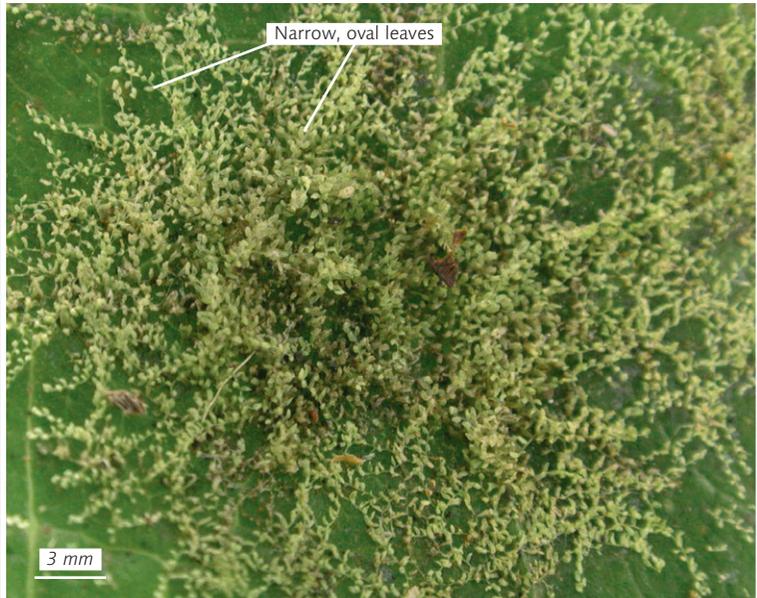
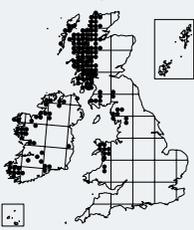


*Aphanolejeunea microscopica*

Long-leaved Pouncewort



**Identification** This minute (shoots up to 6 mm long, but less than 0.5 mm wide), mid-green or pale green leafy liverwort lies appressed to the substrate, where it forms intricate, thin mats or small, dense patches, often with other small liverworts. The leaves are egg-shaped or oval, bluntly pointed, distant and very narrowly inserted, appearing barely attached to the stem. There are no underleaves.

**Similar species** *Cololejeunea calcarea* (p. 225), *Harpalejeunea molleri* (p. 219) and *Drepanolejeunea hamatifolia* (p. 218) have more sharply pointed leaves. *Harpalejeunea* and *Drepanolejeunea* are also yellower than *A. microscopica*. Species of *Lejeunea* (pp. 221–223) are mostly larger (shoots up to 2 cm long and 1 mm or more wide) and usually have much more conspicuous lobules. *Microlejeunea ulicina* (p. 220) and *Cololejeunea minutissima* (p. 226) have shorter, much more rounded leaves.

**Habitat** *A. microscopica* grows in shaded, humid places on damp or dry rocks, especially by streams and waterfalls. It is confined to Atlantic areas of the north and west, and has not yet been found in south-west England.