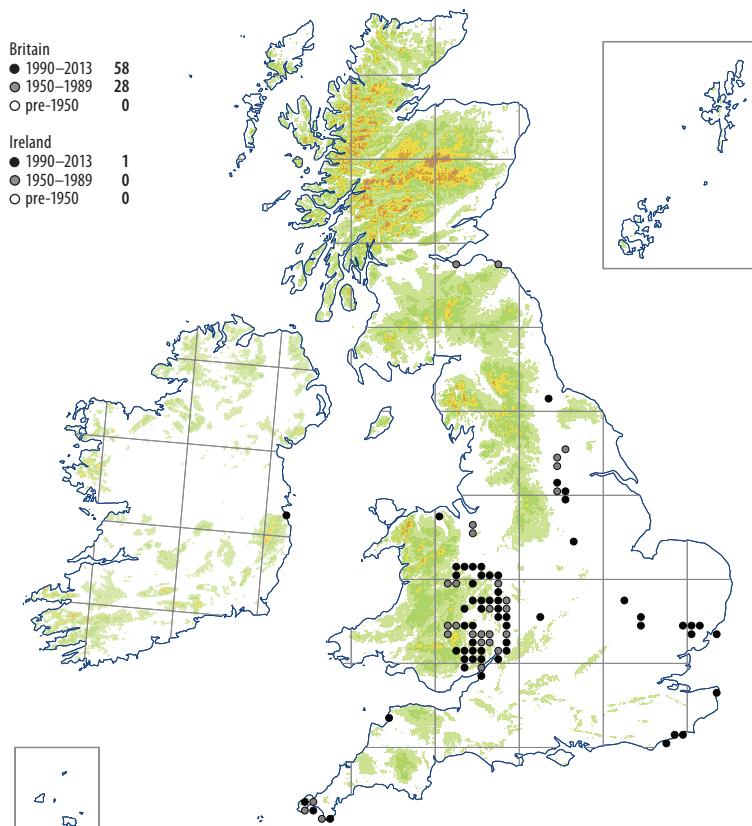


## *Hennediella stanfordensis*



A colonist of bare soil in various habitats. It was originally found on cliff-top paths in Cornwall, but its most characteristic habitat is on shaded trampled ground by footpaths and under trees on the banks of rivers, especially in the Welsh Marches. Other records are from cultivated fields and flower beds, chalk pits, soil on a hedgebank, and one from a vertical roadside bank scraped by car wheels near the River Wye. In Yorkshire, it has been recorded from soil on rock ledges on Magnesian Limestone cliffs. On footpaths it is clearly dispersed in soil on the footwear of pedestrians (Whitehouse, 1971); by rivers it may be water-dispersed. The rock ledge habitat suggests other dispersal agents. Altitudinal range: 5–185 m.

The concentration of records in particular geographical areas is typical of an introduced species. It has spread slowly

outside the English-Welsh borders but its distribution has been fairly stable since 1985, with only occasional new localities.

Apparently dioicous; most plants are female but young sporophytes have been seen at Hoarwithy, Herefordshire (Whitehouse & Newton, 1988). Rhizoidal tubers are frequent.

First found in Britain in 1958 and in Ireland in 1978, this plant is probably an introduction, perhaps from Australia. Its taxonomic position was uncertain at first, but Blockeel (1990) demonstrated that it belongs to the genus *Hennediella* and it is accepted by Cano (2008) in her revision of this genus.

European Southern-temperate. There are isolated records from France and Greece. Outside Europe it is known from California, Mexico and SE Australia. Erroneously reported from Kenya.

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