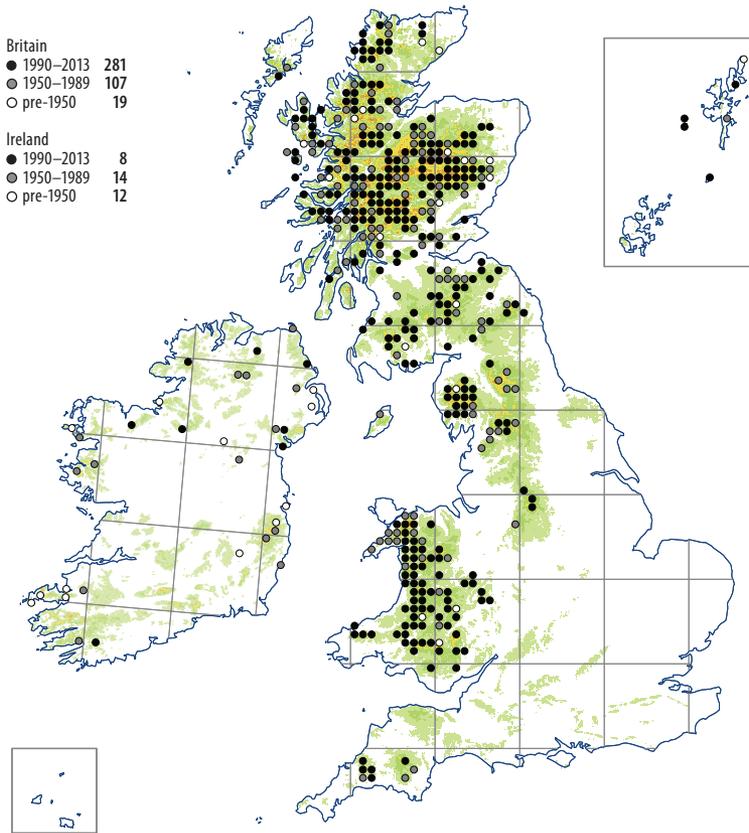


Lophozia sudetica



On our higher mountains this is often an abundant species on well-drained acid substrates in exposed situations, for example on block screes, siliceous rock faces and boulders, rocky gullies and ravines, footpaths, disturbed ground, late-snow areas, fell fields, mountain ridges and summits. On rocks it often grows as pure brownish patches; on soil it is often mixed in dwarf bryophyte/lichen mats with other small calcifuge pioneers such as *Diplophyllum albicans*, *Gymnomitrium* spp., *Marsupella* spp., *Nardia breidlerii*, *Kiaeria starkei*, *Oligotrichum hercynicum* and *Polytrichum* and *Polytrichastrum* spp. At lower elevations it is less common but grows generally in dry, often rocky situations such as banks by moorland streams, amongst *Polytrichum* and *Cladonia* on sun-exposed tops of boulders and walls, in old quarries and on gravelly tracks. On mountains, a more robust and often green mesophytic form is not uncommon in moist

places such as stony flushes and wet rocks and boulders by lakes and streams. Substrates are typically acid, but it can grow on more basic rocks such as basalt and sandstone. Altitudinal range: 35–1340 m.

Diocious; gametangia are occasional, sporophytes are very rare, September to October; gemmae are usually present.

Rather easily overlooked when gemmae are sparse, and perhaps under-recorded on the edges of its range. It is occasionally misidentified as other species, especially *Barbilophozia kunzeana* (q.v.).

Circumpolar Boreo-arctic montane. Found in all the higher mountain ranges of Europe, extending south to the Iberian Peninsula and Madeira, and north to the Arctic. Turkey, Siberia, Russian Far East, Himalaya, Japan, Korea, China; N America, Greenland.

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