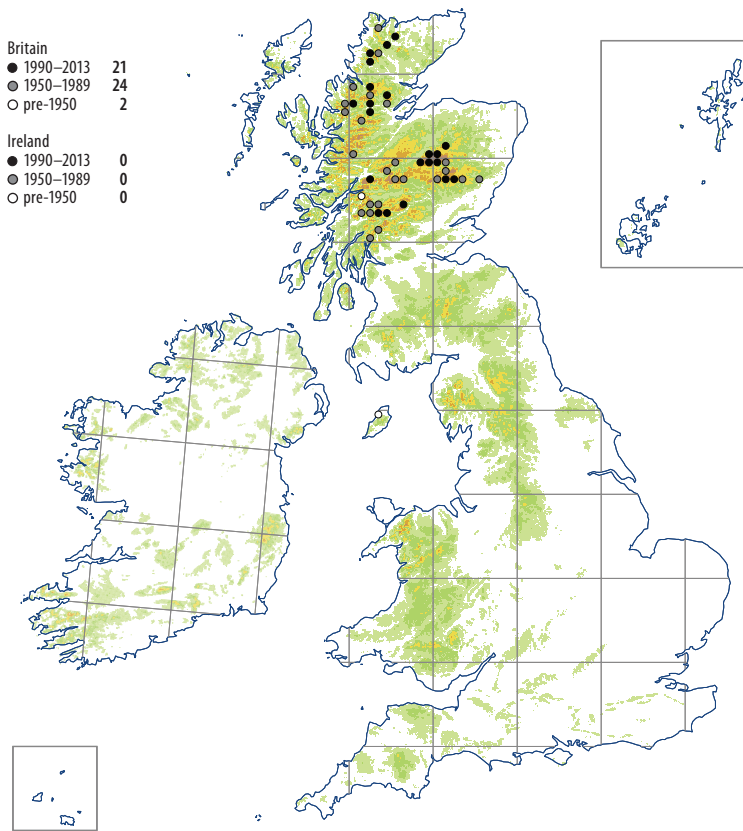


Herzogiella striatella



The typical habitat for this pretty moss is tucked away in a well-drained, rocky crevice in grassy or heathy scree or under a boulder on a slope or on a ridge high in the hills; it often can be found in exposed places but always in sheltered niches. It usually grows as flat patches on the upper surface of a rock or on a thin soil layer and seems indifferent to rock type, occurring on granite, schist, Torridonian sandstone and even quartzite, but it is probably more frequent on the more base-rich rocks. The bryophyte community in these crevices can be quite rich and include both common species like *Barbilophozia floerkei*, *Lophozia sudetica*, *Dicranum fuscescens*, *Plagiothecium denticulatum* var. *obtusifolium* and *Polytrichastrum alpinum*, but occasionally also *Diplophyllum taxifolium*, *Lophozia obtusa*, *Kiaeria glacialis*, *Sciuro-hypnum glaciale* and *S. reflexum*. Altitudinal range: 450–950 m.

There are a high proportion of pre-1990 records but this probably reflects a lack of recent recording rather than any real change in the population.

Autoicous; capsules are common.

European Boreal-montane. Widespread in Fennoscandia, N Russia and the mountains of C Europe, south to the Pyrenees, Alps and Carpathians. S Siberia, Russian Far East. Eastern and north-western N America, Greenland.

G.P. Rothero

