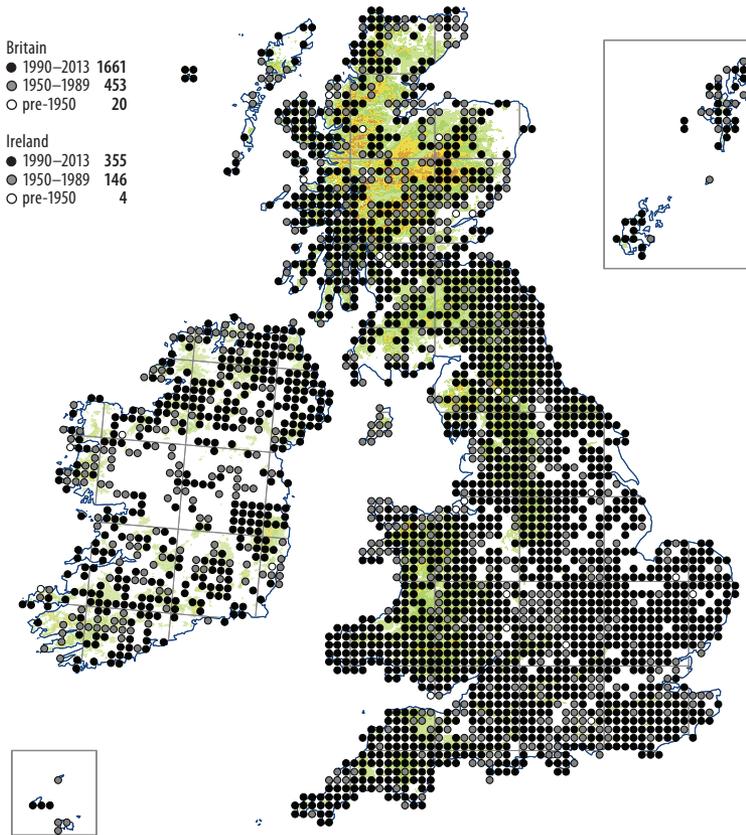


# *Pellia endiviifolia*



This plant of strongly basic to slightly acid ground is found on a wide range of wet substrates including sand, soil, outcropping rocks, and, occasionally, peat. It is often a conspicuous part of the ground flora in wet or clayey woodland, and is common in dune slacks, in soil-filled rock crevices, on damp lane banks, and in and by running water. It is frequent at sites of tufa-deposition, where it usually grows in trickling or slow-flowing water in the wetter microhabitats (Pentecost & Zhaohui, 2002, 2006). A good colonising ability is indicated by populations on brick and stone in church gutters, on damp, mortar-rich soil in castle ruins and in active chalk-pits. *Pellia endiviifolia* descends almost to the level of high tide on coastal rocks and in sea caves in the north and west. Altitudinal range: 0–750 m.

There is little evidence of a change in the abundance or distribution of *P. endiviifolia* in polluted or unpolluted areas of Britain, just a slight suggestion of a decline. *P. endiviifolia* has been shown to be tolerant of heavy metal pollution in Japan (Satake *et al.*, 1987).

Dioicous and usually fertile; sporophytes are frequent, maturing in spring. Vegetative propagation is achieved by the development of repeatedly bifurcating proliferations at thallus tips in autumn and winter.

Plants referred to this species are morphologically (Schuster, 1981) and cytologically (Newton, 1988) diverse, and still require taxonomic revision.

Circumpolar Southern-temperate. Widely distributed in Europe and in Mediterranean coastal regions of N Africa. Russia, C Asia, China, Korea, Japan, Himalaya, Oman; western N America.

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