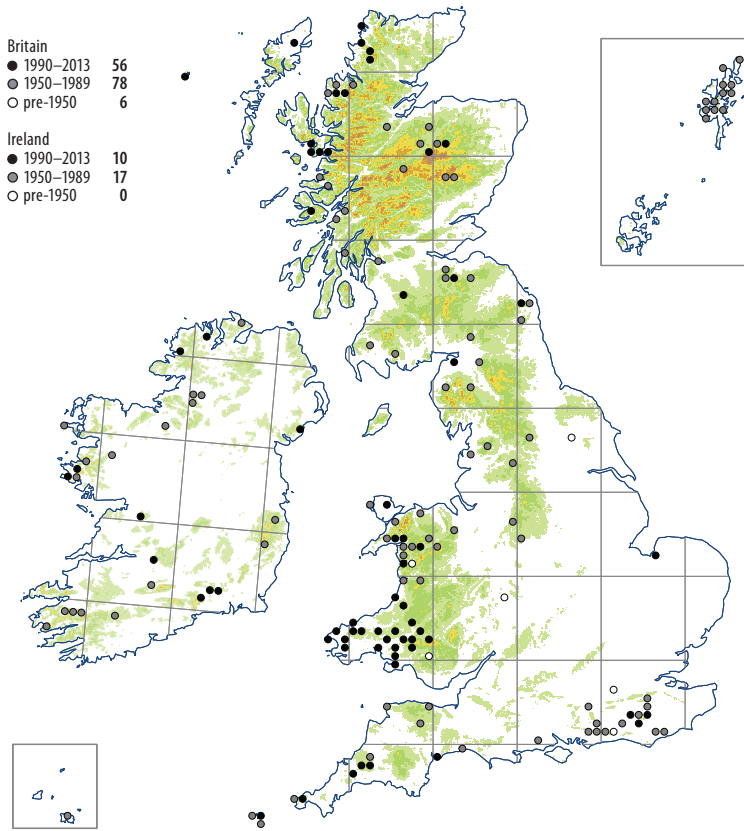


Kurzia sylvatica



This *Kurzia* is most frequently recorded on steep peat banks, *Molinia* tussock-sides and moist organic soil in moorland and damp heaths, less often in bogs and occasionally in woodland. It also occurs on damp sheltered rock outcrops, especially sandstone exposures, and moist sandy banks. The ecological range of *K. sylvatica* appears to be broadly similar to that of *K. trichoclados* in Britain and Ireland, and coexisting populations of the two species have been reported from a number of localities. Altitudinal range: 5–600 m.

Dioicous; usually fertile; sporophytes are rare, May to November. Specialised methods of vegetative dispersal are lacking.

Kurzia sylvatica is rarer than *K. trichoclados* but almost certainly not as rare as the map suggests. Whereas *K. trichoclados* can be identified by many bryologists by its aromatic scent, gametangia are needed to confirm the identity of *K. sylvatica* and these are easily overlooked. Many bryologists are probably pleased to identify even a single *Kurzia* species and therefore fail to record *K. sylvatica* when it grows in the same sites as *K. trichoclados* or *K. pauciflora*. Both the 1960–1989 and 1990–2013 date-classes are dominated by the records of a few expert recorders.

Suboceanic Temperate. From Spain north-eastwards to Poland. N America.

T.H. Blackstock, rev. C.D. Preston

