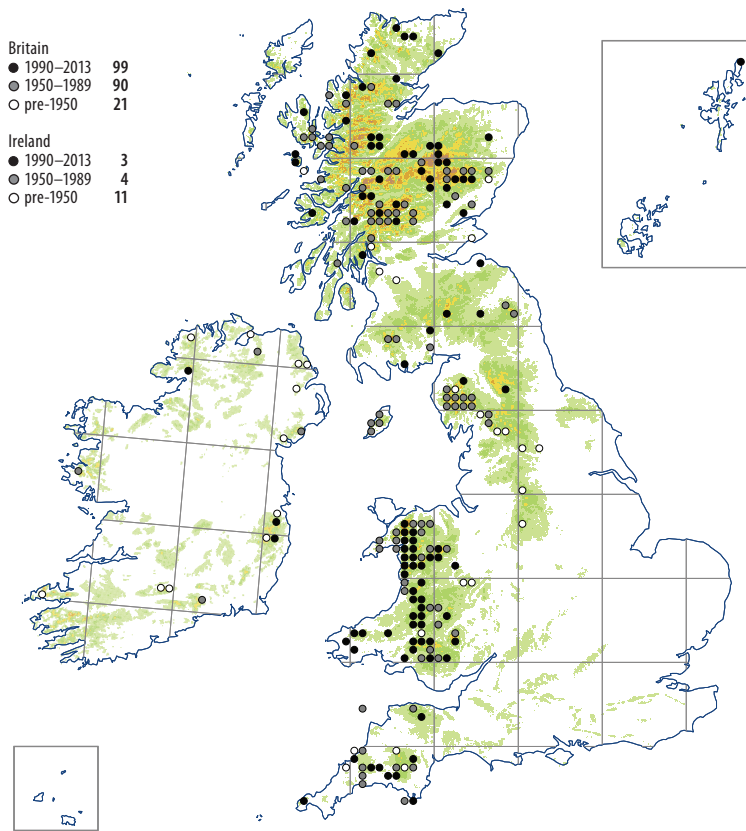


Rhabdoweisia fugax



Forming small tufts or occasionally larger patches in gritty rock crevices, on cliff ledges, among stabilised scree, or directly on rock, favouring cool, shady, rather dry situations, sometimes spreading to shaded dry-stone walls. A strict calcifuge, it grows on siliceous rock without any enrichment with bases, mostly at low and medium altitudes, often in woodland, sometimes on rocks and boulders near lakes and waterfalls, and able to grow in recesses and underhangs where light levels are low. It favours somewhat drier niches than our other *Rhabdoweisia* species. Associates include *Diplophyllum albicans*, *Bartramia pomiformis*, *Cynodontium bruntonii*, *Diphyscium foliosum*, *Pseudotaxiphyllum elegans* and in moister sites *Amphidium mougeotii*. Altitudinal range: 15–650 m.

There was a surge of records in the 1960s, reaching a low point around 1990, after which there has been a slight upward trend. The paucity of recent records in Cumbria probably reflects low levels of recording activity there.

Monoicous; capsules are abundant, maturing irregularly through most of the year.

It can be difficult to separate from *R. crispata*, and there may be a few errors in the records.

European Boreal-montane. Widespread in Europe, north to N Fennoscandia and Arctic Russia, east to the Ural mountains, becoming rare and scattered in the mountain ranges of the south, reaching Portugal and C Spain, Corsica, Sardinia and Bulgaria. Macaronesia. Caucasus, Georgia. C and S Africa. C and S America.

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