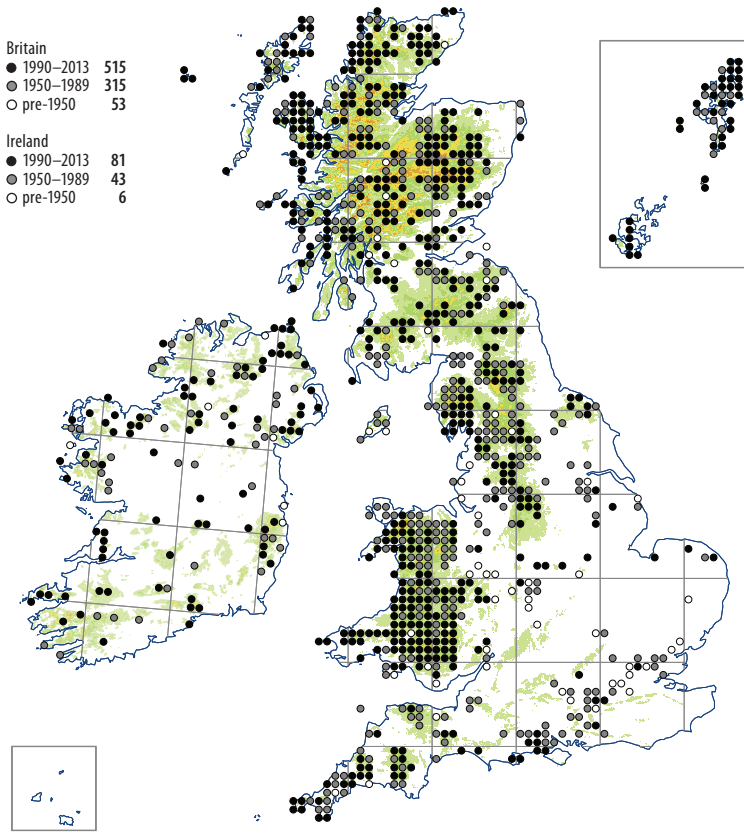


Sarmentypnum exannulatum



A wetland moss, occupying a rather wide range of habitats which have in common moderately acid pH (often 5.0–6.0), low nutrient status, absence of (or light) shading, and limited competition. These include seasonally exposed, shelving shores of mildly acid heathland ponds and lakes, open poor-fen and flush communities (with *Straminergon stramineum* and base-tolerant *Sphagna*), and base-poor springs and springheads (with *Dichodontium palustre*, *Philonotis fontana*, *Sarmentypnum sarmentosum* and *Sphagnum denticulatum*). It sometimes extends to mildly basic flushes and fens with *Aneura pinguis*, *Campyllum stellatum*, *Hamatocaulis vernicosus* and *Scorpidium revolvens*. Altitudinal range: 5–1250 m.

There has been an upward trend in records since 1990, but this is probably due to systematic recording in some of the

more mundane upland areas of Wales and Scotland. The species has been in long-term decline in the lowlands of England, from destruction of heathland and mires.

Dioicous; capsules are rare, mature in summer.

It is sometimes confused with *Warnstorfia fluitans* and less often with *Drepanocladus aduncus*, and there may be some mapped errors.

Circumpolar Boreo-temperate. Europe north to Iceland and Svalbard, south to the mountains of the Mediterranean region. N Africa (Morocco), Turkey. Widespread in the Northern Hemisphere, across Asia to Japan, south to India and Himalaya. N America south to California and Colorado. On mountains in the tropics (Andes, E Africa). In the Southern Hemisphere in southern S America, subantarctic islands, Australia and New Zealand.

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