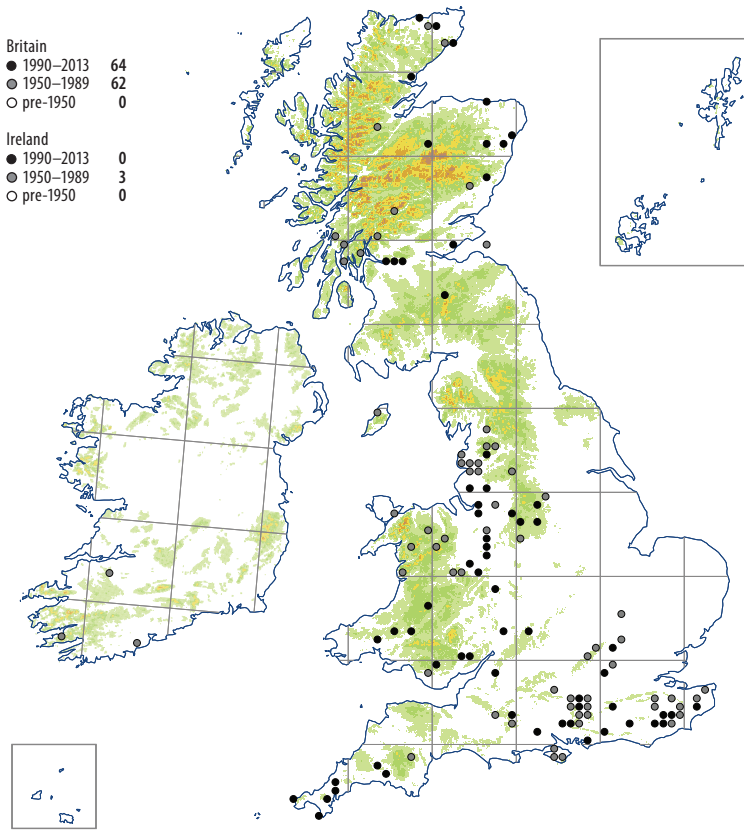


Pohlia lescuriana



This species prefers moisture-retentive soils, and is therefore most commonly found on clays, though not those that are strongly basic. Its wide range of habitats includes the banks of rivers, streams and ditches, the margins of ponds and reservoirs, bare soil in old fields and among *Juncus* in wet pastures, rutted tracks, moist compacted soil by paths, and soil on rides, banks and other bare places in woodland. Associated species in these habitats may include *Lophocolea bidentata*, *Pellia endiviifolia*, tuber-bearing *Bryum* spp., *Dicranella schreberiana*, *Oxyrrhynchium hians*, *Pleuridium acuminatum*, *Pseudephemerum nitidum*, and *Trichodon cylindricus*. In addition it is an occasional component of arable field communities on acid soils in the north and west, especially in the *Tortula truncata*–*Anthoceros* assemblage described by Preston *et al.* (2010). Altitudinal range: 10–370 m.

Dioicous; capsules are rare, maturing from spring to autumn. Vegetative propagation is by rhizoidal tubers.

An inconspicuous species, first reported by Warburg (1965) and undoubtedly under-recorded. It is easily overlooked in the field, and even the diagnostic rhizoidal tubers (Whitehouse, 1973) can be difficult to find.

Eurosiberian Temperate. Europe, north to N Norway and Arctic Russia, south to Portugal, Corsica and Serbia, but very rare in the Mediterranean region. Across N Asia to China and Japan. N America.

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

