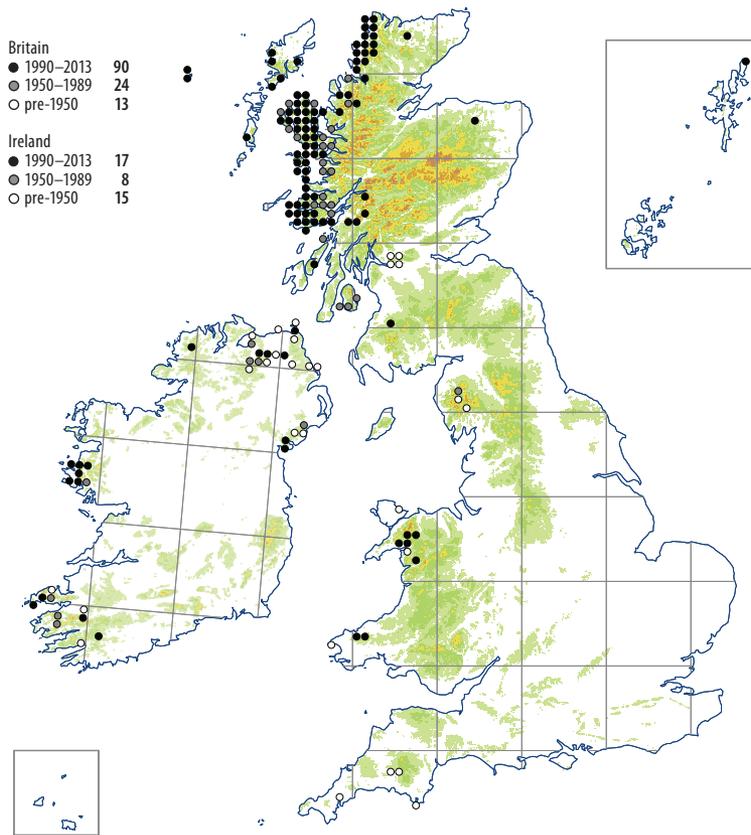


# Glyphomitrium daviesii



This small moss usually forms neat cushions on faces or in crack-lines on crags or boulders which are often unshaded but usually with a degree of shelter. It seems equally at home on low crags and on large boulders at the base of crags or in scree and occurs locally on old stone walls. The distribution shows a marked predilection for rocks of the Tertiary Volcanic series and so it is frequent on the basalt of the Inner Hebrides but it is equally common on the more base-rich facies of the gneiss in Sutherland. There are often no close associates in this habitat but species nearby can include *Andreaea rupestris*, *Racomitrium sudeticum*, *R. ellipticum*, *Gymnomitrium obtusum*, *Frullania tamarisci*, *F. teneriffae*, *F. fragilifolia*, *Grimmia funalis* and rarely *Asplenium septentrionale*. Close to the sea it often occurs with *Schistidium maritimum* and *Ulota phyllantha*. At the edge of its range, it tends to occur in deep holes among rocks, as on

tors in Pembrokeshire (Bosanquet, 2010) and at Saxa Vord, Shetland. Exceptionally it was recorded in 2013 growing as an epiphyte on the horizontal branch of an oak tree in NW Scotland. Altitudinal range: 0–550 m.

Records have increased in Scotland and Ireland in the past two decades, and its populations there are stable. Its status in England and Wales is less clear. Although believed extinct in Wales at the time of the 1991–1994 Atlas, it has been found recently both in old and new localities there. Some populations are of plants lacking capsules, and it is easily overlooked in this condition and when it occurs in deep holes. It has not been reported from Cumbria since 1962 but this may be due to low levels of recent recording there.

Autoicous; capsules are common, mature in summer. Chlorophyllose gemmae are nearly always present on the rhizoids (Lewinsky, 1987).

Oceanic Southern-temperate. Iceland, the Faeroes, southern Norway, Madeira and the Azores.

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