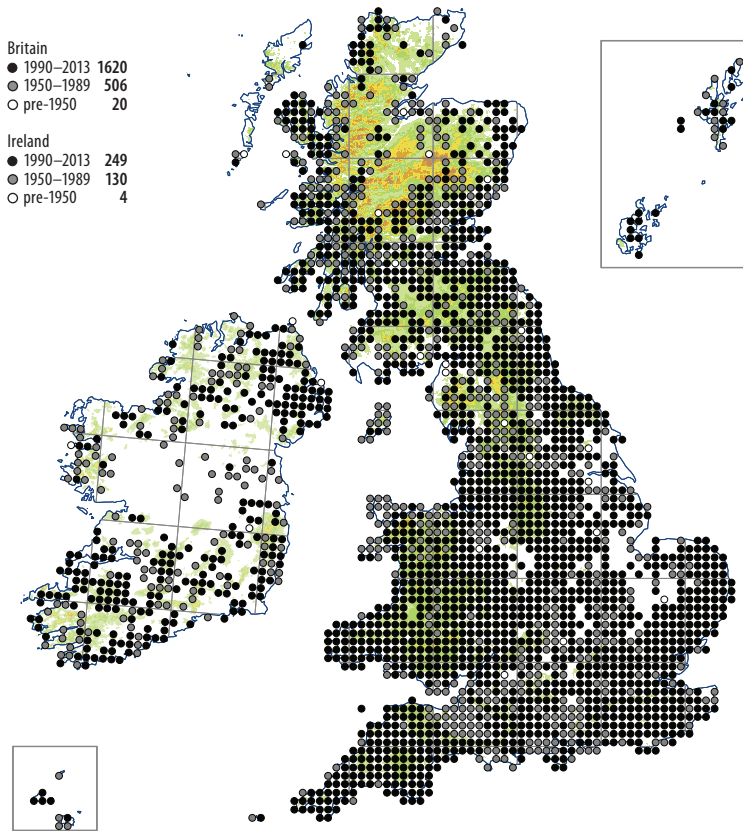


Fissidens bryoides var. *bryoides*



Usually forming small patches on neutral to acid, sandy, loamy or clayey soils in open or shaded sites. It is a common species in non-calcareous woodland where bare soil is exposed, such as steep banks by streams, frequently associated with one or more of *Calyptogeia arguta*, *Pellia epiphylla*, *Atrichum undulatum*, *Dicranella heteromalla*, *Fissidens taxifolius* and *Mnium hornum*. It occurs widely in other shaded or sheltered habitats such as hedgerows, scrub, lane banks, soil pockets in pastures, ditch sides and coastal slopes and cliffs. On rocky banks in steep valleys and by moorland streams it sometimes occurs on thin soil on ledges and in rock crevices. It is not often found on regularly disturbed ground, but occasionally colonises bare soil in ruderal habitats, on old soil dumps and spoil heaps, in fallow fields and pasture leys, on roadsides and in churchyards. Altitudinal range: 0–650 m.

Autoicous, rarely synoicous; capsules are abundant, mature from winter to spring.

On stream banks it can be confused with var. *caespitans*, and small forms are sometimes mistaken for *Fissidens viridulus*. However because it is such a common species, the map is unlikely to contain significant inaccuracies.

Circumpolar Temperate. Throughout Europe, rare in the Arctic but north to Svalbard. Macaronesia, N Africa. Widely in SW Asia. Circumboreal, but many records refer to the species in a broad sense. Reported also from the Southern Hemisphere (southern Africa, southern S America), and thought to be introduced in New Zealand.

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