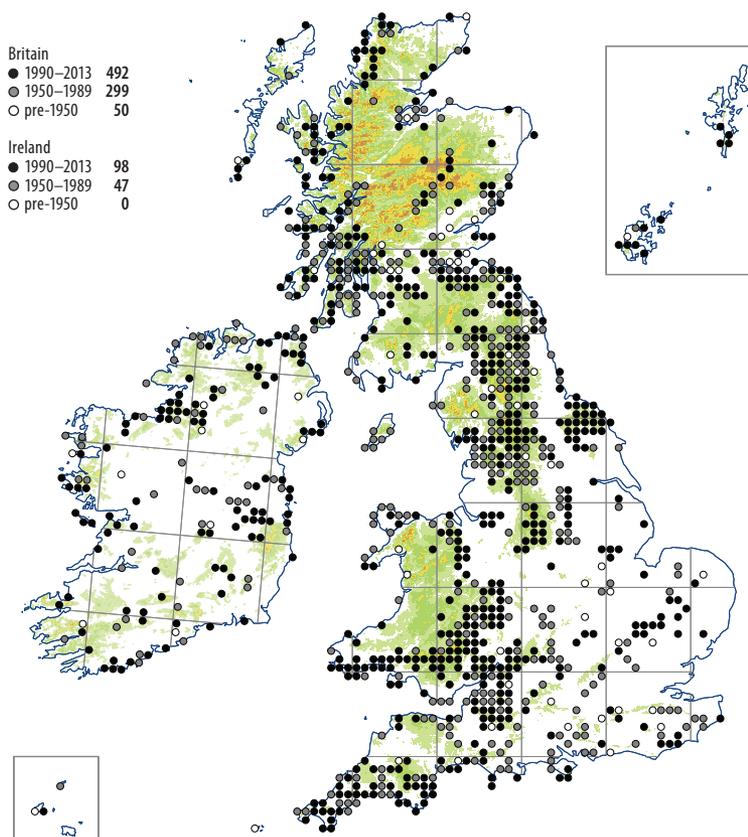


## Eucladium verticillatum



Locally plentiful on a wide variety of moist to wet base-rich rocks, especially on limestone and chalk, sometimes on compacted soil. It commonly occurs on dripping cliffs and may become encrusted with lime deposits, being well known as a tufa-forming moss. It is tolerant of heavy shade and may occur in caves and deep recesses. The most characteristic habitats are on the banks of streams and in wooded valleys and ravines, but it is also found on coastal banks and gullies, moist cliffs, by waterfalls, on stones and hummocks in calcareous flushes, and on drier, shaded rocks in woodland. It sometimes colonises man-made habitats such as wet concrete and masonry (especially along seepages), old quarries and rock cuttings. Common associates are *Jungermannia atrovirens*, *Pellia endiviifolia*, *Cratoneuron filicinum*, *Didymodon tophaceus*, *Gymnostomum aeruginosum* and *Palustriella commutata*. Altitudinal range: 0–700 m.

Dioicous; capsules are rather rare, mature in spring. Protonemal gemmae are regularly produced on plants growing in deep shade, but are apparently absent when well illuminated (Whitehouse, 1980). The gemmiferous form may lack leafy shoots; it has been found in caves and in a rabbit burrow and could be quite widespread.

European Southern-temperate. Common in the temperate zone of Europe, especially in the south and west, north to southern Scandinavia and the Baltic States. Macaronesia, N Africa, SW Asia, Caucasus. Widespread in temperate and subtropical regions across the Northern Hemisphere, but rare or absent in much of N and C Asia, Japan. In N America from Newfoundland and British Columbia south to Mexico. Tropical Africa.

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