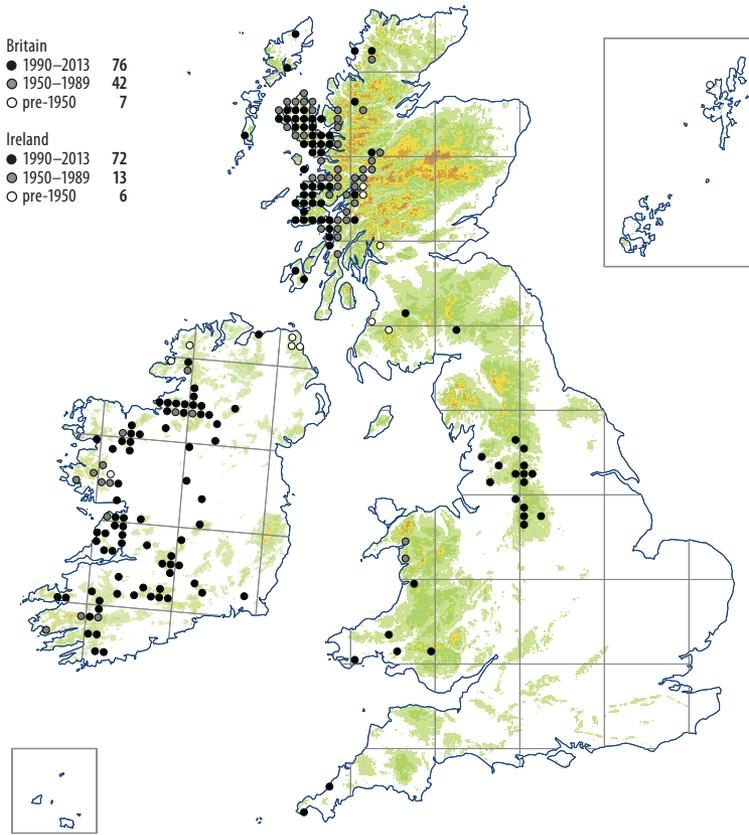


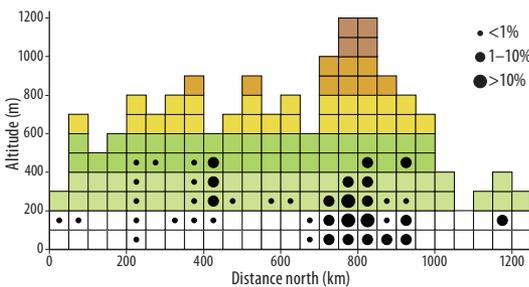
# Uloa calvescens



An epiphyte forming neat tufts on trees and shrubs, especially sallows and hazel, but also alder, ash, birch, rowan, sycamore and occasionally other species, including a planted hornbeam. It occurs in sheltered scrub and woodland, stream banks, ravines and gullies, in the shelter of crags, even on scrubby roadsides and in woodland on old coal spoil. In its recently discovered sites in the South Pennines its habitats are equally varied, from stream valleys to light or scrubby woodland and groups of sallows in marshy or boggy ground, but it tends not to occur in closed woodland, except along tracks or by clearings. In NW Scotland and Shetland it has been recorded as an epiphyte on heather. Some recent occurrences have been in the shelter of conifer plantations, usually on rowan, sycamore or sallow. It is usually accompanied by other species of *Uloa*, and in the oceanic west by small

Lejeuneaceae, *Frullania*, and *Metzgeria* species. In England its associates include *Frullania dilatata*, *Cryphaea heteromalla*, and several *Orthotrichum* species. Altitudinal range: 5–400 m.

It has undoubtedly been overlooked in the past, in the belief that it has few or no hairs on the calyptrae. Holyoak (2002c) pointed out that numerous hairs are often present. There has been a significant increase in records from Ireland; this is due in part to greater awareness, but many of the newly discovered colonies are in or around conifer plantations that were absent from the landscape until the mid 20th century. It has only recently been found in England and S Wales, and its discovery in the Pennines in 2013 was particularly unexpected, though it has a parallel in *Colura calyptrifolia*. It is certainly a recent arrival there (Blockeel & Turner, 2013), and its presence is perhaps not solely explained by reductions in SO<sub>2</sub> pollution. Climate changes and other factors may have played a part.



Autoicous; capsules are common, maturing earlier than those of *U. bruchii* and *U. crispa*, expanded in late spring and dehiscing in summer.

Oceanic Southern-temperate. A Macaronesian-Atlantic species, from southern Portugal to NW France (Brittany). Azores, Madeira, and Canary Islands.

M.C.F. Proctor, rev. T.L. Blockeel