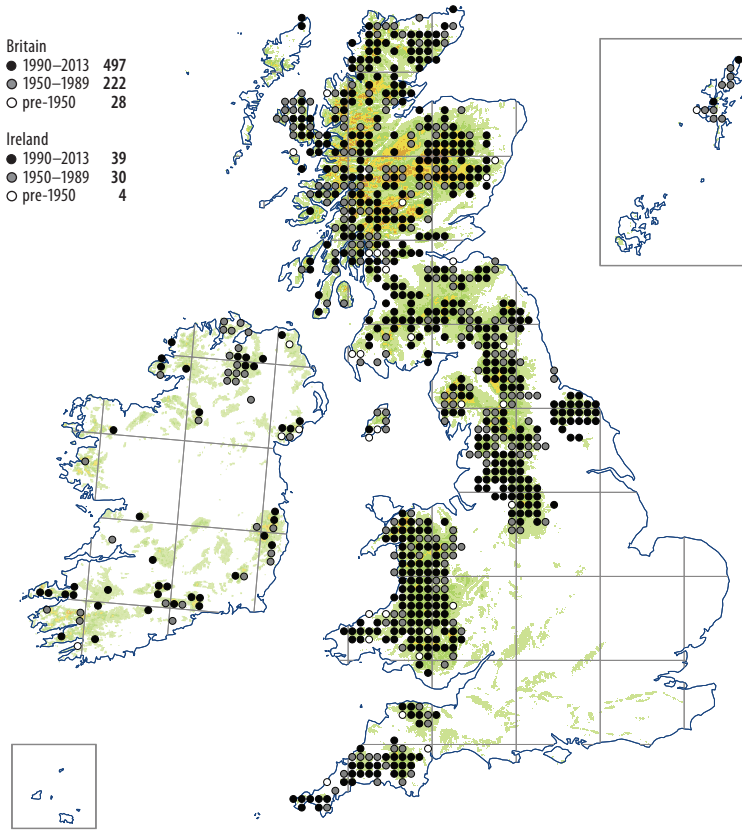


Hygrohypnum ochraceum



An aquatic, calcifuge moss forming green or yellow-green, flaccid mats on rocks (rarely tree roots) in flowing water and beside waterfalls. It is normally submerged and is typical of fast-flowing rocky streams, though sometimes also in smaller rivulets and on flushed rocks. As a species of hard acid surfaces it is commonest in upland and montane regions, though it also occurs in coastal streams and gullies. Typical habitats are wooded valleys, moorland and montane streams, ravines, and sometimes lake margins, and at high altitudes it ascends to runnels in areas of late snow lie. It usually occupies a lower zone in the water than *Racomitrium aciculare* and *Sciuro-hypnum plumosum*, though they are often present in the same streams. Its closer associates include *Nardia compressa*, *Scapania undulata*, *Fontinalis squamosa*, and in some regions *Platyhypnidium lusitanicum*. It is occasionally recorded in man-made habitats

such as reservoir margins, but only rarely on masonry and exceptionally on firm soil. Altitudinal range: 0–1100 m.

Dioicous; capsules are very rare.

Circumpolar Boreo-arctic montane. In Europe north to Iceland, Svalbard and Arctic Russia, south to Spain, Corsica and the Balkan mountains, very rare in the Mediterranean region; Caucasus. Circumboreal in N, C and E Asia, China, Japan, and N America south to Arizona.

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