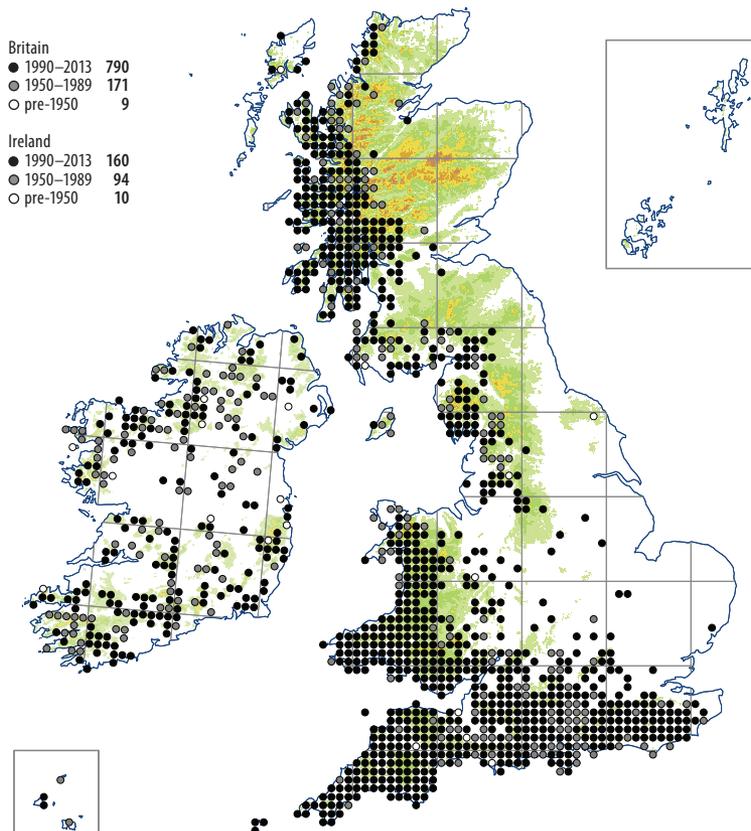


Microlejeunea ulicina



Epiphytic on trunks and lower branches of birch, alder, oak, beech and willow, less common on rowan, hazel, ash, elm, and occasional on sycamore, rhododendron, apple, field maple, elder, hawthorn, blackthorn, privet and pine in woods, ravines, gullies and swamp carrs, and by roadsides and in hedges. It is often associated with *Frullania dilatata*, *Metzgeria furcata* and *Ulota* spp. It also grows on stems of heather and gorse, and has been recorded with *Metzgeria fruticulosa* on the leaves of *Hedera hibernica* and on the bracket fungus *Trametes hirsuta* at Hampstead Heath (Duckett, 2008). More rarely it colonises shaded, mildly basic or acid rocks in ravines, sheltered rocks by the sea, and peaty banks on damp, rocky slopes. Altitudinal range: 0–585 m.

the survey results closely mirrored the map in the 1991–1994 Atlas, but it began to spread at about this time. Its expansion into formerly polluted parts of the English Midlands has been slower than that of *Cololejeunea minutissima*, but is still obvious. All the records in a triangle between Birmingham, Manchester and Peterborough date from the last 20 years.

Dioicous; female plants are frequent, male plants and sporophytes are unknown in Britain and Ireland. Vegetative reproduction is by caducous branches.

Suboceanic Temperate. Scattered throughout southern and western Europe, extending from the Mediterranean through C Europe to Norway. Macaronesia; Korea, Japan, Himalaya, SE Asia; eastern N America.

In reporting the results of the BBS epiphyte survey of 1992–1995, Bates *et al.* (1997) cited this as a species for which

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