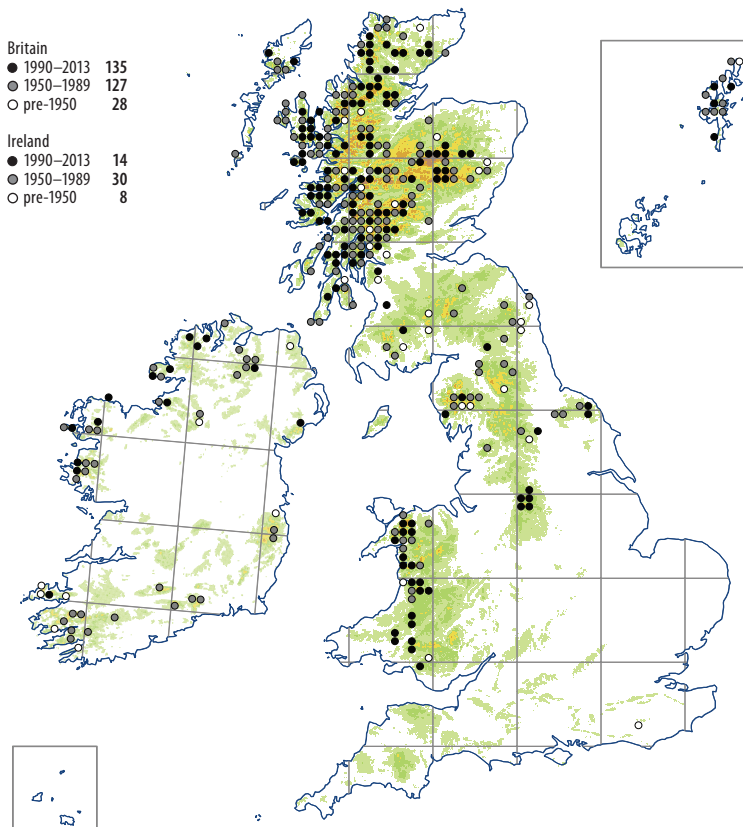


# Hygrobiella laxifolia



This small plant forms appressed patches on wet rocks beside streams and on flushed rock outcrops and crags, frequently growing with *Blindia acuta* and *Jungermannia Solenostoma* spp. Even the streamside rocks on which it grows tend to be flushed, for example where side streams enter a river gorge, or water percolates from ravine sides. It is most often associated with rocks that are at least mildly basic, including basalts and schists, although also occurring on more acid substrates. In Sussex it was collected from sandstone rocks in a stream at Brownknoll Gill, Crowborough, by W.E. Nicholson in 1904 (cf. Nicholson, 1911), but it has not been seen there since. In Shetland and Skye it has been noted from moist, silty or sandy ground on loch margins, growing with weedy species such as *Archidium alternifolium*. Altitudinal range: 30–1050 m.

Dioicous; female plants and sterile perianths are abundant, male plants are apparently rarer; capsules are uncommon, May to August.

Suboceanic Boreal-montane. N Europe and mountains of C and W Europe. As in Sussex, it occurs on sandstone rocks in some of its outlying C European sites, such as the Cretaceous Elbe Sandstones in the Czech Republic (Härtel *et al.*, 2007). Russia, China, Korea and Japan; Aleutians, Canada, Rocky Mountains, Greenland.

M.M. Yeo, rev. C.D. Preston

