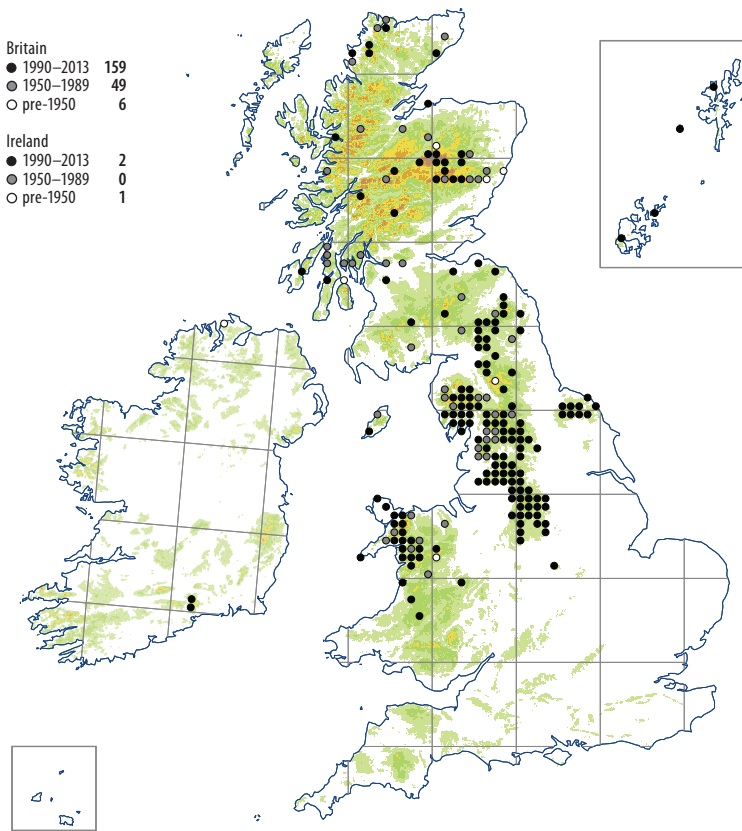


# Barbilophozia atlantica



Recorded from dry acid block screes, thin soil overlying rock outcrops, rocky ravines, lochside boulders, stone walls and especially from shady sandstone crags and river gorges. It also occurs occasionally on tree bases and trunks, especially of alder, birch and oak. Associates include *Barbilophozia attenuata*, *B. floerkei*, *Lepidozia cupressina*, *Dicranum scoparium* and *Isoetecium myosuroides*. In the Pennines, where the climate is not strongly oceanic, *B. atlantica* and *B. floerkei* are among the commonest and most conspicuous leafy liverworts on siliceous formations, especially on thin peaty soils and at the edge of rocks. Both are tolerant of acid deposition and remained frequent when levels of SO<sub>2</sub> pollution were high. It is only rarely found in bogs. Altitudinal range: 30–865 m.

Dioicous; female plants are frequent, male plants are rare, sporophytes are unknown; gemmae are usually present, but are most conspicuous in the autumn.

Confused with *B. floerkei* for many years until the distinction was clarified by Blackstock (1990). However the distinction remains difficult in areas where both species are common, as in the Pennines, and it is likely that *B. atlantica* has often been recorded as *B. floerkei*.

Suboceanic Boreal-montane. From France and Switzerland north to Scandinavia, Faeroes and Iceland; Siberia, China; northern N America south to New England, Greenland.

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