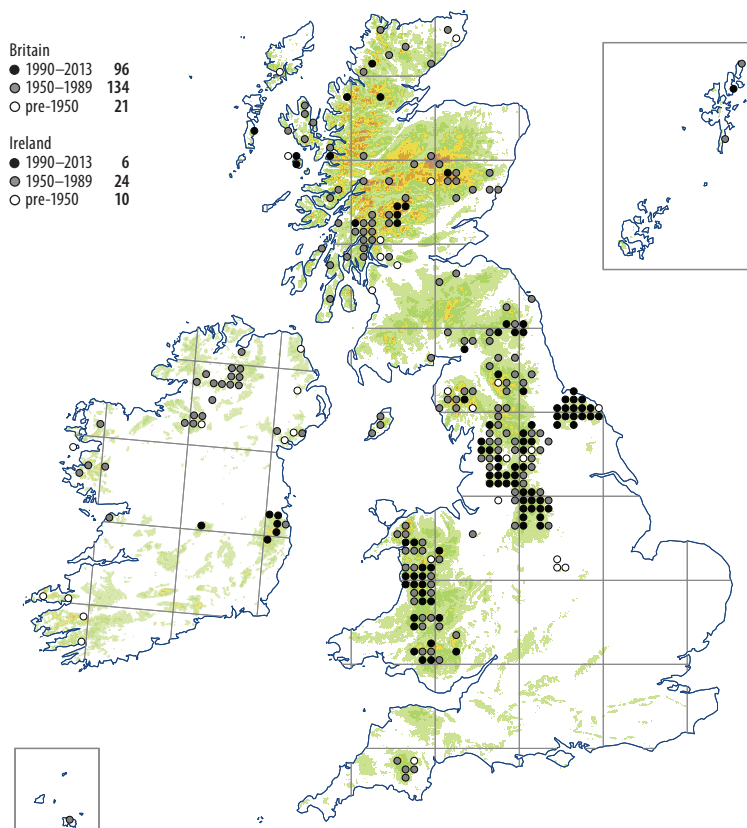


## *Solenostoma sphaerocarpum*



**F**ound on moist rocks, cliff ledges and stream banks, sometimes also on soil between rocks and on banks. The species may occur in very wet habitats and is tolerant of periodic submersion: it is often embedded in gritty detritus when growing by streams, where there are often no immediate associates. Patches may grow alongside *Cephalozia bicuspidata*, *Marsupella emarginata*, *Nardia compressa*, *Solenostoma gracillimum*, *Hygrohypnum ochraceum* and *Hyocomium armoricum*. The substrate varies from base-poor (often extremely so) to weakly base-rich and is frequently siliceous. Altitudinal range: 40–1100 m.

Paroicous. Perianths are common and capsules are frequent, maturing in March to August. Gemmae are unknown.

The clumps of records on the map, with a tendency for each clump to be restricted to a single date-class, suggest confusion with other species of *Solenostoma* and *Jungermannia* leading to *S. sphaerocarpum* being overlooked. Only a small number of bryologists in any generation seem to be able to recognise *S. sphaerocarpum*.

Circumpolar Boreo-arctic montane. Widespread in Europe. Algeria, tropical Africa, South Africa, Lesotho, Madagascar, Réunion; Turkey, Russia, China, Japan, Himalaya, Borneo, New Guinea; northern and western N America; Mexico, Costa Rica, Andean S America, Brazil.

*T.L. Blockeel, rev. S.D.S. Bosanquet*

