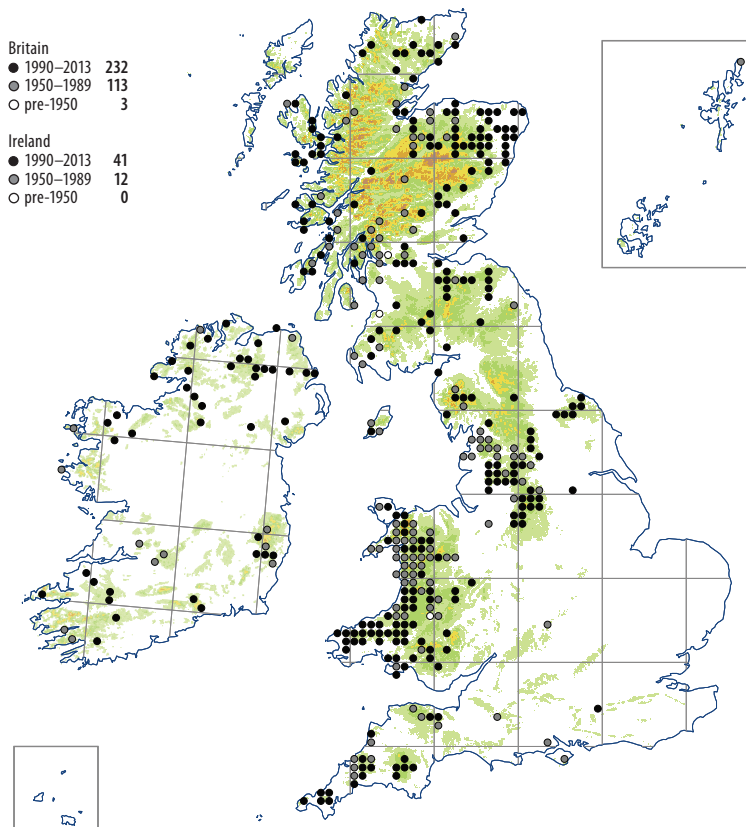


Pohlia camptotrachela



This species grows preferentially on damp neutral to acid sandy, clayey and loamy soils, though it also occurs on those that are more peaty. It is one of the characteristic species of exposed reservoir margins in the uplands, but is also found in a wide range of other habitats, on banks by ponds, streams and rivers, on lake margins, by paths, tracks and forest roads, and in wet, marshy pastures (especially where poached by cattle). In such habitats it is often found with *Pohlia annotina*. Other frequent associates include *Fossombronina wondraczekii*, *Solenostoma gracillimum*, *Bryum rubens*, *B. sauteri*, *Dicranella rufescens*, *Ephemerum serratum*, *Pleuridium acuminatum*, *Pseudephemerum nitidum* and *Trichodon cylindricus*. Occasionally, and primarily in northern and western regions, it occurs in arable fields on acid soils, often where the crop is barley or oats. Altitudinal range: 5–600 m.

Dioicous; capsules are unknown in Britain and Ireland. Vegetative propagation is by caducous axillary bulbils, which are regularly present and essential for correct identification.

It was not distinguished in Britain and Ireland before the revision of bulbiliferous *Pohlia* species by Lewis & Smith (1978), and remains under-recorded in some districts. However its absence over much of C and E England is undoubtedly real.

Suboceanic Boreal-montane. W and C Europe north to the Faeroes, northern Sweden, NW Russia, the Baltic States and Ukraine, south to S Spain, the Alps and Serbia. Himalaya. Reports from E Asia require confirmation; listed for Japan by Iwatsuki (2004). Western N America.

M.J. Wigginton, rev. T.L. Blockeel

