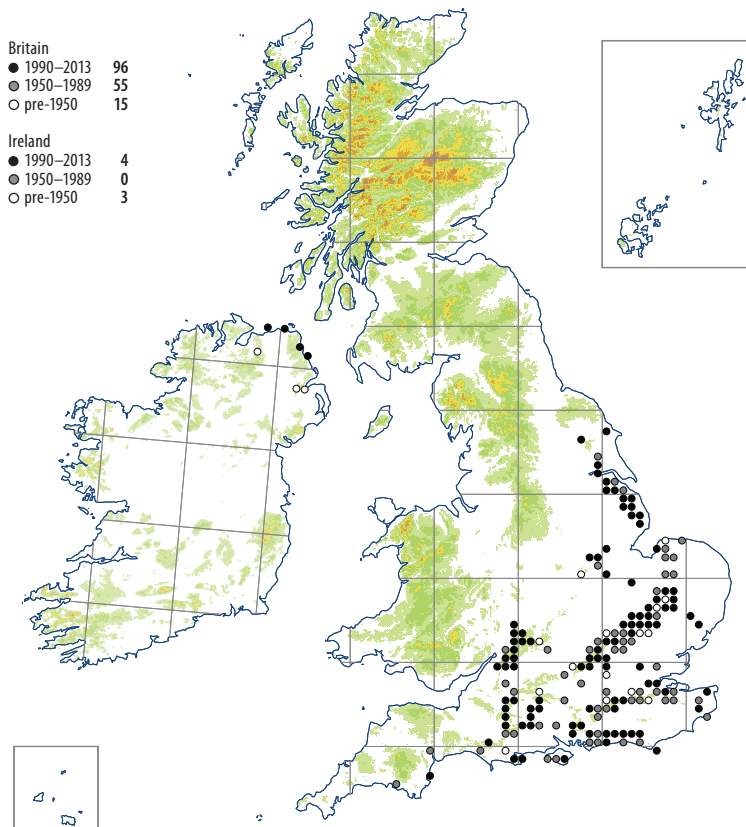


Seligeria calcarea

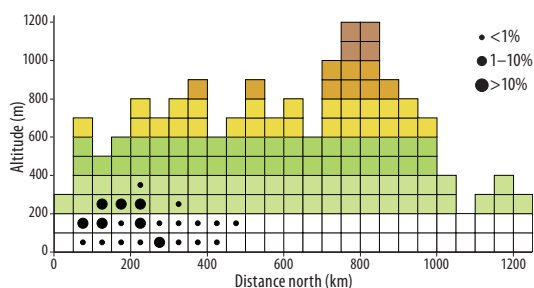


Growing as thin patches on shaded, bare, calcareous vertical rock faces, blocks and rubble. The commonest substrate is chalk but it also grows on Oolitic Limestone, very rarely on harder limestone. It occurs in similar habitats to *Seligeria calycina*, though not often mixed with it, having a greater preference for stable surfaces, especially those exposed in chalk pits; elsewhere it is found on banks in woodland, scrubby downland and chalk grassland, and in NE Ireland on stones on steep grassy slopes and below crags. Exceptionally it occurs on built structures, as on walls and pillars of Bath stone in Reading and an ornamental wall in Poole; in Dorset it has been recorded on chalk lumps in hardcore surfacing. Associated species include *Leiocolea turbinata* and *Tortula muralis*. Altitudinal range: 0–250 m.

Because of its frequent occurrence in chalk pits, it has suffered from some decline because of in-filling. However many new sites have been found since 1990, especially in the western part of its range, and in N Ireland.

Autoicous; capsules are commonly present, mature in summer.

European Temperate. Scattered through much of Europe north to southern Sweden and Estonia, east to Ukraine and European Russia, but absent from the Arctic and the Mediterranean region. Listed for Japan by Iwatsuki (2004). Widespread in eastern N America, from Manitoba and Newfoundland south to Arkansas and Tennessee; very rare in western N America, but reaching 61° N in the Northwest Territories of Canada.



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