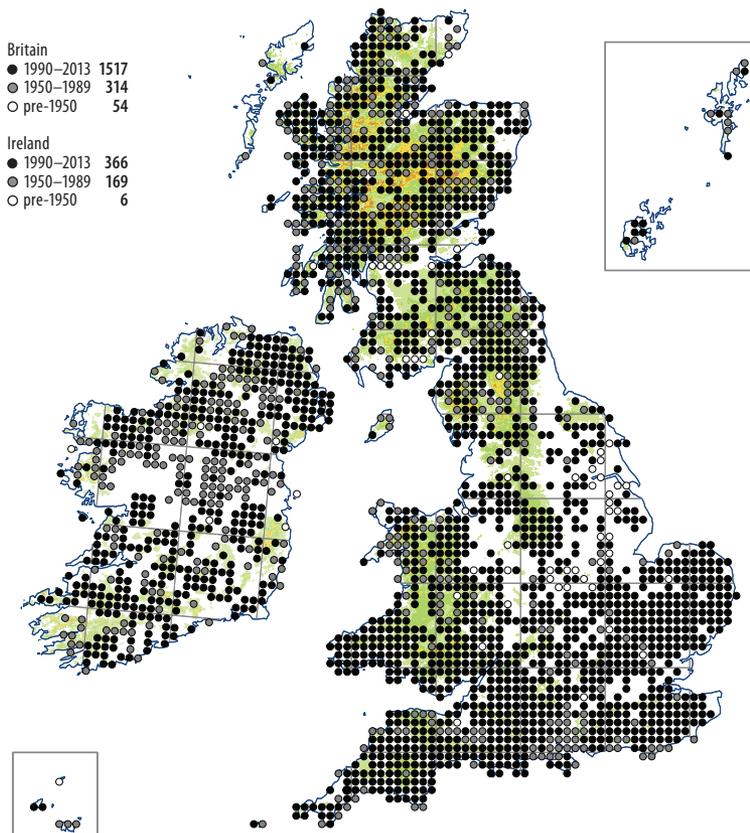


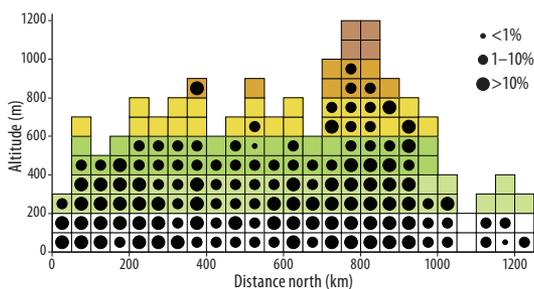
## Radula complanata



Occurs most commonly as an epiphyte on the trunks, branches and roots of elder, ash, beech, elm, field maple, hawthorn, hazel, sycamore, willow and, more rarely, oak, rowan and numerous other hosts in woods, thickets and hedges. As an epiphyte it avoids deeply shaded sites, and in the drier parts of Britain and Ireland it is most common in wet woods or humid scrub in sheltered localities. Common associates include *Frullania dilatata*, *Metzgeria furcata*, *Microlejeunea ulicina* and *Zygodon viridissimus*. It also occurs more locally on shaded basic rocks by streams and in ravines, on rocks in walls in SW England, on boulders by lake margins, on shaded sea cliffs, on *Calluna* stems on steep block-strewn slopes, and on mildly basic cliff faces in the submontane zone. Altitudinal range: 0–1095 m.

Rapidly increasing following reductions in some air pollutants, such as SO<sub>2</sub>. This increase is illustrated by the species being regarded as rare in Glamorgan, with just three records, by Perry (1994), and its ubiquity there now. Some evidence for increase was detected by the BBS epiphyte survey in 1992–95 (Bates *et al.*, 1997) but the main increase came in the 21st century. Lowell (2009) showed that the increase in *Radula complanata* in Lancashire was no more rapid than that of commoner species such as *Orthotrichum affine*, but it was more dramatic because it started from a very low level. In the Netherlands it was red-listed until it showed a similar massive expansion in recent decades (BLWG, 2013).

Paroicous; on epiphytic plants capsules are very common and mature throughout the year, but they rarely occur on rocks. Gemmae are common, but seldom abundant.



Circumpolar Boreo-temperate. Widespread in Europe, but absent from the far north, reaching south to Macaronesia and N Africa; Siberia, Japan, China, Mongolia, Himalaya; N America, Greenland.

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