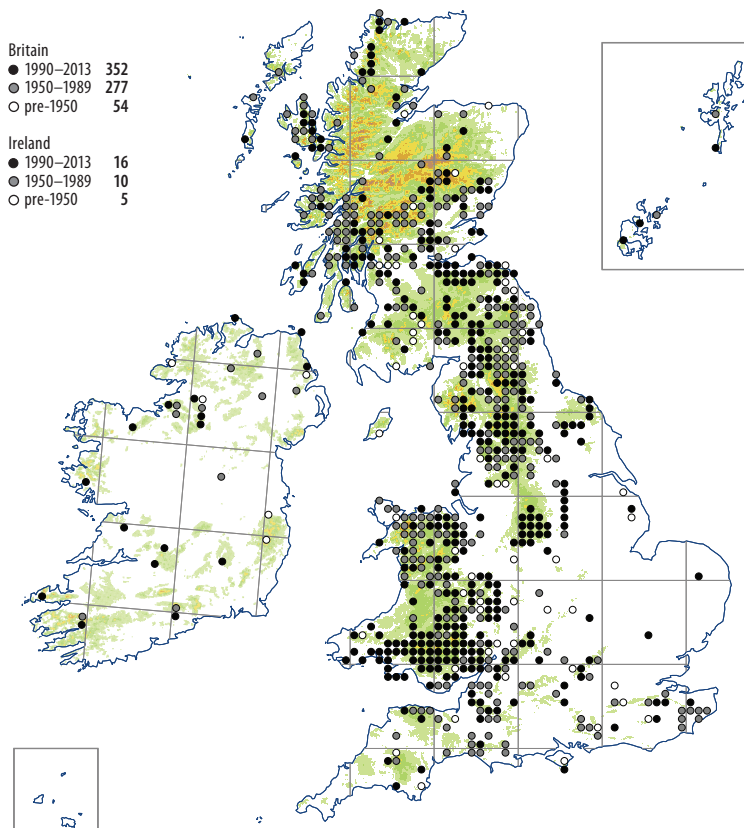


# Mnium stellare

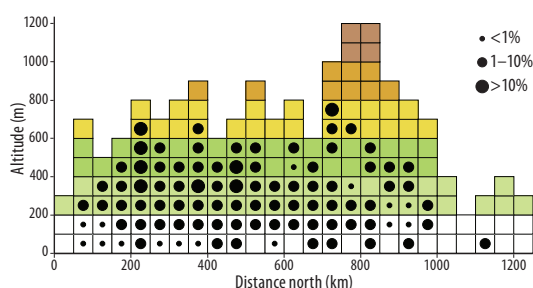


A mild calcicole, most common on limestone and other basic rocks, but sometimes on circumneutral substrates including sandstone and shale. Its most characteristic habitat is on soil on rock outcrops, in crevices and on stones, with associates such as *Plagiochila porelloides*, *Ctenidium molluscum*, *Neckera complanata* and occasionally *Mnium marginatum*. Sometimes it extends deep into recesses and caves, where the shoots may be small and complanate. Other occasional habitats are earthy banks, tree roots and bases, and the lower parts of trunks. It is shade-tolerant and is most often found in woodland, but extends to more open places on crags, stream gullies, sea cliffs and sunken lanes. It also colonises old walls and rock cuttings, for example along disused railways. In some areas it is common on silty river banks. Altitudinal range: 0–545 m.

Dioicous; capsules are very rare, mature in spring. Vegetative propagation by leaf fragmentation has been described by Hugonnot & Celle (2012).

Circumpolar Boreo-temperate. From Iceland and northern Scandinavia southwards to the mountains of the Mediterranean region. Morocco, Algeria, Turkey, Caucasus, Iran. Widespread in boreal and temperate Asia, Japan. Eastern N America.

T.L. Blockeel



▼ Craig y Cilau, Breconshire, 2012. Sam Bosanquet

