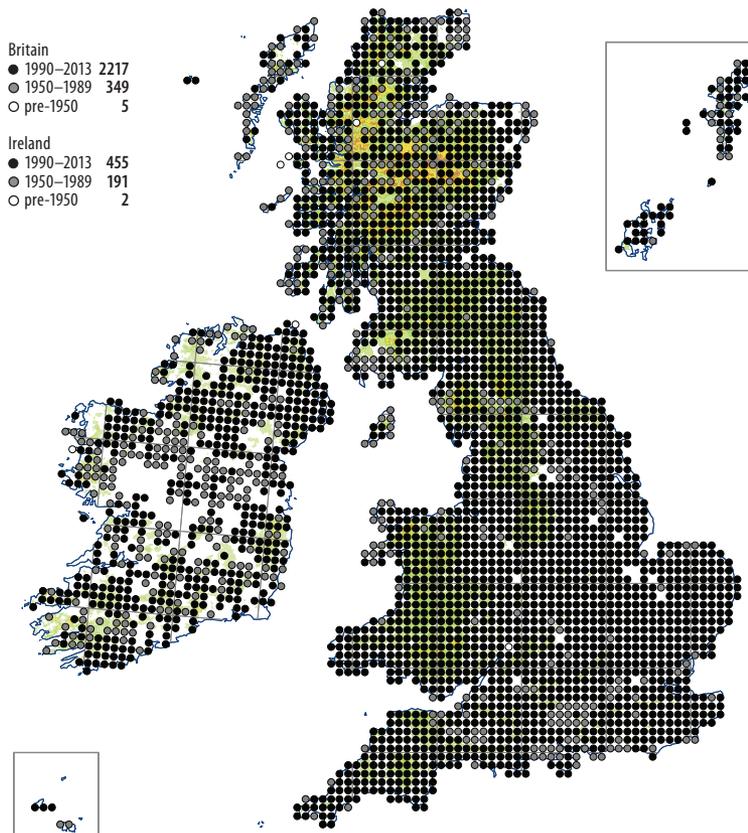


Plagiomnium undulatum

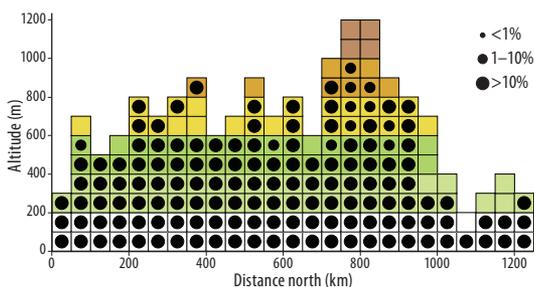


A conspicuous and abundant moss in woodland on damp basic or neutral soils, occurring on soil in the ground flora, on logs and stumps, and cascading over base-rich rocks, often accompanied by *Plagiochila asplenioides*, *Cirriphyllum piliferum*, *Eurhynchium striatum*, *Thamnobryum alopecurum* and *Thuidium tamariscinum*. Although flourishing in shade it is also common in more open but sheltered places on lane and hedgebanks, tracksides, disused railways, river banks, quarries and the bases of rock outcrops. It occurs in seepages and on dripping rocks in ravines and steep valleys, and in fens and mineral-rich upland flushes. Another common habitat is in short, damp unimproved grassland, including chalk and limestone turf on north-facing or sheltered banks, and widely in churchyards and lawns, where it is often stunted. Altitudinal range: 0–850 m.

Dioicous; capsules are rare but often abundant when present, mature in spring and early summer. Male plants are less frequent than female and produce gametangia less frequently (Newton, 1971).

Small and immature forms are sometimes mistaken for *Plagiomnium affine*, but invariably well-grown plants occur in the vicinity and this has little impact on the overall accuracy of recording. Typical plants are unmistakable and it is one of our most thoroughly recorded bryophytes.

European Temperate. Europe, including the Mediterranean region, extending north to Iceland, NW Norway, S Finland, the Baltic States and adjacent parts of Russia. N Africa. Turkey, the Near East, Georgia to Azerbaijan, Iran. Also reported from the Arctic Far East of Russia. Represented in Macaronesia by a distinct variety, var. *madeirense* T.J. Kop. & Sérgio, which also occurs in Portugal.



T.L. Blockeel