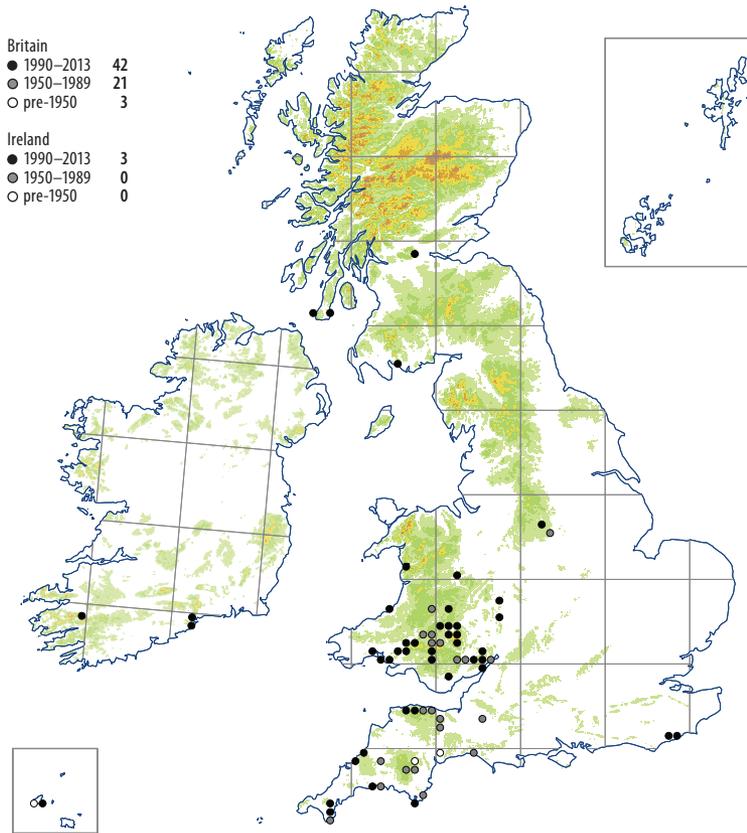


Fissidens rivularis



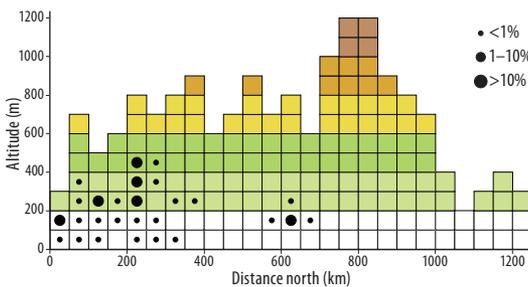
A subaquatic moss occurring as scattered plants or patches on shaded, moist or submerged rocks in streams and rivers, often in or near waterfalls, and on lakesides. It is most common on neutral to acid rocks, including granite, slate and sandstone, but a few records are from limestone and masonry. Compacted soil and tree roots are less common substrates, and at one of its Irish sites it was found at the base of tussocks of royal fern. Most of its localities are in woodland or wooded ravines, but others are by streams through pasture land and on a coastal slope. It is usually found in clean streams, but may tolerate occasional turbidity or light pollution, and the leaves are often coated with detritus. Recorded associates include *Chiloscyphus polyanthos*, *Cinclidotus fontinaloides*, *Fissidens bryoides* var. *caespitans*, *Rhynchostegiella teneriffae* and *Schistidium rivulare*; more unusual associates are *Dumortiera hirsuta* in

Cornwall and *Jubula hutchinsiae* in Wales. Altitudinal range: 15–290 m.

A substantial number of new sites have been discovered since the 1991–1994 Atlas, especially in Wales but also at the northern limit of its range in Scotland.

Autoicous; capsules are occasional, mature in summer and autumn.

Like many other *Fissidens* species it is rather variable and plants with relatively weak leaf borders can approach both *F. monguillonii* and *F. bryoides* var. *caespitans*. However most records are likely to be accurate. The scattering of localities remote from its core range in the south-west suggests that it may still be overlooked elsewhere.



Mediterranean-Atlantic. W and S Europe, east to Crete, the Balkans and Crimea, north to Scotland and Germany. Macaronesia, N Africa (Algeria, Morocco). Turkey, Caucasus, Georgia, Iran.

T.L. Blockeel