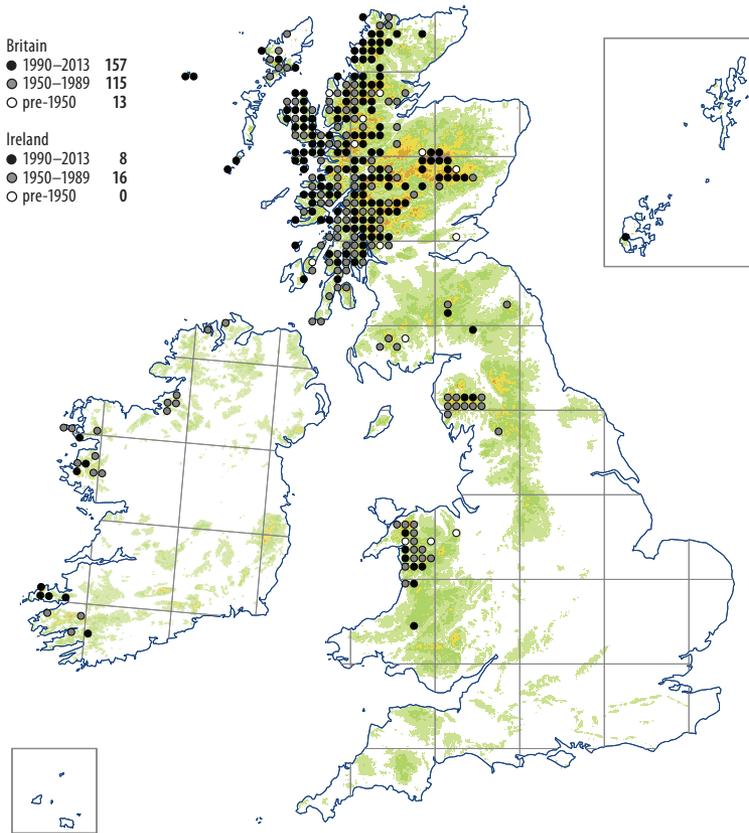


# *Hypnum callichroum*



Forming loose pale or yellow-green mats or patches on rocks and turf in sheltered situations, both on mountains and in woods and gullies, favouring sites that are intermittently irrigated. Typical habitats are sheltered stream banks in woods, rock ledges in ravines, the margins of seepages on turf slopes, and declivities among blocks below cliffs and in stable screes. In some districts it is confined to substrates that are at least slightly basic, but in western Scotland it occurs also on granite, quartzose schist and quartzite scree. Exceptionally, it has been found on a rotten log in a limestone ravine. It often descends to near sea level on sea cliffs and costal slopes in the west, but is perhaps more exclusively a mountain plant in the east. Altitudinal range: 30–1090 m.

There was a marked increase in records between 1980 and 2000, but this was probably due to intensive surveys of Atlantic woodlands in Scotland, which filled in many gaps in its known range there. The high proportion of older records in N Wales and the Lake District is probably due to under-recording in these areas in recent years.

Dioicous; capsules are occasional, mature in summer.

Circumpolar Boreo-arctic montane. In Europe occurring in all the main mountain ranges north to Iceland, Svalbard, northern Fennoscandia and N Russia, south to the Pyrenees, C Italy and Bulgaria. Turkey, Caucasus, Georgia, Armenia. Reported from Siberia, the Himalaya, China and E Asia, but some of these reports may belong to other species (Ignatov *et al.*, 2006); Japan (as subsp. *japonicum* Ando). Greenland, Pacific N America.

M.O. Hill, rev. T.L. Blockeel

