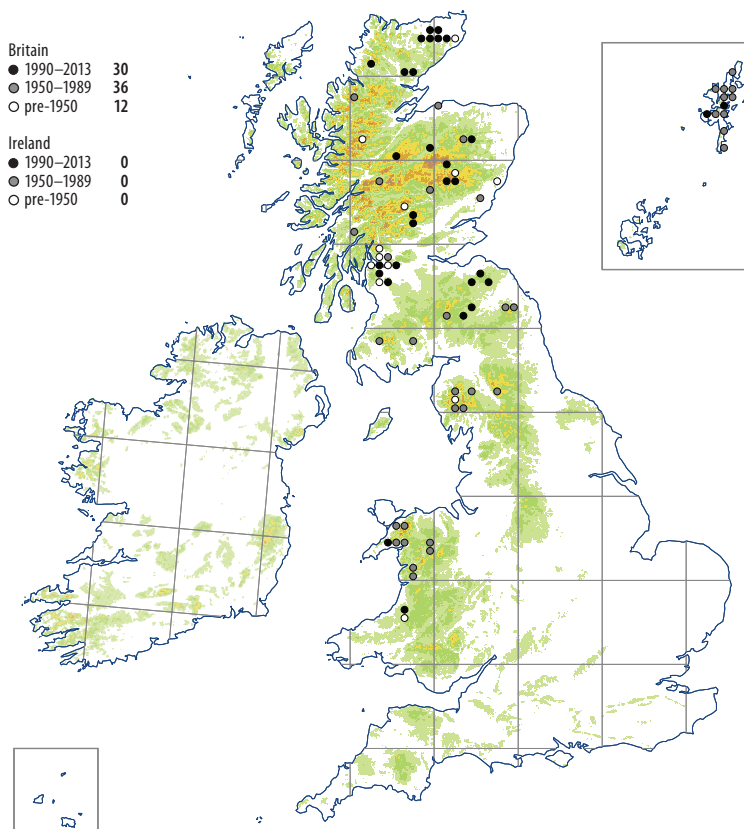


Pseudobryum cinclidioides



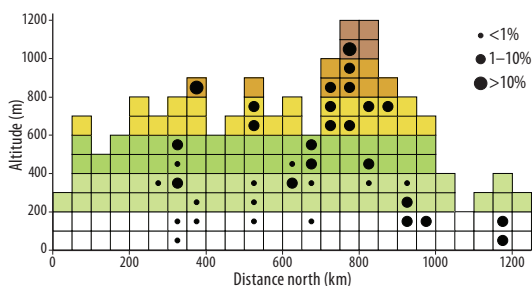
A moss that grows in patches in wet, flushed ground in a variety of habitats, but almost always where there is some base-enrichment. It can form long narrow strips, sometimes many metres in length, along the flushed margin of rills in the mountains where its associates may include *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Equisetum arvense*, *Veronica serpyllifolia* subsp. *humifusa*, *Viola palustris*, *Marchantia polymorpha* subsp. *montivagans*, *Bryum weigelii*, *Philonotis seriata* and, rarely, *Splachnum vasculosum*. It can also form large stands in springhead flushes, particularly in the eastern Highlands, in an interesting community with *Carex curta*, *C. nigra*, *C. rariflora*, *Eriophorum vaginatum*, *Rubus chamaemorus*, *Saxifraga stellaris*, *Pohlia wahlenbergii* var. *glacialis*, *Polytrichum commune*, *Sarmentypnum exannulatum*, *Sphagnum fallax* and *S. russowii*. It is also found with sedges and *Calliergon cordifolium* on the margins of lochs and lakes,

in willow carr, *Phragmites* swamp and in valley mires. At its southernmost sites, in Wales, it grows with *Hamatocaulis vernicosus* on the edges of *Sphagnum* mounds on two flushed peatlands. Altitudinal range: 40–1000 m.

It has an oddly patchy distribution for a plant that does not seem to be ecologically demanding, and with quite a high proportion of old records, though this may be due lack of recent recording, especially in N Wales and the Lake District.

Dioicous; capsules are very rare, mature in early summer.

Circumpolar Boreal-montane. Frequent in Iceland, Scandinavia, the Baltic States and N Russia south to the Alps, Carpathians and a few sites in the Balkan mountains; Urals, Caucasus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, widespread across N Asia to China and Japan. Northern N America, Greenland.



G.P. Rothero