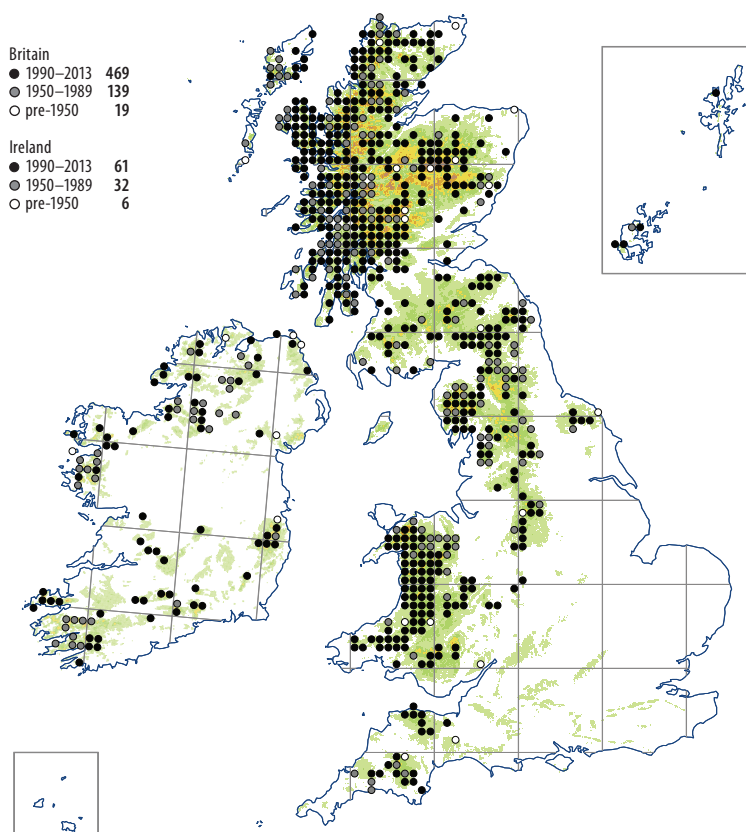


Sphagnum quinquefarium



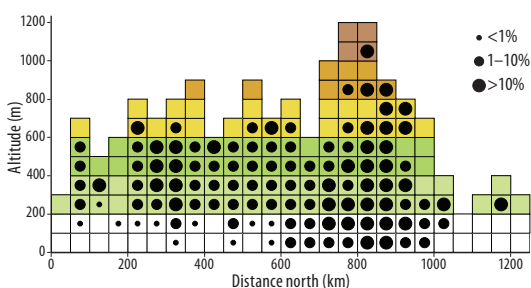
Unlike most sphagna, this species almost always grows on well-drained ground, chiefly in woods, but also on stream banks, block-strewn mountainsides and heathery slopes, where shaded or well sheltered. Tufts or more extensive patches are often mixed with *Calluna vulgaris* and *Vaccinium myrtillus*. Common bryophyte associates are *Scapania gracilis*, *Dicranum majus*, *D. scoparium*, *Pleurozium schreberi* and *Sphagnum capillifolium*. Altitudinal range: 10–820 m.

Suboceanic Boreal-montane. Mountains of C and W Europe, reaching the Arctic in Norway. Discontinuously circumpolar, with scattered occurrences in W and C Asia. E Asia, western and eastern N America.

M.O. Hill

Autoicous; capsules are occasional, ripe August and September.

Occasional plants are hard to separate from *S. capillifolium*. They may be genetically intermediate, as introgression between the two species has been demonstrated by Natcheva & Cronberg (2007).



▼ Bwlch Drws Ardudwy, Rhinog, Merioneth, 2014. Sam Bosanquet

