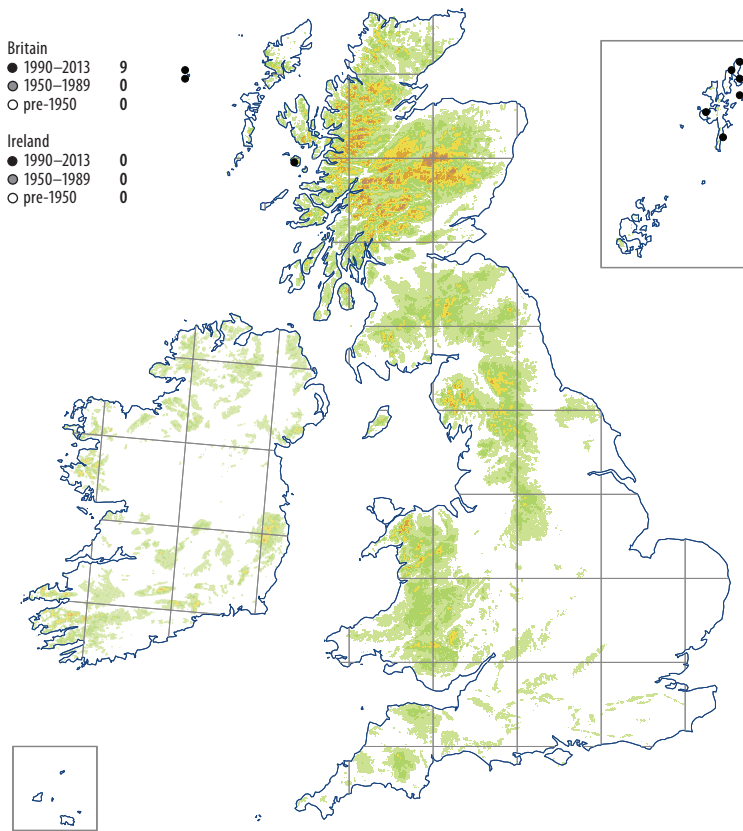


## *Schistidium maritimum* subsp. *piliferum*



This subspecies has only recently been recognised in Britain, initially in Shetland, where it was first detected in 2009, although it had been collected previously but misidentified (Hodgetts, 2010). In the Out Skerries it was found on an isolated rock (probably hornblende schist) without any close associates, but *Nardia scalaris*, *Riccardia chamedryfolia*, *Solenostoma obovatum*, *Bryum capillare*, *Dicranella varia*, *Polytrichastrum alpinum* and *Racomitrium ericoides* were growing on the same outcrop. After this discovery it became apparent that previous records of *Schistidium frigidum* from Shetland and a 2004 record from the island of Rum in fact also belong to *S. maritimum* subsp. *piliferum*, including the original Shetland voucher collected from soapstone rocks with *Porella obtusata*. *S. frigidum* was recorded at many sites during the meeting of the BBS in Shetland in 2008 (Hill, 2009a), and consequently subsp.

*piliferum* is now known to be widespread in this island group, many of the records being from serpentine rocks. In 2013 its range was extended to the isolated Hebridean island of Hirta in the St Kilda group, where it was found on rocks at the base of crags. Altitudinal range: 5–105 m.

Autoicous; capsules are common.

European Boreo-arctic montane. In Europe in Scandinavia north to Svalbard, on the coasts of the Baltic Sea, and in NW Russia. Apparently also present in N America, but rarely recognised there.

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