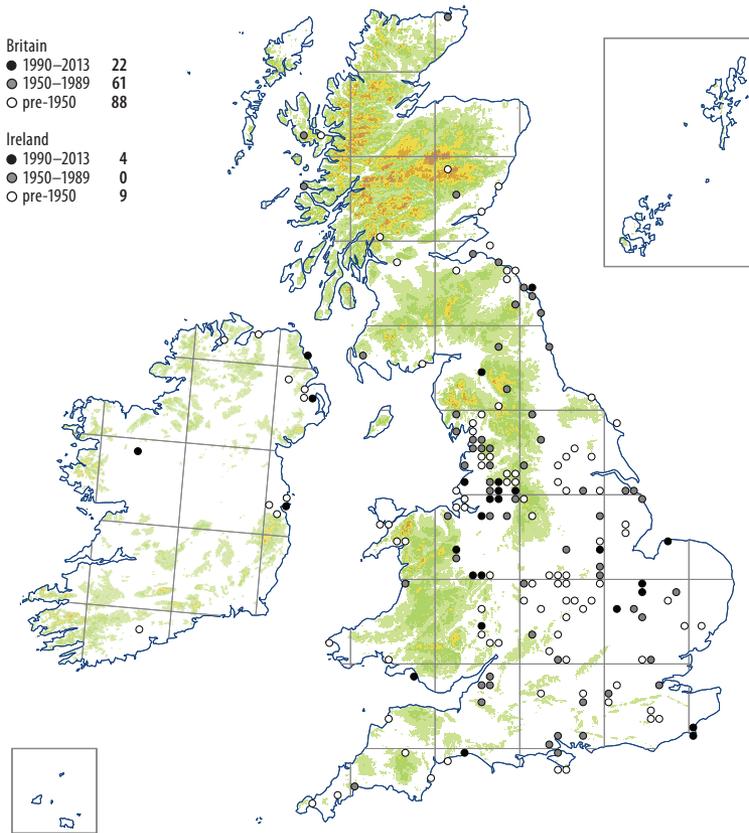


Bryum intermedium



A mass of unshaded damp basic (usually calcareous) soil or sand. Many of its sites are coastal, for example on sparsely vegetated sandy gravel at Dungeness, and at the edge of pools and slacks in dunes. The only recent Welsh record came from a dune slack at Kenfig Burrows NNR that had its upper 15 cm of sand scraped away two years previously to rejuvenate the habitat. Other habitats are varied, but have in common the presence of freshly exposed, base-rich ground, and colonisation of such ground is likely to be typical of *Bryum intermedium*. It is recorded from marl heaps, old sand/gravel pits and quarries, hedgebanks, waste ground, railway clinker, damp stony tracks, and soil on rock ledges (e.g. of chalk, limestone and basalt), as well as on walls and old buildings. Altitudinal range: 0–310 m.

Old records outnumber recent ones and it has almost certainly declined from loss of habitat. Nevertheless, many of its populations are as short-lived colonists on patches of open soil, so it is to be expected that records made since 1990 will be fewer than all those amassed over the previous 150 years or more. However, not all the old records are supported by confirmed specimens, and it is possible that it may have been misrecorded in the past.

Synicous; capsules are common maturing mainly from early summer to autumn (also recorded in February), maturing asynchronously within each tuft. Tubers, bulbils, and axillary gemmae are absent.

The species has often been misidentified and it is likely that the map includes some old erroneous records.

Eurasian Temperate. The European range extends from the Arctic (Svalbard, N Iceland) southwards to the Pyrenees and Alps. Elsewhere it is known from Siberia, Greenland and Canada (Alberta). Reports from Morocco need confirmation.

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