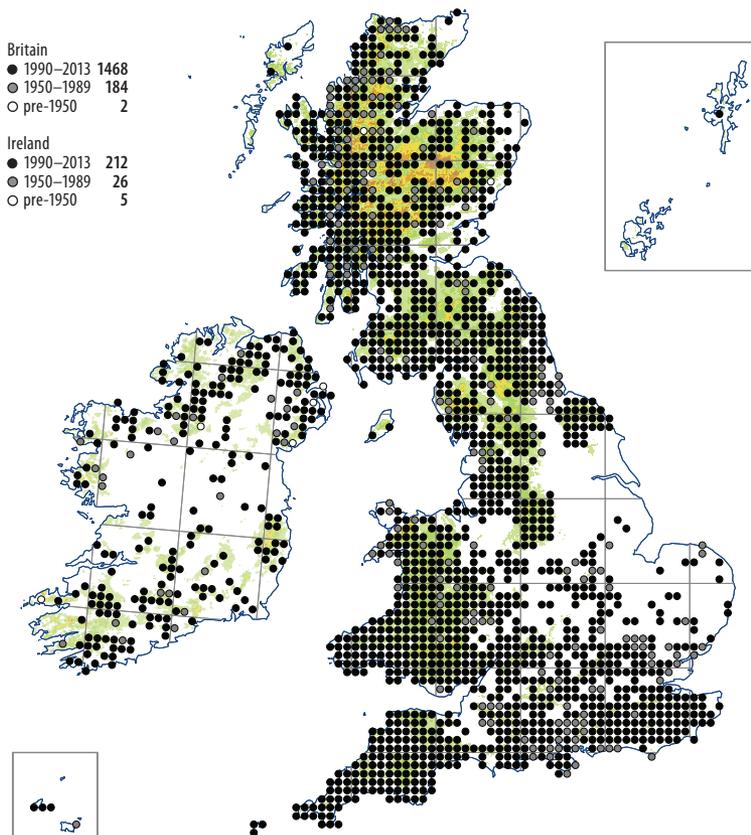


# Hypnum andoi



The most typical habitat of this species is on the trunks and larger branches of trees, where it may form extensive and often pure mats (and pendent curtains in some very humid woods). It is calcifuge and is common on trees with acid bark, being characteristic of western oak woods, but occurring on a very wide range of other tree species, both in well-illuminated sites (as on river banks) and in most types of woodland, including wet *Salix* carr. It is plentiful even on conifers in areas of high rainfall. Common associates are *Frullania tamarisci*, *Dicranum scoparium* and *Isoetecium myosuroides* (though usually higher up the trunks than that species). It may persist on fallen logs and stumps but is rare on decayed wood. It is also frequent on siliceous and igneous rocks, sometimes covering boulders in woodland, associated with *Lepidozia reptans*, *Scapania nemorea*, *S. gracilis*, *Dicranum fuscescens* and many other calcifuge

species. It favours sites with some shelter and flourishes in humid woodland, becoming rarer in drier eastern districts. Altitudinal range: 5–560 m.

Records have increased markedly since 1980, but this is due to greater understanding and awareness of its taxonomy following the publication of the first edition of Smith's Moss Flora (Smith, 1978). Previously, if recorded at all, it was known as *Hypnum cupressiforme* var. *filiforme*, and then mainly from trees. Smith found that 25% of herbarium specimens labelled *H. cupressiforme* were actually *H. andoi*.

Dioicous; capsules are common in the west, occasional eastwards, mature in autumn and winter.

It is most reliably identified by the mamillate lids of the capsules, but many records are based on non-fruiting material which can be difficult to separate from *H. cupressiforme*. There are undoubtedly some mapped errors, though not significant in the context of the overall distribution, especially in the west and north.

Suboceanic Temperate. W, C and N Europe to about 68°N in Scandinavia, east to Latvia and Ukraine, rare southwards in the Mediterranean region. Canary Islands. Turkey. North-east N America (Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Maine).

T.L. Blockeel

