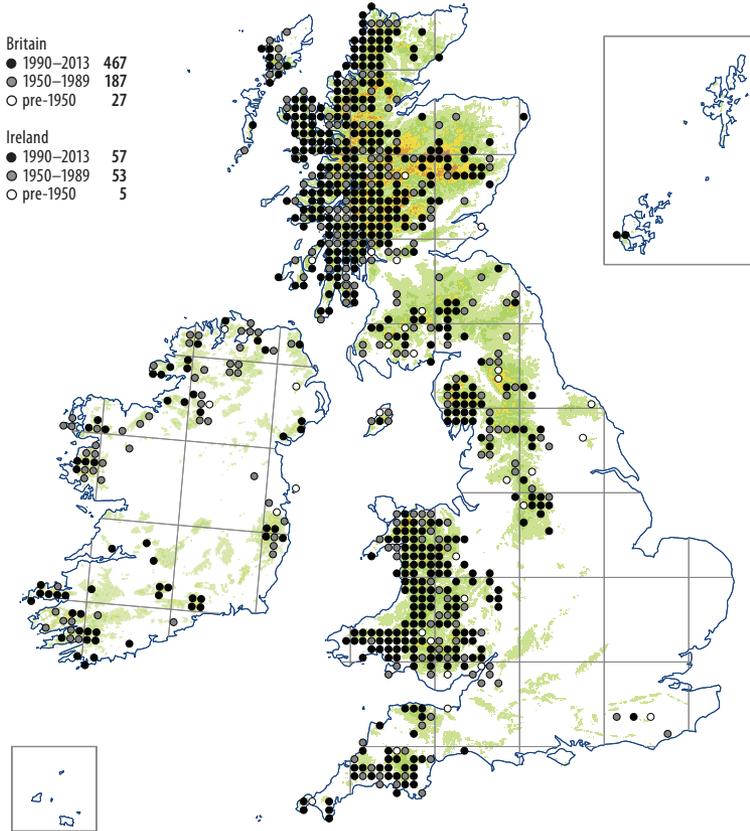


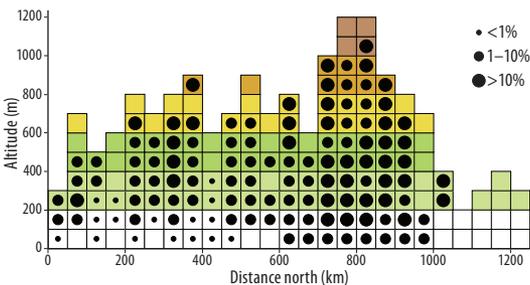
# *Trichostomum tenuirostre* (*Oxystegus tenuirostris*)



Usually among the Pottiaceae this species occurs in base-poor habitats. It nearly always grows in lax patches on rocks (rarely tree roots) close to water, by streams, springs and oligotrophic lakes, and on wet crags. In southern and eastern districts it is characteristic of wooded stream valleys, where it may be accompanied by *Chiloscyphus polyanthos*, *Hyocomium armoricum* and *Heterocladium heteropterum*, among others. In the uplands it occurs on crags and in gullies on moorland and mountain slopes, growing in crevices and on rock ledges where there is seepage of water. In these montane habitats it tends to occur in niches with slight base enrichment, where associates may include *Fissidens osmundoides*, *Amphidium mougeotii* and *Blindia acuta*.  
 Altitudinal range: 10–1095 m.

Dioicous; capsules are rare, mature in spring and summer. Rhizoidal tubers have been reported from continental material (Zander, 1978b) but have apparently not been confirmed in Britain or Ireland.

In a recent study Köckinger *et al.* (2010) treated *Trichostomum tenuirostre* as a member of the genus *Oxystegus* and recognised two varieties var. *tenuirostris* and var. *holtii*, both of which occur in Britain and Ireland (Blockeel, 2013). *O. tenuirostris* var. *holtii* is adapted to wetter habitats than var. *tenuirostris* and it often grows close to running water, tending to become blackish in the older parts of the shoots. In some regions it appears to be commoner than var. *tenuirostris*, or replaces it. The map includes all records of the species and the varieties, except those recently identified as *O. daldinianus* (see under that species).



Circumpolar Boreo-temperate. Widespread in Europe and extending to Iceland and N Norway, east to the Urals and Caucasus, south to the mountains of the Mediterranean region. Macaronesia, N Africa. Widely in SW Asia. Elsewhere with a near worldwide distribution, circumboreal in the Northern Hemisphere, and across much of C and S America, C and S Africa, New Zealand. Var. *holtii* has a subatlantic distribution in Europe.

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