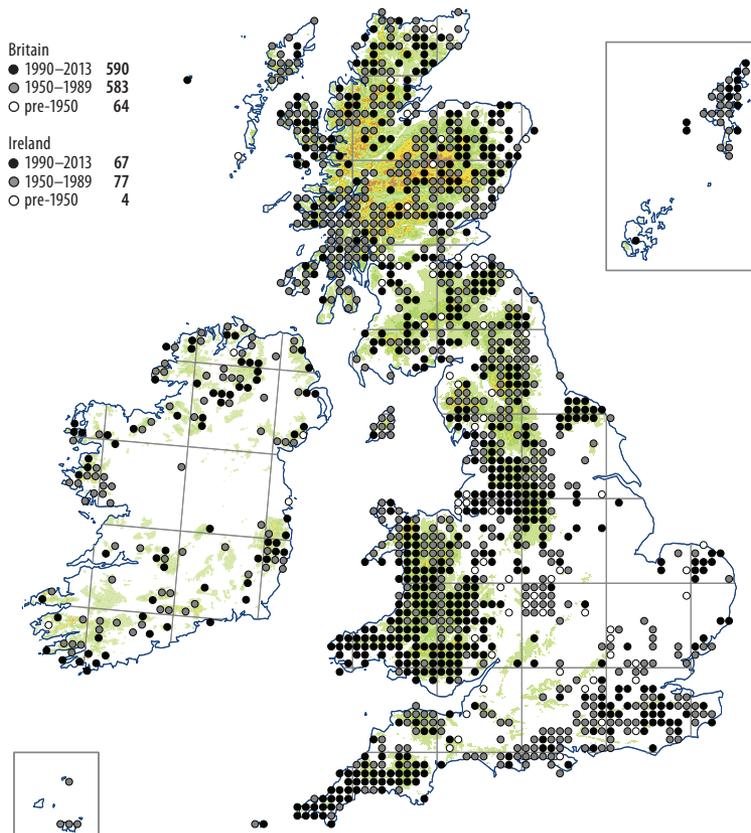


## Pohlia annotina



A species of open habitats, growing on acid to mildly basic moist (sometimes periodically wet) sandy, loamy or gravelly soils in a variety of habitats. Characteristic sites are on sandy/gravelly tracks and exposed reservoir margins, and in some upland areas in rock crevices and on crumbling sandstone and slate-shale scars, especially where exposed on the steep banks of streams. Other habitats include hummocks and banks in unimproved acid grassland, ditch, stream and river banks, roadsides, woodland rides, disused quarries and waste ground. It is also a colonist of slag heaps and spoil in old collieries, and is frequent in sand, gravel and china-clay pits and on old mine sites, where it is tolerant of high levels of heavy metals such as copper and may occur with rare metallophytes. Typical associates on sandy banks, tracks and reservoir margins include *Nardia scalaris*, *Scapania irrigua*, *Solenostoma gracillimum*, *Archidium*

*alternifolium*, *Dicranella rufescens*, *Pogonatum aloides*, *Pohlia camptotrachela*, *P. lutescens* and *Trichodon cylindricus*, and on stream banks it is sometimes found with *Solenostoma sphaerocarpum*. Altitudinal range: 5–700 m.

Dioicous; capsules are very rare, mature in early summer. Vegetative propagation is by caducous axillary bulbils.

*Pohlia annotina* and *P. proliger* are treated as synonyms in Smith's (1978) flora, but they are now recognised as distinct. This has led to considerable taxonomic and nomenclatural confusion, and there are likely to be inconsistencies in recording. The map includes records of *P. proliger* sensu Smith (1978) as well as those named *P. annotina*. Furthermore, some of the variation in British and Irish *P. annotina* is not fully accounted for under the current taxonomic arrangement, notably the occurrence of shiny-leaved plants (a character of *P. proliger*) with *P. annotina*-like bulbils on lead-mine spoil in Wales.

European Boreo-temperate. N and C Europe, north to Iceland and N Fennoscandia, east to the Ural mountains, rare southwards in the Mediterranean region, but reaching Crete. Macaronesia, N Africa (Algeria). Turkey, Armenia, Siberia, E Asia. N America, Greenland.

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