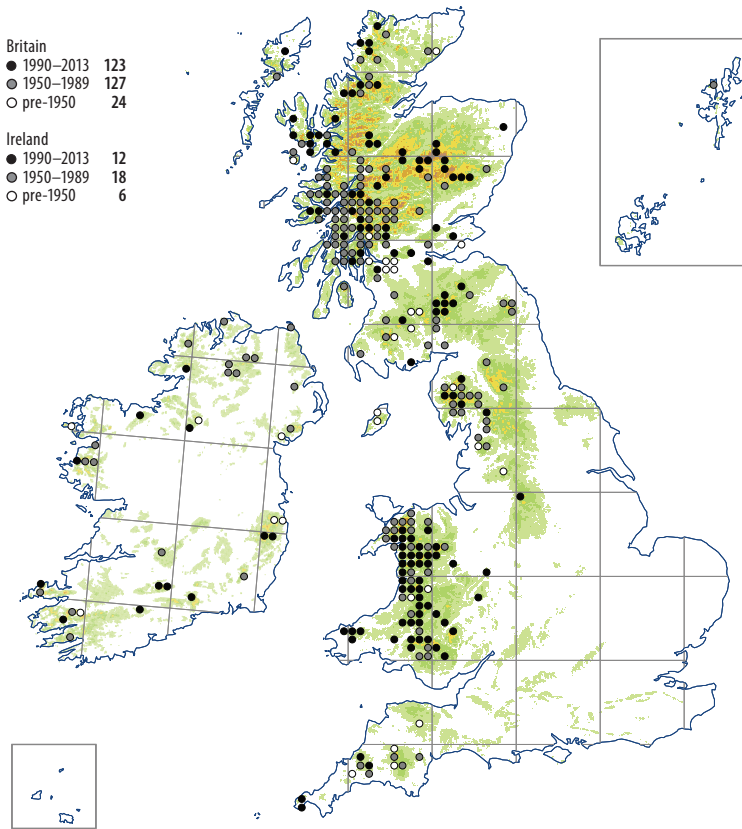


Rhabdoweisia crispata



Usually on thin humus in crevices and recesses among siliceous rocks, on cliff ledges, and under overhanging boulders, favouring sheltered and lightly shaded situations, typically in gullies, in wooded ravines, among scree and on crags. It sometimes colonises quarry waste. Although often on granite, sandstone, slates and shales with calcifuges such as *Diplophyllum albicans* and *Pseudotaxiphyllum elegans*, it is not restricted to acid rocks, occurring on basic schist in several parts of the Scottish Highlands. Its habitat overlaps both *Rhabdoweisia fugax* and *R. crenulata*, but it is less common in the drier niches occupied by *R. fugax*, and it ascends to higher altitudes on montane cliffs than either of the other species. Altitudinal range: 20–900 m.

It is often found in small quantity and is vulnerable to natural events such as rock-fall and slumps, but the records show a fairly steady trend in recent decades.

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

It is intermediate between *R. fugax* and *R. crenulata* morphologically, and is occasionally misrecorded.

Suboceanic Boreal-montane. In Europe from the Faeroes, northern Norway and Latvia to the mountains of C Europe and the Urals, south to N Spain, Italy and Bulgaria. Canary Islands. Siberia, N and E Asia south to Java, Japan. N America from Arctic Alaska south to Georgia, Greenland, Hawaii. S America (Bolivia). Africa (Lesotho and South Africa).

M.O. Hill, rev. T.L. Blockeel

