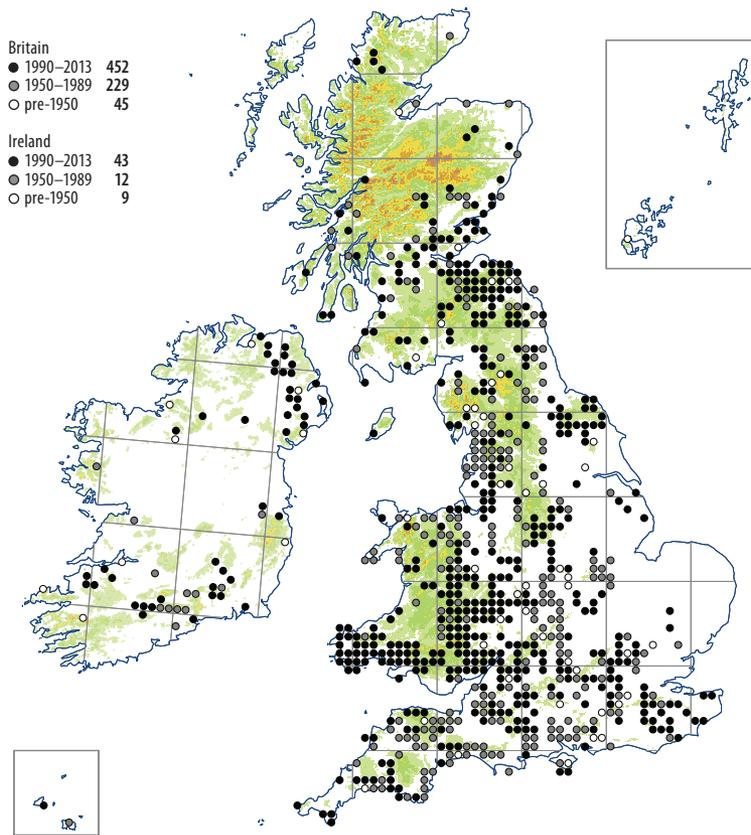


# Hygroamblystegium tenax



Like *Hygroamblystegium fluviatile*, a moss of waterside habitats, but less confined to fast-flowing streams and favouring base-rich water. It grows in places that are regularly inundated, less often where submerged for prolonged periods, commonly attached to stones and sloping rocks, but also on tree roots and wood, concrete and masonry, and sometimes on alluvium and compacted soil. It rarely occurs in stagnant water, though it has been recorded from wet woodland and is sometimes found in canals and ditches where there is only limited movement of water. It is often in light to moderate shade, as by wooded streams. Though common on chalk and limestone, it occurs on sandstone and other non-calcareous rocks where there is some base content or nutrient enrichment. *Chiloscyphus polyanthos*, *Brachythecium rivulare*, *Fissidens crassipes* and *Platyhypnidium riparioides* are among its associates, and in

limestone streams *Cinclidotus fontinaloides*. Altitudinal range: 0–440 m.

Autoicous; capsules are frequently present, mature in summer.

The taxonomic status of *H. tenax* is uncertain: see notes under *H. fluviatile*. Apart from confusion with that species, slender forms can be similar to *H. varium*, and *Cratoneuron filicinum* is sometimes mistaken for it. The map is likely to contain errors, though probably not affecting the overall distribution.

Circumpolar Temperate. Throughout most of Europe, north to Iceland, Svalbard and NC Scandinavia, east to the S Urals, not in the Arctic and rare in the Mediterranean lowlands. Macaronesia, N Africa. Turkey and the Near East, Caucasus. Widespread in temperate Asia. N and C America, south to the Andes (Peru, Bolivia).

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