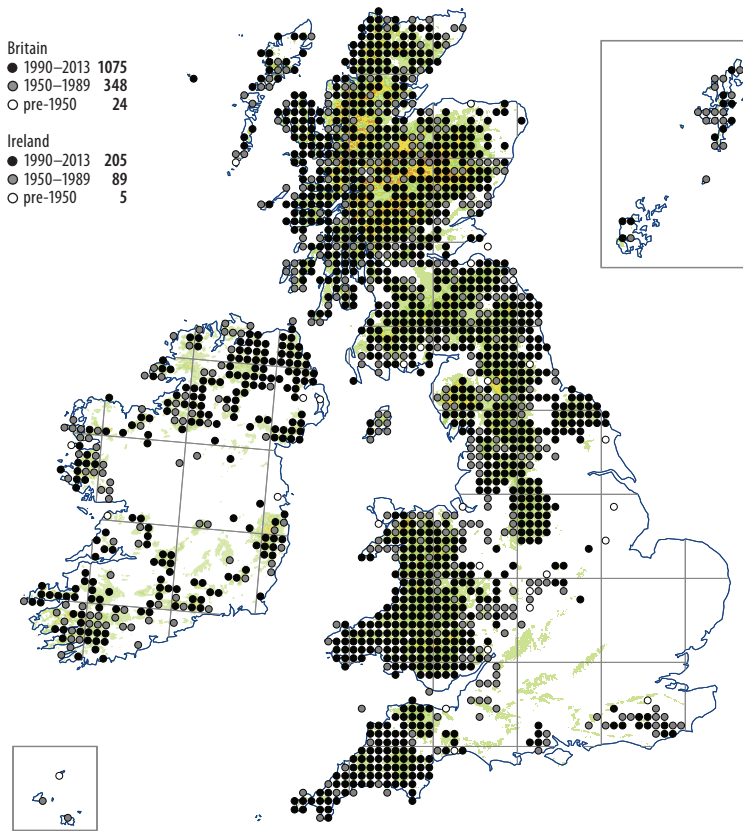


Sciuro-hypnum plumosum



This is a characteristic species of swiftly flowing rivers and streams, where it is at least periodically inundated. It is weakly calcifuge and can tolerate moderate shade. It is most common on siliceous boulders subject to submergence by mountain torrents, where it is frequently associated with *Scapania undulata*, *Hygrohypnum* spp., *Hyocomium armoricum* and *Racomitrium aciculare*. In slightly more base-rich habitats it may be accompanied by *Hygroamblystegium* spp., *Platyhypnidium riparioides* and *Thamnobryum alopecurum*. It is also frequent in the middle reaches of the larger streams and rivers, where it is characteristic of tree bases and roots, sometimes embedded in silt, and with associates that include *Plagiochila porelloides*, *Amblystegium serpens* and *Homalia trichomanoides*. Rocks and stones by oligotrophic mountain springs are another habitat, which it shares with *Scapania undulata*, *Dichodontium palustre* and

Philonotis fontana. It is also found by lakes and pools, and occasionally on rocks and rock ledges away from water, sometimes on masonry, concrete and tarmac. Altitudinal range: 5–1160 m.

Autoicous; capsules are frequent, mature in winter.

Circumpolar Boreo-temperate. Temperate parts of Europe, from Iceland and N Fennoscandia south to the mountains of the northern Mediterranean region. Macaronesia, N Africa (Morocco). Turkey, Cyprus. Very widely distributed in the Northern Hemisphere and on mountains in the tropics and subtropics. S America (Andes). Southern Africa, SE Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand.

R.D. Porley, rev. T.L. Blockeel

