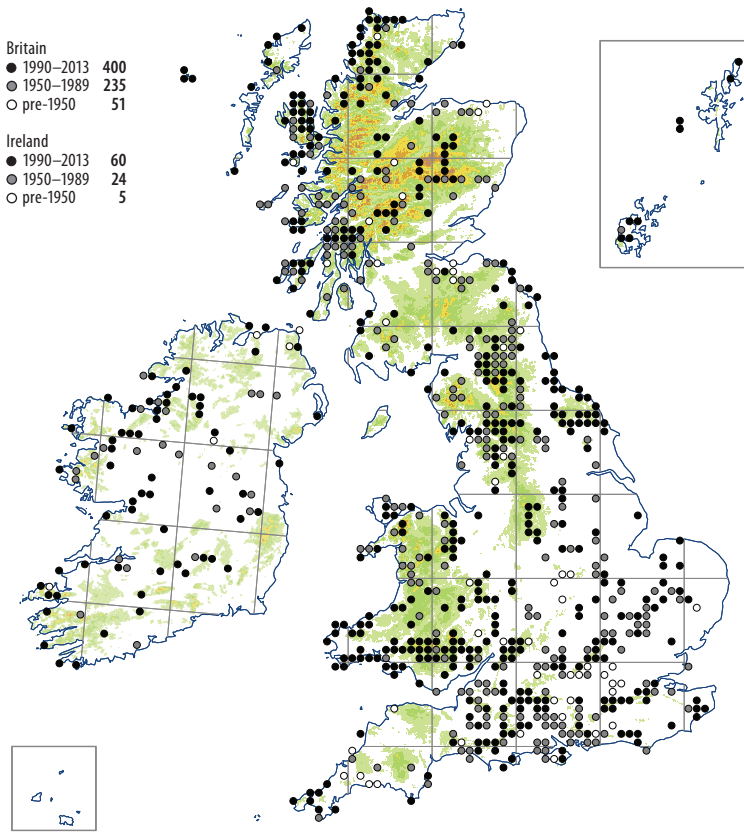


Campylium protensum



This plant of neutral and calcareous soils occurs on tracks, in quarries, on rock ledges, on clay banks and in grassland, often in seepages where the ground is intermittently moist but not permanently wet. It is also found in dry grassland and chalk pits, where it may be mixed with *Campyliadelphus chrysophyllus*, and occasionally in flushes and fens, in habitats more typical of *Campylium stellatum*. It sometimes colonises temporary habitats such as newly constructed banks, mine spoil, gravel roads and newly sown pastures. Although locally frequent in woodland rides, it is uncommon on the ground and stumps under the tree canopy. In the mountains, it is recorded from moist tall-herb and saxifrage communities, often with *Ctenidium molluscum*. Altitudinal range: 0–850 m.

Dioicous; in spite of its considerable colonising ability, it rarely produces capsules in Britain and Ireland. They

have been recorded in Berkshire (Jones, 1953) and Essex (Adams, 1974). According to Fremstad (1978), capsules occur commonly in Norway.

Undoubtedly under-recorded because of confusion with (or lumping with) *C. stellatum* and perhaps also *Campyliadelphus chrysophyllus*. In the past, most authors treated it as a variety of *C. stellatum*, and apparent intermediates occur.

Circumpolar Boreo-temperate. Widespread in cold and cool regions of Europe, north to Iceland, Svalbard and Arctic Russia, south to the mountains of the Mediterranean region. Turkey, Caucasus. Widely distributed in the Northern Hemisphere, south to the Himalaya, and in N America to Utah and Colorado.

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