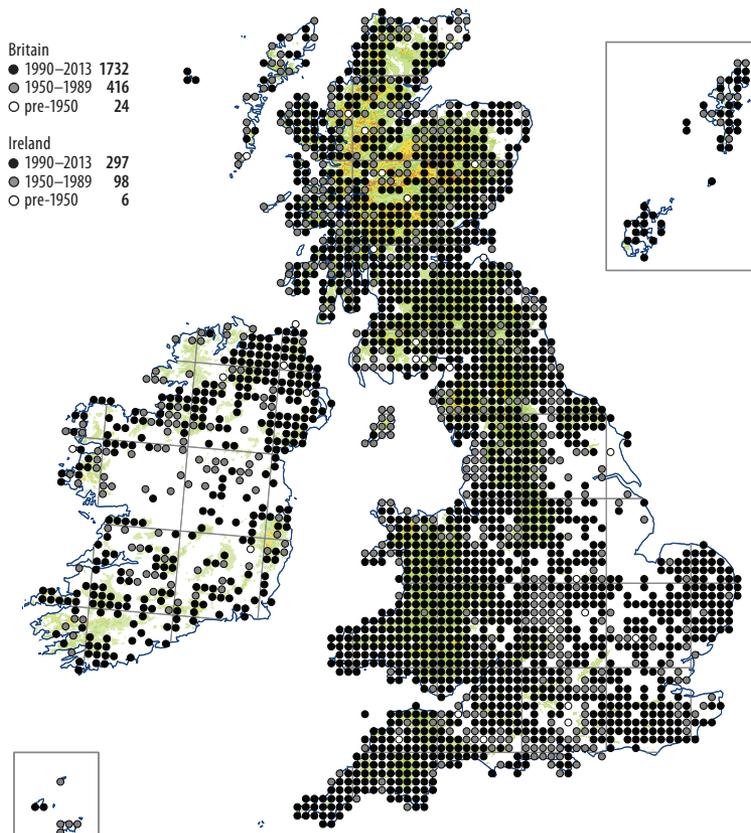


Brachythecium rivulare



Britain
 ● 1990–2013 1732
 ● 1950–1989 416
 ○ pre-1950 24

Ireland
 ● 1990–2013 297
 ● 1950–1989 98
 ○ pre-1950 6

A species of moist or wet, eutrophic or mesotrophic habitats. It is characteristic of wet woodland, particularly alder carr, where a frequent associate on the ground is *Brachythecium rutabulum*, and it occurs in flushes and seepages in many other types of woodland, sometimes with *Trichocolea tomentella*. It is also common in and beside streams and rivers, particularly those with fast-flowing water, growing on rocks, banks, tree bases, concrete and rotting wood, with associates such as *Conocephalum conicum*, *Cratoneuron filicinum*, *Platyhypnidium riparioides* and *Thamnobryum alopecurum*. It is prominent in certain types of upland springs and seepages, both base-poor with *Dichodontium palustre* and *Philonotis fontana*, and base-rich with associates such as *Aneura pinguis*, *Pellia endiviifolia*, *Palustriella commutata*, *P. falcata* and *Philonotis calcarea*. It is sometimes present in wet grassland, marshes and dune

slacks. Occasionally plants with the morphology of *B. rivulare* occur in much drier habitats, for example at the base of walls and among shaded rocks. Altitudinal range: 0–1070 m.

Dioicous; capsules are occasional, maturing from late autumn to spring.

Brachythecium rivulare is not always morphologically distinct from *B. rutabulum*, and some specimens are difficult or impossible to name. There are probably inconsistencies in the recording of intermediates.

Circumpolar Boreo-temperate. Widespread in Europe north to Iceland and N Fennoscandia, but rare in the Mediterranean lowlands. Macaronesia, N Africa. Turkey and the Near East. Across much the Northern Hemisphere, from the Arctic south to Himalaya, China and southern USA (New Mexico, North Carolina). Reported from C Africa (Kenya). Rare in the Southern Hemisphere, reported from Chile, SE Australia and Tasmania, and Kerguelen Island.

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