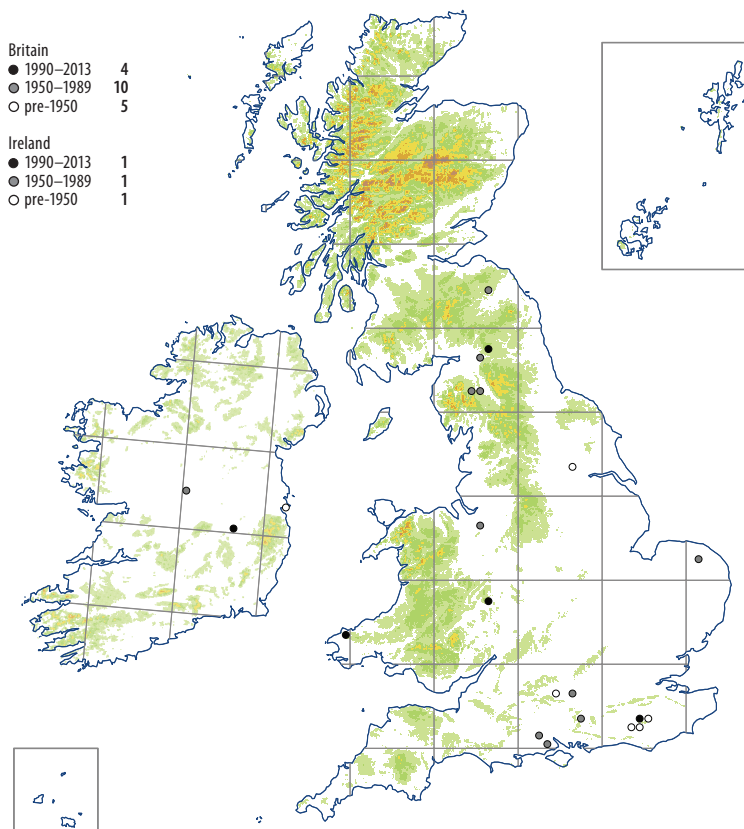


Cephaloziella elachista



Like many bog hepatics, this generally grows amongst larger bryophytes, especially sphagnum, in raised and valley bogs. Regular associates include *Cephalozia* spp., *Kurzia pauciflora*, *Lophozia ventricosa*, *Mylia anomala* and *Odontoschisma sphagni*. On wet heathland it has been found on the sides of decaying *Molinia* tussocks alongside *Campylopus pyriformis* and *Pohlia nutans*. Altitudinal range: 15–270 m.

Habitat destruction is likely to have caused some decline in *Cephaloziella elachista*, but there are too few records to show any trends.

Autoicous; sporophytes are fairly frequent, April to May. Gemmae are frequently present.

Some forms of *C. hampeana* mimic *C. elachista*, whilst *C. spinigera* may appear very similar. All records have been verified by J.A. Paton or subsequent BBS referees. As a critical species in a difficult genus, it may be seriously under-recorded.

European Boreal-montane. Widespread but local in C and N Europe. Siberia, Russian Far East, Japan, China; N America south to West Virginia.

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