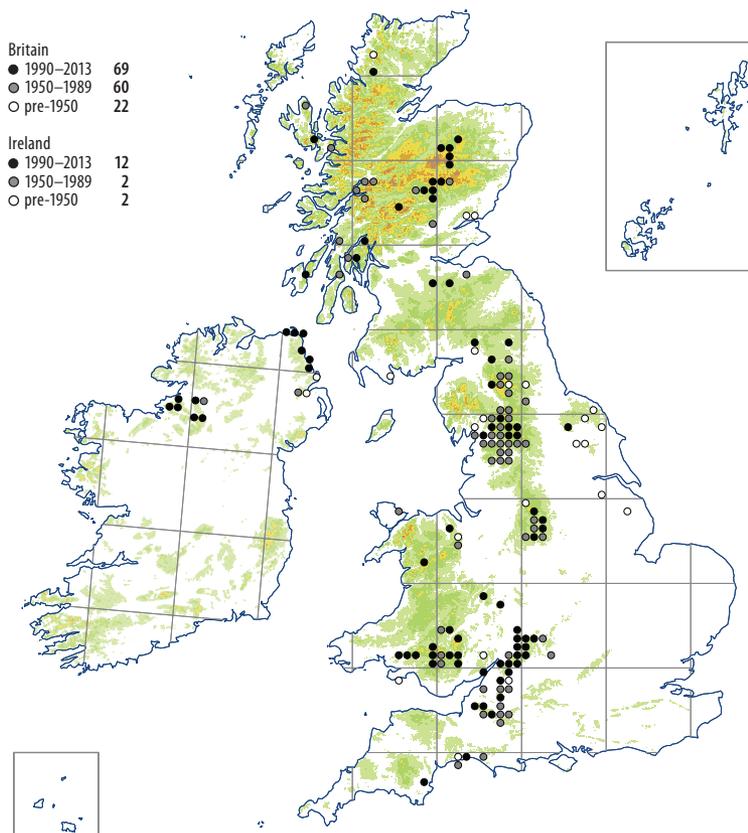


## Seligeria pusilla



A minute plant growing on the bare surface of shaded basic rocks, especially hard limestone, but also other substrates including basalt, base-rich sandstone, and the chalk of NE Ireland. The substrate usually remains moist through seepage, but not saturated, for much of the year. *Seligeria pusilla* is most often found on cliffs and ravine walls, where it grows in crevices, recesses and on overhanging surfaces, but it also colonises boulders and rocks on the banks of streams. Localities are often wooded or lightly shaded, as in upland gills and gullies, or if in the open then sheltered from direct sunlight. It has also been recorded on sheltered limestone walls. It is often in pure patches, but may occur with or near to *Jungermannia atrovirens*, *Leiocolea collaris*, *Eucladium verticillatum*, *Gymnostomum aeruginosum*, *S. donniana* and, in the Pennines, *Pedinophyllum interruptum*. Altitudinal range: 30–590 m.

Its distribution shows little change since the 1991–1994 Atlas, except for a significant increase in records from previously under-recorded areas in S Wales and E Scotland.

Autoicous; capsules are occasional to frequent, mature in summer.

There may be some errors because of confusion with *S. acutifolia*, which at one time was assumed to be much rarer than *S. pusilla* but which in fact is the more common of the two species in some regions, for example upland S Wales and the Peak District.

European Boreo-temperate. Europe north to north-central Norway, east to the Ural mountains and Caucasus, very rare in the Mediterranean region. Turkey, scattered eastwards in Asia, Azerbaijan to Kyrgyzstan and South Siberia, Mongolia, Japan. Rare in temperate eastern N America and disjunct in northern Alaska and Ellesmere Island.

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