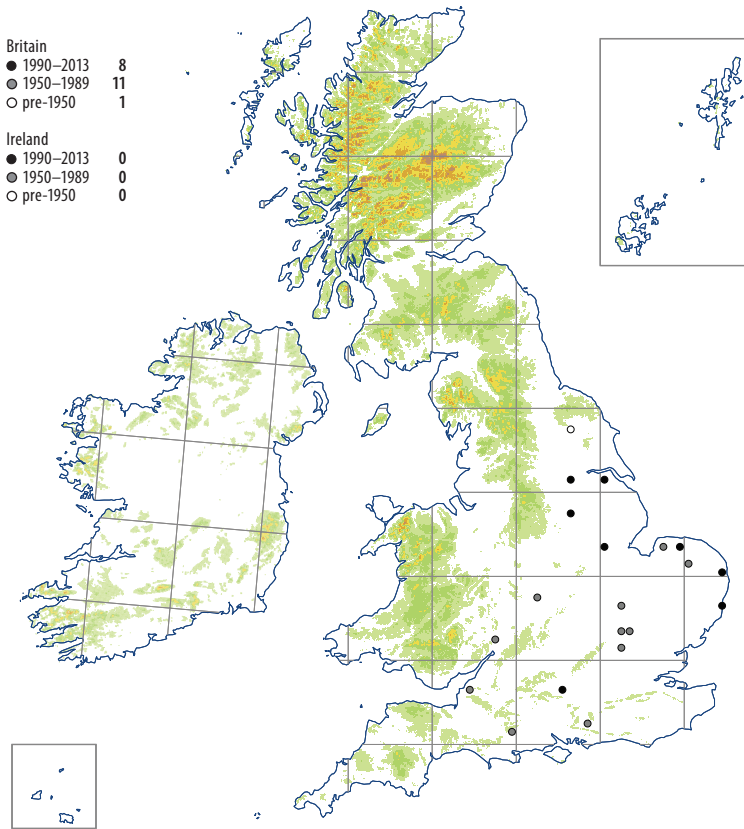


Bryum gemmilucens



Found in Britain in arable and stubble fields, on woodland rides, on a roadside, and on open ground in *Ulex minor* heathland. In the BBS survey of arable fields it was found in only four, moderately species-rich fields on mildly acidic to circumneutral soils (pH 6.5–7.2), with *Riccia glauca*, *R. sorocarpa*, *Barbula convoluta*, *Bryum dichotomum*, *B. rubens*, *Dicranella schreberiana*, *D. staphyлина*, *Phascum cuspidatum*, *Tortula truncata* and *Trichodon cylindricus*. *P. cuspidatum* was also noted as an associate on a woodland ride, and *Archidium alternifolium*, *Polytrichum piliferum* and *Weissia controversa* on heathland. It is recorded on light sandy soil, hard chalky soil with flints, loam and Oxford Clay. Altitudinal range: 0–130 m.

Although clearly rare in Britain it was not generally recognised as a distinct species until the notice of its occurrence by Smith & Whitehouse (1978) soon after it was

named new to science by Wilczek & Demaret (1976). As a small and inconspicuous moss of disturbed soil habitats it is still likely to be under-recorded both in Britain and in the rest of the world.

Diocious; gametangia are not known in Britain; capsules are known from Israel (Herrnstadt & Heyn, 2004) and Spain (Guerra *et al.*, 2010). Axillary bulbils are usually present; filamentous axillary gemmae and tubers are lacking.

European Temperate. Known in continental Europe from S Sweden (Hallingbäck, 2011) southwards to Portugal, Spain, Sicily and Crete, eastwards to Hungary. Elsewhere it is recorded from the Canary Islands, NW Africa, Turkey and California.

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