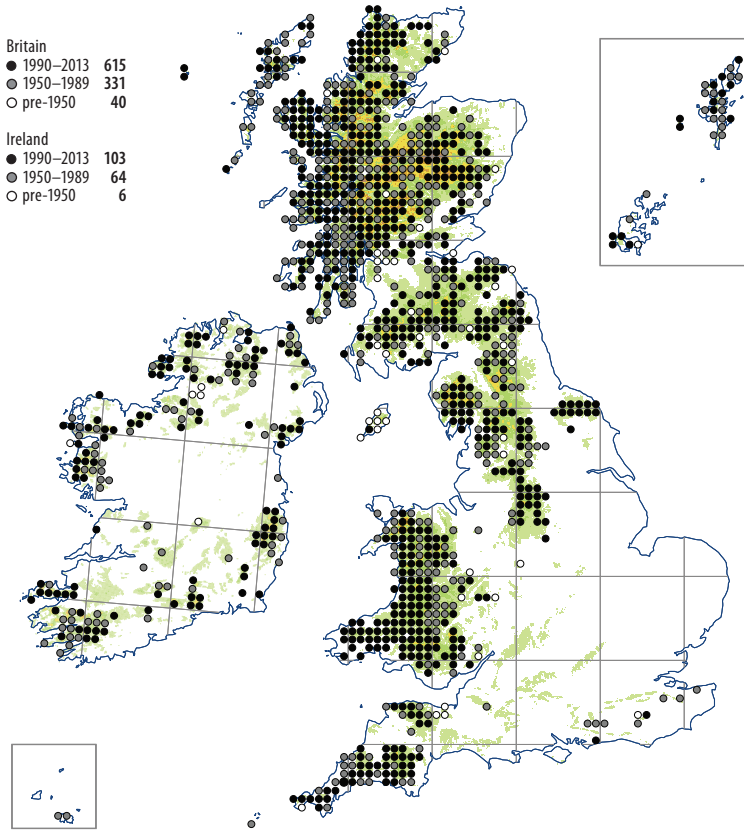


Marsupella emarginata var. emarginata



A frequent and often locally abundant species in a wide range of habitats. It most commonly grows in pure patches on rocks and detritus in and beside streams and lakes; also on soil-covered rocks, rock walls in ravines, old quarries, stone walls, damp banks, gravelly footpaths, spoil heaps, and occasionally on boulders in woodlands. Substrates are typically acid to neutral, rarely calcareous. Common associates are other calcifuges such as *Diplophyllum albicans*, *Polytrichum juniperinum* and *P. piliferum*. On mountains it grows on open stony slopes, rocks by streams, stony flushes, flushed rock slabs and beside snowbeds. Altitudinal range: 5–1020 m.

Diocious; fertile plants are common, sporophytes are fairly frequent, January to September.

The three varieties of *Marsupella emarginata* have been rather poorly recorded, but var. *emarginata* is much the commonest of the three, usually occurs close to colonies of the other two varieties, and is almost certainly present in every hectad in which the species is found. There is no convincing evidence for a decline of the species in Britain, although it is almost extinct in the Netherlands (BLWG, 2013) and now very rare on the North German Plain (Meinunger & Schröder, 2007).

European Boreo-temperate and disjunct Tropical montane. Mountains of Europe south to the Mediterranean, north to Scandinavia, Faeroes and Iceland; Macaronesia. Turkey, Russia; N America, Greenland; Mexico; Colombia; tropical African mountains. Most E Asian populations are believed to belong to other varieties.

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