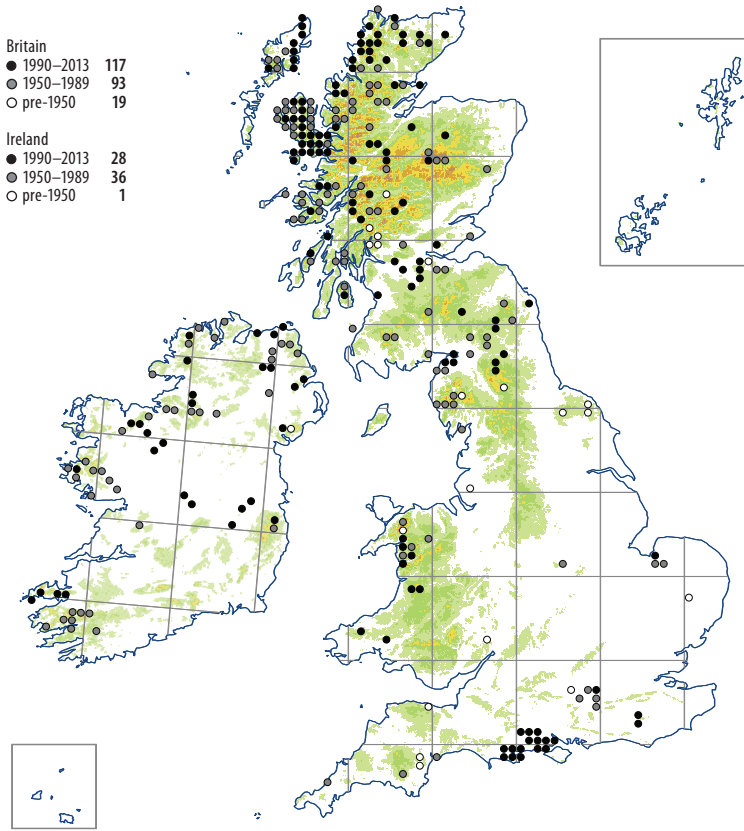


# Sphagnum molle



In the lowlands of Ireland and northern Britain it occurs mainly on raised bogs, both where these are intact and where somewhat damaged. In southern England it is found at the transition between wet heath and valley bog, with associates such as *Sphagnum compactum*, *S. papillosum* and *S. tenellum*. In areas of high rainfall it grows in a variety of habitats such as damp peaty streambanks, boggy grassland and shallow blanket bogs, often on partially bare peat with *Trichophorum cespitosum*. Altitudinal range: 10–620 m.

Suboceanic Temperate. Atlantic seaboard of Europe from Spain north to the Arctic Circle in Norway; rare in southern Finland, the Baltic States and C Europe. NE Turkey. Atlantic seaboard of N America from Texas and Florida north to Newfoundland.

M.O. Hill

Autoicous; capsules are frequent, summer.

It is patchy and unpredictable in its occurrence, often in small quantity and easily overlooked. Compact forms of *S. subnitens* can be deceptively similar and the map probably contains a few erroneous records that were not checked microscopically.

▼ Dersingham Bog, West Norfolk, 2014. Robin Stevenson

