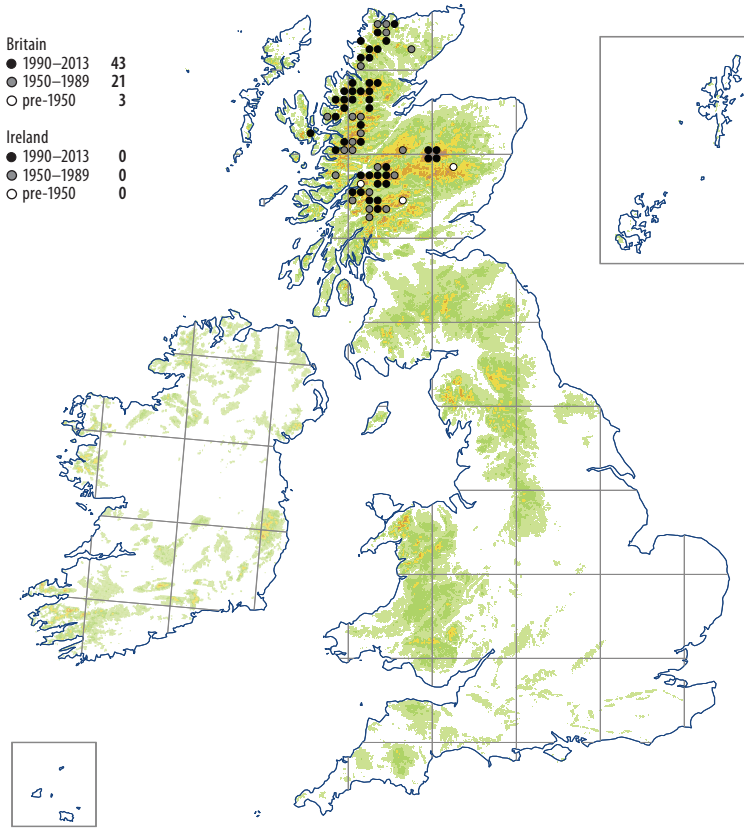


# Anastrophyllum donnianum



A distinctive hepatic of well-drained slopes, especially where shade is continuous for much of the winter and snow lies late. It often grows on the lower slopes of north- and east-facing mountain corries either where large loose blocks have accumulated, creating locally sheltered, humid conditions, or on rocky slopes close to water if there is a loch. It also occurs on more open slopes under *Calluna* and other dwarf shrubs, and on mossy ledges of acid cliffs where it may be regularly irrigated by run off from rock walls and slabs. It has a wide range of associates, including other conspicuous oceanic montane hepatics such as *Aanastrophyllum alpinum*, *Bazzania pearsonii*, *Herbertus hutchinsiae*, *Mastigophora woodsii*, *Pleurozia purpurea* and *Scapania ornithopodioides*, but the mats are frequently co-dominated by commoner species, e.g. *Bazzania tricrenata*, *Diplophyllum albicans*, *Mylia taylorii*, *Pleurozium schreberi*, *Racomitrium lanuginosum* and

*Rhytidiadelphus loreus*. In the Cairngorms, *A. donnianum* grows at high altitude in areas of late snow-lie. Altitudinal range: 360–1040 m.

Dioicous; perianths and androecia are occasional; sporophytes have been found only once, in August in the Cairngorms in 1830 by R.K. Greville. Gemmae are unknown.

Oceanic Boreal-montane. A disjunct species of temperate high rainfall areas: Faeroes, SW Norway, Tatra Mountains (Górski, 2009); western Tibet, Sikkim, Nepal, Bhutan, Yunnan; Alaska, western Canada.

D.G. Long

