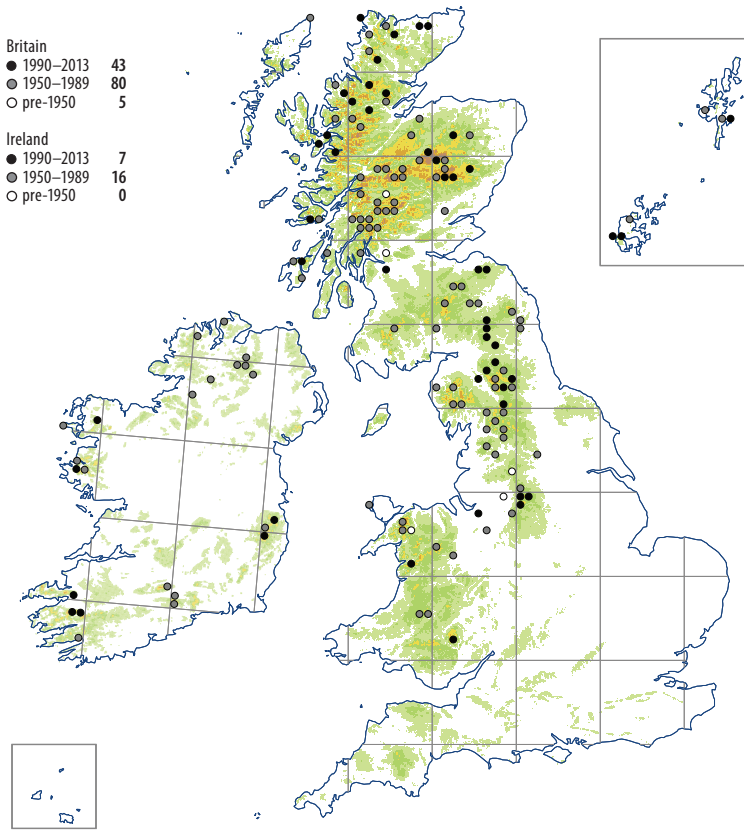


# Calypogeia azurea



This is a scarce and unpredictable species of base-poor, peaty, often gravelly substrates, usually in open but not directly insolated situations. Typical habitats include ditches and tracksides on moorland, banks in upland valleys, siliceous rocks in unwooded gullies, blanket bog, and montane wet heath. Recent observations in Ireland suggest relatively regular occurrence under the rush *Juncus squarrosus* in heavily grazed upland heath. There is an unusual record from liverwort mats in a sea cave on Jura. Altitudinal range: 10–940 m.

Its diagnostic blue coloration is caused by the presence of 1,4 dimethylazulene in the oil bodies (Grolle & So, 2003). When the blue oil bodies have been lost, it may be difficult or impossible to separate from *C. fissa* or *C. muelleriana*.

Suboceanic Boreo-temperate. Montane and northern Europe from Spain, Portugal, Italy and Bulgaria to Russia and Caucasus. Asia, including Himalaya, east to China, Korea, Japan; N America, Mexico.

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Autoicous; sporophytes have not been recorded in Britain or Ireland; gemmae are fairly frequent.

Confused in the past with other *Calypogeia* species: historic records of *C. trichomanis* should not be assigned to *C. azurea*.

