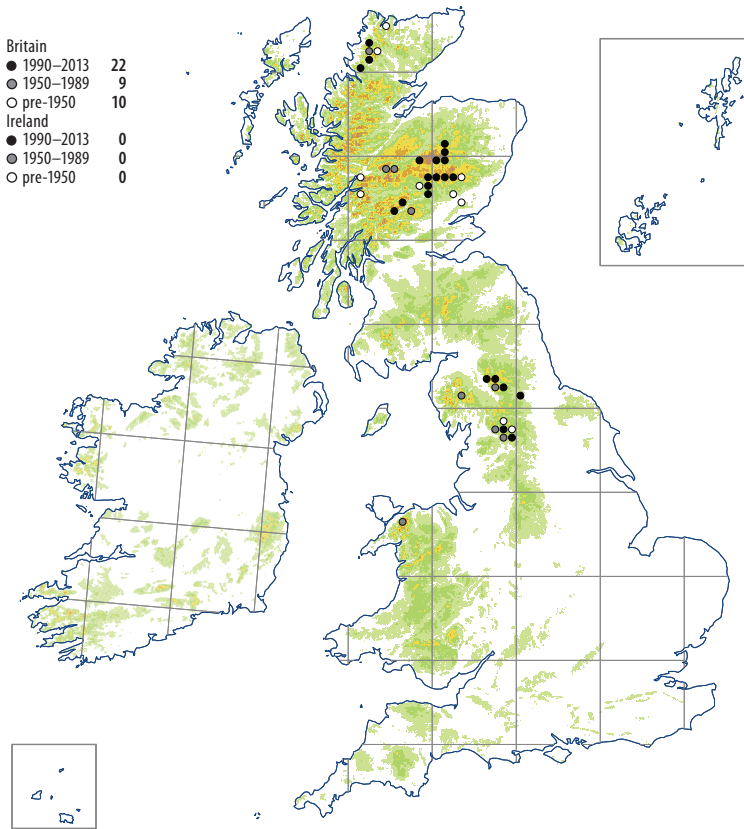


Pseudoleskeella catenulata



Forming low, wiry, dark or olive green patches on calcareous rocks in the hills, occurring on limestones of Carboniferous and Cambrian age in N England and NW Scotland and on metamorphosed limestones in the central Scottish Highlands. It prefers dry, open sites, often south-facing, where there is little competition. Its associates may include *Saxifraga oppositifolia*, *Ctenidium molluscum*, *Schistidium robustum*, *S. trichodon*, *Tortella tortuosa* and, more rarely, *Campylophyllum halleri* and *Pseudoleskea incurvata*. Occasionally it descends to more sheltered sites, as on the rocky and wooded banks of the River Tees at Egglestone Abbey, Durham, and exceptionally it has been recorded on a dry-stone wall near Malham in Yorkshire. Altitudinal range: 180–950 m.

Although there are some old records, it is unlikely that there has been a significant decline, and most of the pre-1990 localities, as on Ingleborough Hill in Yorkshire, are probably extant.

Dioicous; capsules are unknown in Britain.

Older records did not always distinguish *Pseudoleskeella rupestris*, which was formerly treated as a variety (var. *acuminata*) of *P. catenulata*. The map incorporates records of *P. catenulata* s.l., and it is possible that some of these may represent *P. rupestris*, though they will be very few.

European Boreal-montane. W, C and N Europe, and in the mountains of the Mediterranean region, south to Spain, southern Italy (Campania) and northern Greece. N Africa (Algeria, Morocco). Turkey, Caucasus, Georgia to Kyrgyzstan; C and E Asia, Japan. According to Wilson & Norris (1989) records from N America refer to other taxa.

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