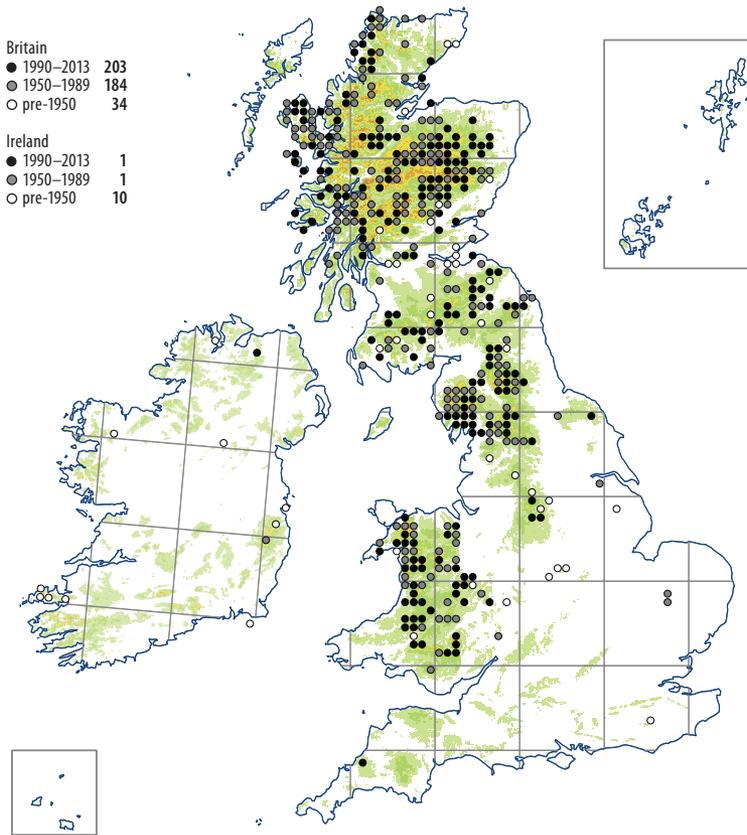


Barbilophozia barbata

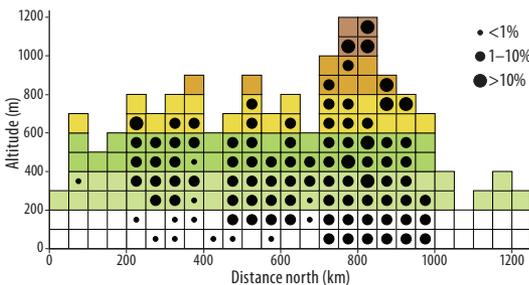


A calcifuge or mild calcicole, growing in dry to moist rocky habitats, particularly on mossy drystone walls, block screes, rock outcrops, and rock walls in ravines. Rock types range from acid granite and gneiss to basalt and mildly calcareous sandstone. On rocks and walls it often grows as extensive pure patches, especially where partly shaded. Other habitats include coastal sand dunes, lowland heaths under *Ericaceae* and *Ulex* spp., shaded mossy slopes on rocky outcrops, grassy flushes, old pastures, slopes under *Calluna*, and mossy banks in *Betula* and *Pinus sylvestris* woodlands. In such places it grows as scattered stems among other robust bryophytes such as *Barbilophozia floerkei*, *Scapania gracilis*, *Tritomaria quinquedentata*, *Dicranum scoparium*, *Hylocomium splendens*, *Pleurozium schreberi* and *Thuidium tamariscinum*. In woods, *B. barbata* can also grow on stumps and logs, and occasionally

epiphytically, e.g. on *Juniperus communis*. Altitudinal range: 20–850 m.

This species was thought to have been lost from Ireland since the 1970s (Lockhart *et al.*, 2012), but it was rediscovered on Benbradagh in 2013, and from most of eastern England in the more distant past. *B. barbata* is exceedingly patchy and present in small quantity in S Wales as well, and is probably towards the edge of its ecologically optimal range in much of Britain. There is some evidence for decline in the Netherlands (BLWG, 2013) and a more striking loss from much of the North German Plain (Meinunger & Schröder, 2007).

Diocious; male plants are very rare, perianths are occasional, sporophytes have not been recorded in Britain; gemmae are lacking.



Circumpolar Boreal-montane. In Europe mainly northern, becoming rare and montane southwards. Russia, China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan; N America, Greenland; Mexico.

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