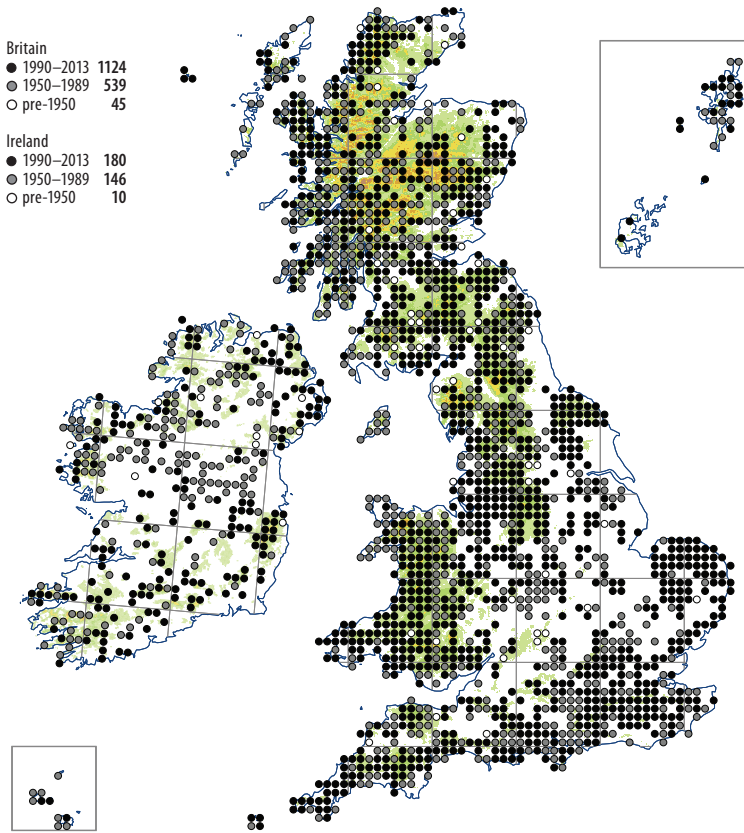
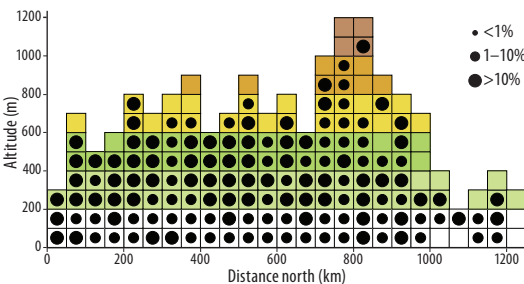


Campylopus pyriformis



A plant of bare acid sandy or peaty soil that is moist or periodically dry. It is common on open and disturbed parts of heath and moorland, including pathsides and cuttings, often accompanied by *Campylopus introflexus*, and it may become abundant after fire. It is also frequent on decaying tussocks of *Molinia* and sedges on heathland and in marshes and rough pastures. In woodland it occurs on the ground in open areas, especially under oak, birch and conifers, also in willow carr, and occasionally on well-decayed stumps and logs. Other habitats include sea cliffs and coastal slopes, thin soil over rocks and old walls, and old quarries and mine spoil. Altitudinal range: 0–910 m.

Systematic recording has filled many gaps in the distribution of this common species. However recording is geographically uneven, as shown by the patchy blocks of



post-1990 records, and the species remains under-recorded in some regions.

Diocious; male plants are usually of normal size but occasionally minute and gemmiform; capsules are occasional to frequent, mature in spring and early summer. Vegetative propagation is by deciduous leaves of normal or reduced size. Rhizoidal tubers have been found in specimens from Belgium and numerous places outside Europe (Risse, 1988b; Arts & Frahm, 1990). Gemmae are produced on the protonema in culture and around young colonies in nature (Pressel & Duckett, unpublished).

Robust forms from wetter habitats were formerly recognised as var. *azoricus*, but this is now considered to be no more than an environmental modification. On the basis of its world distribution, which resembles that of *C. introflexus*, Corley & Frahm (1982) suggest that *C. pyriformis* could be an introduction to Europe, having arrived before the beginning of the 19th century. However there is no direct evidence to support this theory.

Suboceanic Temperate. W and C Europe, north to Iceland and southern Scandinavia, east to the Baltic States, Poland and Romania. Macaronesia (Azores, Madeira). Scattered localities in the Caucasus, C and E Asia and SE USA. Widespread across the temperate Southern Hemisphere, reaching continental Antarctica.

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