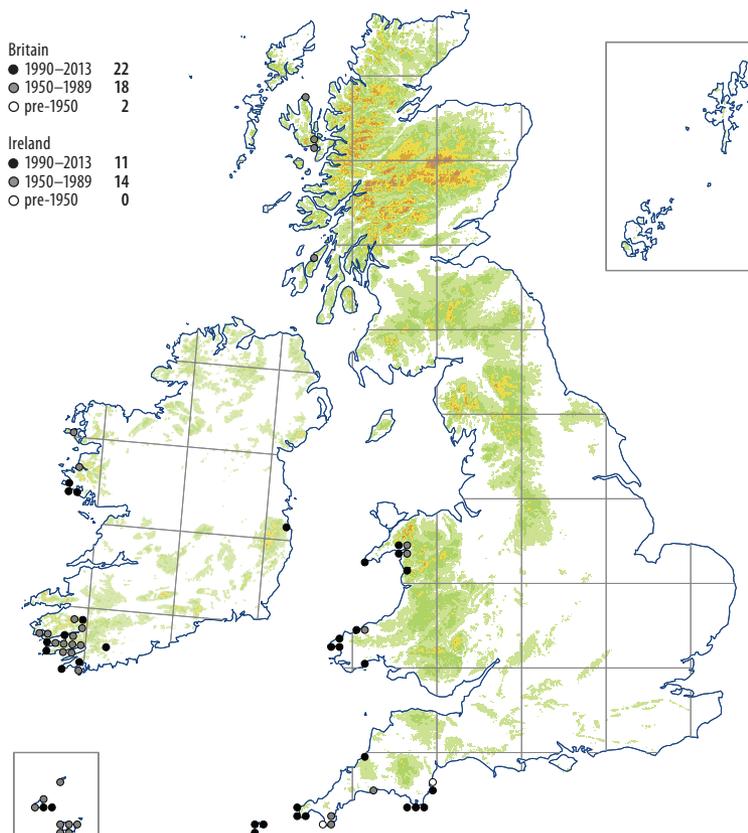


Campylopus pilifer



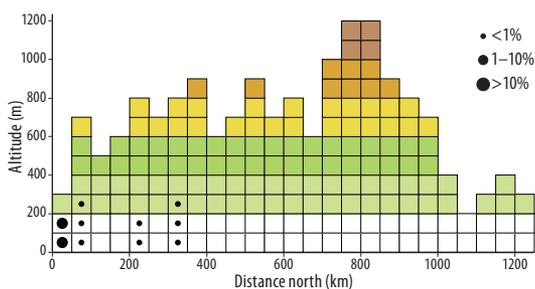
A thermophilous species found on at least seasonally dry sunny acid rocks or thin soil overlying them, or on stony ground, mainly on the coast, occasionally on low moorland and rocky slopes inland. It occurs on a variety of rock types, including granite, slate, sandstone and shale. Associates are often few but include *Sedum anglicum*, *Bryum alpinum*, *Grimmia laevigata*, *G. trichophylla* and *Polytrichum juniperinum*. Altitudinal range: 0–370 m.

Dioicous; capsules have been found in Ireland and Pembrokeshire but are very rare. Apparently male and female plants do not often occur together. Vegetative propagation is by deciduous leaves and shoot tips.

The abundant spread of the similar but introduced *Campylopus introflexus* has made *C. pilifer* a more difficult

species to detect in the field than formerly, but it is unlikely to be widely overlooked. However var. *brevirameus* (Dixon) J.-P. Frahm & M. Stech, which occurs in France (Brittany), is intermediate between the two species, having low lamellae on the dorsal surface of the nerve, but hair-points that do not become reflexed when dry. It may well occur in Britain or Ireland (cf. Bosanquet, 2010) and would be a source of additional confusion. In spite of its intermediate nature, Frahm & Stech (2006) found molecular evidence that it belongs with *C. pilifer*.

Oceanic Southern-temperate. W and S Europe, reaching its northern limit in Britain and Ireland, east to Belgium and Greece. Macaronesia, N Africa. Turkey. Primarily a tropical and subtropical species of the Americas (from Tennessee and North Carolina southwards) and Sub-Saharan Africa, extending to the Arabian Peninsula and India.



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