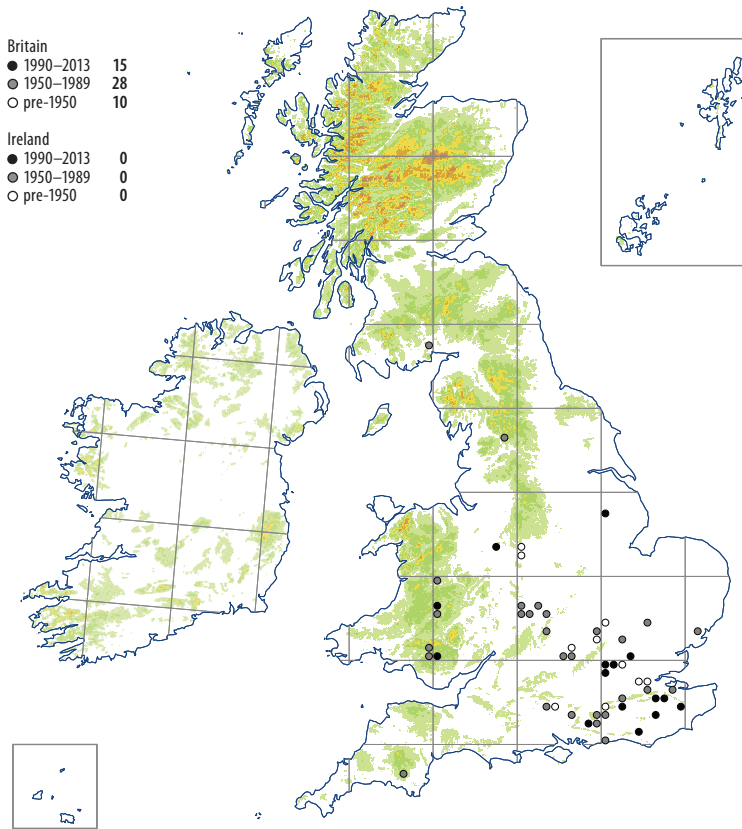


Dicranum flagellare



In Britain this species occurs only on old and decaying wood, being found on logs and stumps in woodland, and also on coppice stools. In SE England it has been recorded frequently on sweet chestnut stumps, but it occurs on other species including oak and conifers. It is associated with common dead-wood species such as *Lophocolea heterophylla*, *Lepidozia reptans*, *Mnium hornum* and *Tetraphis pellucida*. In continental Europe and N America it occurs in additional habitats, including humus, peaty soil, bark at the base of trees and on rocks. Altitudinal range: 15–380 m.

Unlike the related *Dicranum tauricum* and *D. montanum*, this species did not increase significantly during the mid 20th century and it remains very scarce.

Dioicous; capsules are very rare, mature in summer. Narrow small-leaved (flagelliform) branches are often present at the shoot apices and serve as a means of vegetative propagation, but probably only over short distances.

Circumpolar Boreo-temperate. Widespread in Europe, most frequent in C Europe and S Fennoscandia, north to C Finland, south to N Spain, N Italy, Bulgaria and Caucasus. Macaronesia. Siberia, W Himalaya, E Asia, Japan. N America, C America (Mexico, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Panama) and West Indies.

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