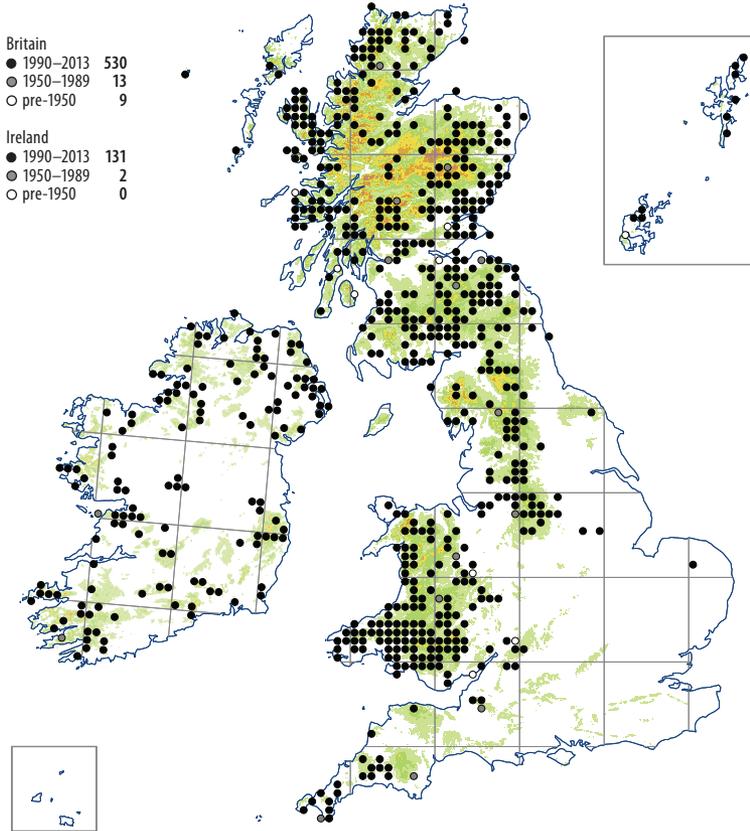


Schistidium apocarpum



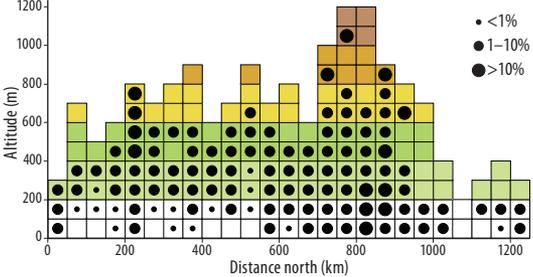
Locally abundant on rocks by rivers, streams and lakes in north-western Britain, occurring alongside *Grimmia liseae*, *Platyhypnidium riparioides*, *Racomitrium aciculare* and *Sciurohypnum plumosum* above the zone occupied by *Schistidium rivulare*. It is also common on bridges and riverside walls, and has been recorded on gravestones, tarmac paths and in church gutters, but is more restricted to damp situations than *S. crassipilum*. In the uplands, *S. apocarpum* is found on basic igneous and siliceous rocks in gullies and boulders, often where there is some seepage or flushing, or on rocks in flushes. The only confirmed record to date from East Anglia came from the shaded asphalt of a lane. Altitudinal range: 0–880 m.

The *S. apocarpum* complex was split by Blom (1996), so the concept of *S. apocarpum* in the 1991–1994 Atlas included

several subsequently recognised taxa, including *S. apocarpum* s.s. and *S. crassipilum*. There is no indication of a change in the abundance of true *S. apocarpum*.

Autoicous. Capsules are common, mature from December to May.

Although the current concept of *S. apocarpum* is much narrower than at the time of the 1991–1994 Atlas, this species is still used as something of a default name for non-papillose *Schistidia* that do not fit *S. crassipilum* or any other obvious British species. There may be a few erroneous records as a result, although most sites in north-western Britain that support the more interesting *Schistidium* species also hold typical *S. apocarpum*. Several records from the late 20th century and early 21st century from eastern England have been checked and found to be *S. crassipilum*.



Eurosiberian Boreo-temperate. Found in much of Europe, but mostly montane in the south from the Pyrenees to the mountains of Greece, and mostly south-western in Scandinavia. Turkey, western Russia. Northern N America, Greenland.

S.D.S. Bosanquet