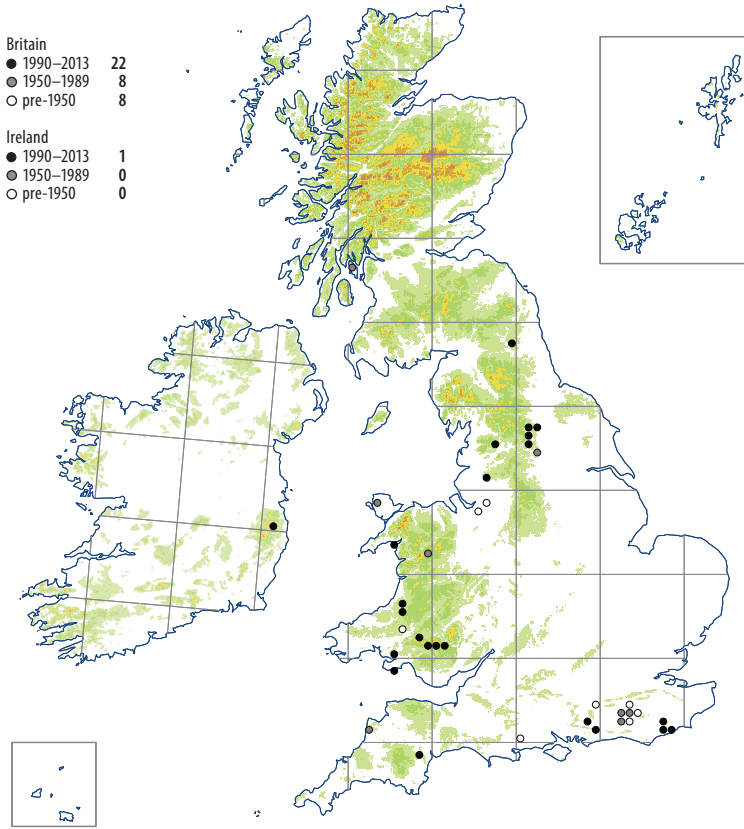


Riccia huebeneriana



A plant of recently exposed mud at the edge of large ponds, lakes and reservoirs, surviving as spores and therefore acting as a 'shuttle species'. *Riccia huebeneriana* is similar in its ecology to the closely related *R. cavernosa* but unlike that species it is distinctly calcifuge. Associated species include *Fossombronia wondraczekii*, *R. glauca*, *Aphanorrhema patens*, *Leptobryum pyriforme*, *Physcomitrium sphaericum* and *Pseudophemerum nitidum*. Some colonies produce millions of thalli when water levels drop sufficiently to expose the mud on which they grow. Altitudinal range: 5–250 m.

especially when water levels in most of their constituent reservoirs are kept high to benefit fishing and water sports.

Monoicous. Sporophytes are abundant, August to March and June.

European Temperate. Europe from southern Scandinavia southwards, but not recorded from the eastern Mediterranean region; N Africa; Japan, India. N American populations are treated as a separate subspecies.

C.D. Preston, rev. S.D.S. Bosanquet

This species has a very clumped distribution, with metapopulations where there are suitably base-poor reservoirs. Some clusters of records have not been confirmed for several decades and are thought to have been lost,

