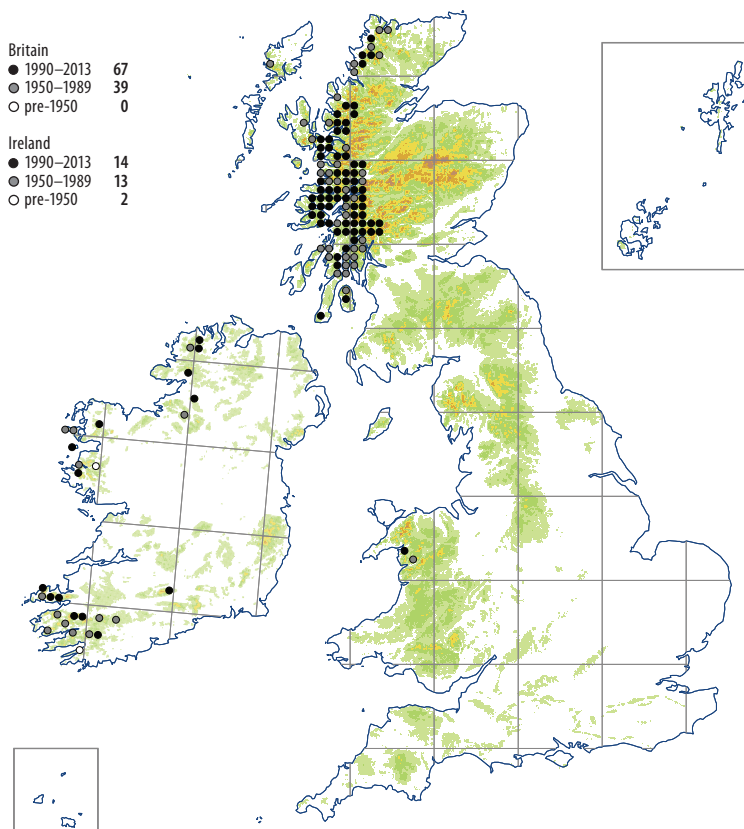


Leptoscyphus cuneifolius



This species occurs most frequently as an epiphyte on trunks of trees, especially birch but occasionally oak or willow, and more rarely rowan, alder and holly, in natural or semi-natural birch, birch-hazel, or birch-oak woods on steep blocky slopes and in and along sheltered ravines. It is commonly associated with *Douinia ovata*, *Frullania tamarisci*, *F. teneriffae*, *Microlejeunea ulicina*, *Plagiochila exigua*, *P. punctata* and *Scapania gracilis*. It also occurs on stems of tall shaggy heather on steep north- or east-facing block-strewn slopes, and, more rarely, on damp, sheltered but not deeply shaded rocks and cliffs. Altitudinal range: 30–650 m.

Easily overlooked because of its small size and possibly slightly more widespread in western Scotland and SW Ireland than the map suggests.

Hyperoceanic Southern-temperate. Outside Britain and Ireland, only recorded in Europe from western Norway; Azores and Madeira; Turkey; southern USA, Mexico, C America, Caribbean, widespread in S America, south to Patagonia, Tristan da Cunha.

H.J.B. Birks

Dioicous; female inflorescences are very rare, male plants are unknown in Europe. Vegetative propagation is by shoot fragmentation and shedding of leaves.

