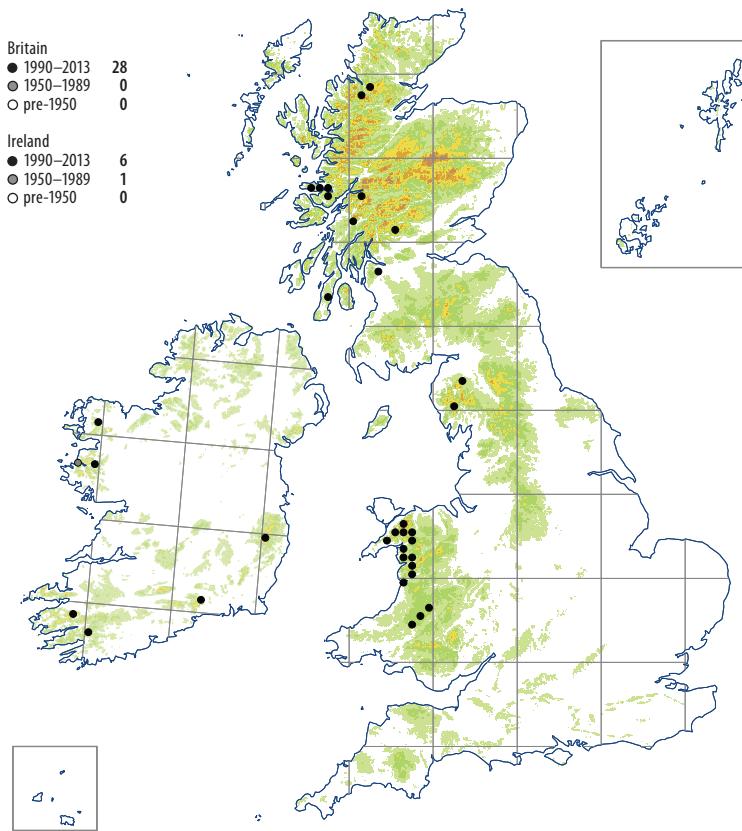


## Oxystegus daldinianus



Growing in lax, often robust patches on wet rocks and boulders in ravines and on ledges in montane gullies and on crags, sometimes close to running water. Its ecology is incompletely known but is evidently similar to that of *Trichostomum tenuirostre* (*Oxystegus tenuirostris*), with which it sometimes occurs. Initial indications suggest that it has a more marked western tendency. Although found in base-poor sites it occurs more often where there is some slight base enrichment, with species such as *Amphidium mougeotii*. In its western sites it regularly occurs with hygrophilous liverworts such as *Lejeunea patens* and *Saccogyna viticulosa*. Altitudinal range: 225–550 m.

It was only recently recognised as a species by Köckinger *et al.* (2010). Dixon (1924) treated it as a variety of *T. tenuirostre*, but based on a different set of characters (mainly the differentiated marginal leaf cells). Preliminary experience in Britain and Ireland suggests that there is some overlap in morphology with *T. tenuirostre* (Blockeel, 2013). The map is very incomplete: *O. daldinianus* may prove to be more common in hyperoceanic areas than *T. tenuirostre*.

European Temperate. At present known elsewhere from isolated localities in the Alps, also in the Caucasus and Himalaya. Its wider distribution is still not fully known.

Diocious; capsules are very rare and not yet known in Britain or Ireland.

T.L. Blockeel

