A. persistinspersa and A. semicarbonisata.

What are Lichens?

- Lichens are not just one organism but two (sometimes more) **living in intimate symbiosis**: a fungus that offers structure and protection, and a photobiont (usually a green alga or cyanobacterium) that captures sunlight and makes food.
- **Ecological Significance**: Lichens play critical roles in ecosystems, building soil, feeding insects and serving as nature's bioindicators.

Source: **PIB**

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/allographa/>

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