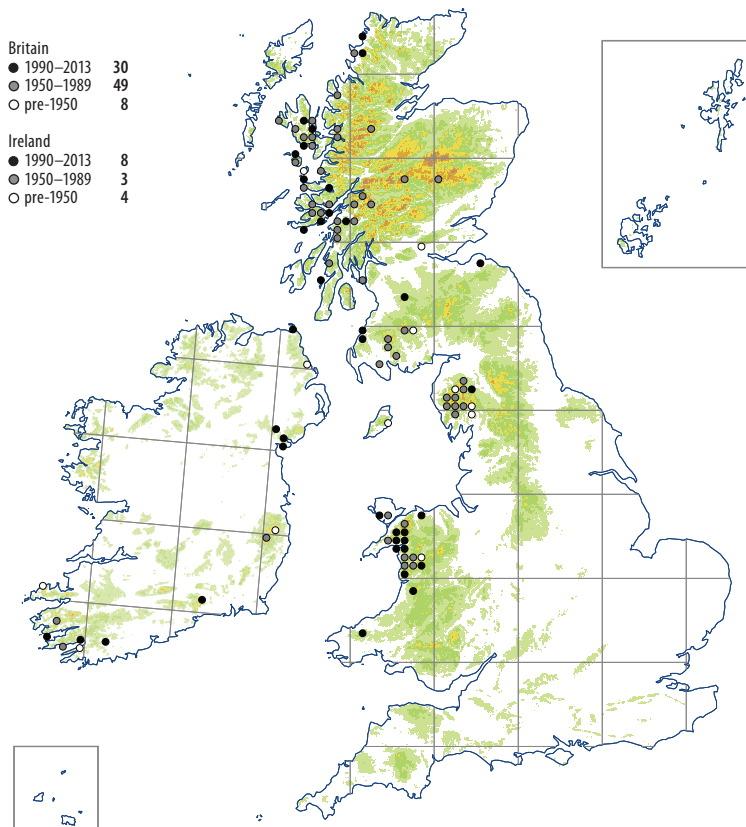


Hedwigia integrifolia



Typically on acid or mildly basic angular detached boulders or sloping faces of igneous outcrops, only rarely on vertical rock faces, usually where dry and sun-exposed or occasionally flushed, and with a south to westerly aspect, sometimes in light shade. It is nearly confined to basic igneous rocks such as gabbro, basalt, dolerite, tuff and peridotite, but is also recorded from sandstone, occurring in block scree, on moorland, below cliffs, and in light woodland. It is absent from man-made habitats except, rarely, dry-stone walls. Regular associates include *Andreaea rothii* and *Racomitrium* spp., and on rocks with a higher base content it may occur with a wide range of uncommon bryophytes such as *Pterogonium gracile*. It often grows on the same rocks as *Hedwigia stellata*, but is generally confined to warmer and slightly more basic rock habitats. Though localised by the availability of suitable rock

types, it occurs in abundance at some of its sites. Altitudinal range: 15–720 m.

The large proportion of pre-1990 records, especially in Cumbria and SW Scotland, is probably due to recent under-recording in these areas rather than serious decline.

Autoicous; capsules are occasional, mature in early summer.

Oceanic Temperate. W Europe from N Spain to SW Norway, extending east to C and E France (Massif Central, Vosges) and N Italy. Cameroon, E and S Africa, Indian subcontinent, Reunion, Mexico, the Caribbean, widely in C and S America, Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand. For a map of its European distribution, see Schumacker (1985).

H.J.B. Birks, rev. T.L. Blockeel

