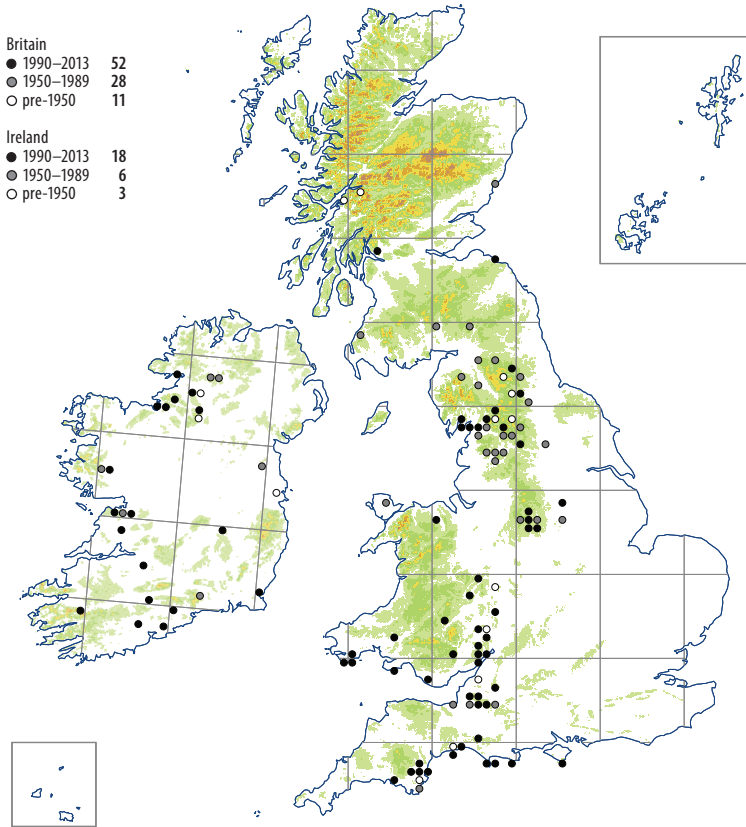


# Cololejeunea rossettiana



Found on shaded basic rocks, especially limestone, in gorges, streams and woods, and amongst other bryophytes or as pure patches on sheltered, unquarried limestone rocks, cliffs and caves. It typically grows on dry rock in humid situations, with associates such as *Marchesinia mackaii*, *Anomodon viticulosus*, *Ctenidium molluscum*, *Neckera crispa*, *N. complanata* and *Tortella tortuosa*. One Irish record comes from masonry of a Holy Well in Lismore and another from the underside of a bridge in the Sow Valley, Co. Wexford. In the Pennines it usually occupies slightly drier sites than *Cololejeunea calcarea*. Occasionally it is epiphytic on other bryophytes, e.g. *Thamnobryum alopecurum*. Altitudinal range: 10–400 m.

Considerably more widely recorded than in the 1991–1994 Atlas, but most if not all of these newly discovered colonies

are likely to be long-established rather than the result of range expansion.

Autoicous; usually fertile, capsules are common, April to September. Gemmae are frequent.

Where the ranges of *C. rossettiana* and *C. calcarea* overlap, for example in Derbyshire and the lower Wye Valley, the two species may occupy the same sites in almost indistinguishable niches. Collecting small samples from several patches is the only means of identification and it is likely that some mixed populations have been recorded only as one species or the other.

Submediterranean-Subatlantic. Scattered through the Mediterranean and southern Europe, extending eastwards to Crimea and up the west coast to western France, Britain and Ireland; Macaronesia; N Africa; Turkey, Iran.

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