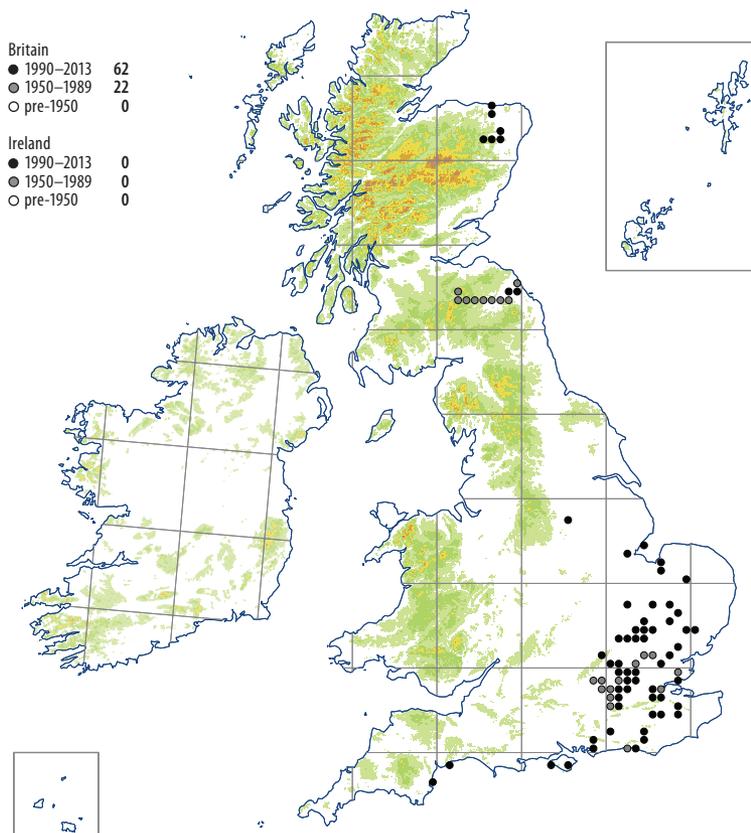


Henediella macrophylla



This moss occurs on shaded trampled ground and compacted soil in woodland and on shaded banks (often alongside exposed tree roots), and is frequent under shade on river banks, notably in the River Thames catchment and by the River Tweed. In London it is also widespread on hard-packed soil on paths and in flower beds and shrubberies in parks (Duckett & Pressel, 2009), and it occurs in these habitats in other urban areas. Several records are from rabbit burrows and badger tracks, and in Essex it has been noted on fresh spoil outside a badger hole, halfway up a cliff in a chalk quarry (Adams, 1990). It is dispersed not only by rabbits and badgers, but also apparently by water, human footwear and other animals' feet. Altitudinal range: 0–180 m.

Its patchy distribution reflects its probable introduced status, but it is still increasing its range (more markedly than *Henediella stanfordensis*).

Monoicous; capsules occur regularly in spring but often fail to mature. Rhizoidal tubers are frequent and gemmae occur occasionally on the leaves; protonemal gemmae have been seen in culture (Whitehouse in Hill *et al.*, 1992).

First collected in Britain in 1965, it is probably an introduction from New Zealand. It was described as *Tortula brevis* by Whitehouse & Newton (1988), but this was subsequently recognised as a synonym of *H. macrophylla* (Blockeel, 1990). It is closely related to *H. antarctica* (Ångström) Ochyra & Matteri, and Ochyra *et al.* (2008) regard the two species as synonymous. *H. antarctica* normally differs from British and Irish *H. macrophylla* in its elongate seta and shorter, unistratose marginal leaf cells.

Suboceanic Temperate. In Europe known only from Britain, and elsewhere only in New Zealand. Reported from Tierra del Fuego but the record was subsequently referred to *H. antarctica*.

H.L.K. Whitehouse, rev. T.L. Blockeel

