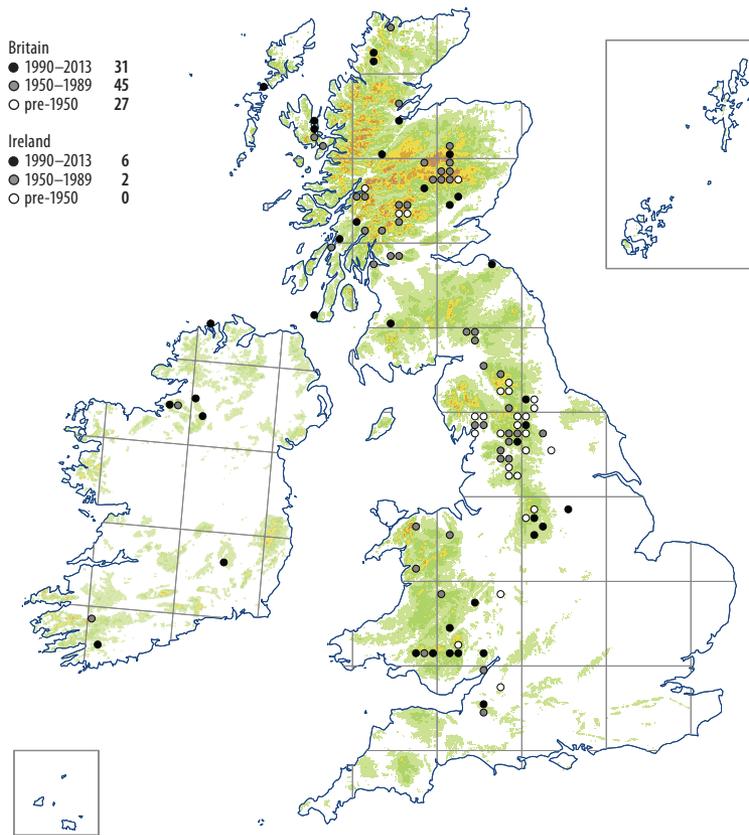


# Platydictya jungermannioides



A very slender thread-like moss of damp basic rocks and rock crevices in cool, shaded locations, often in moist woodlands or wooded ravines, but also on montane rocks and in scree. It is found on limestone, calcareous sandstone and schist, base-rich agglomerate, and occasionally on tufa and other basic rocks, growing either directly on the rock surface or intermixed with other bryophytes. Many sites are in small caves, underhangs, recesses or bouldery hollows where light levels are low, but it also occurs in more strongly illuminated places on rock faces, in crevices, and even on stones on the woodland floor. Though usually on moist substrates, it is occasionally found on rather dry rocks. Associated species are varied and may include *Lejeunea cavifolia*, *Cirriphyllum crassinervium*, *Ctenidium molluscum*, *Orthothecium intricatum*, *O. rufescens* and at lower altitudes

*Gymnostomum calcareum* and *Rhynchostegiella tenella*.  
Altitudinal range: 5–520 m.

Diocious; capsules are very rare, mature in summer. Axillary gemmae are frequent.

It is an easily overlooked species. The large proportion of older records in N England and Scotland is probably due to recent under-recording.

Circumpolar Boreo-arctic montane. Widespread in Europe north to Iceland and Svalbard, rare in the Mediterranean region, reaching N Spain, C Italy and N Greece, also reported from Crete. Caucasus, Georgia to Kyrgyzstan, and across N and C Asia to the Russian Far East and Japan. N America, south to California and New Mexico; Greenland. In N America it has been recorded in a wider range of habitats, on peaty soil or humus under turf on banks, in hollows under roots of trees, and on the lower sides of logs.

M.J. Wigginton, rev. T.L. Blockeel

