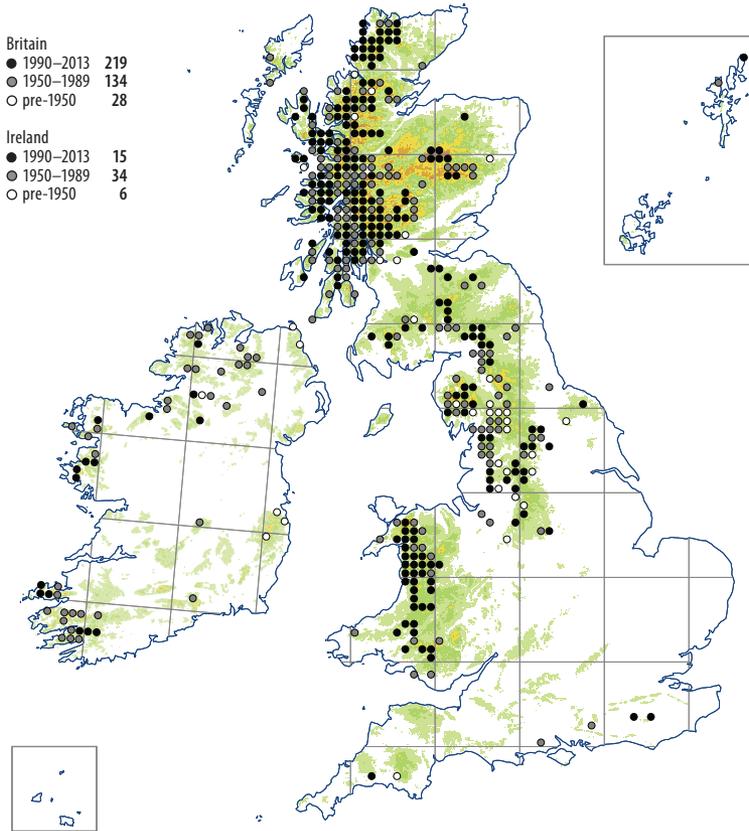


Dicranodontium denudatum

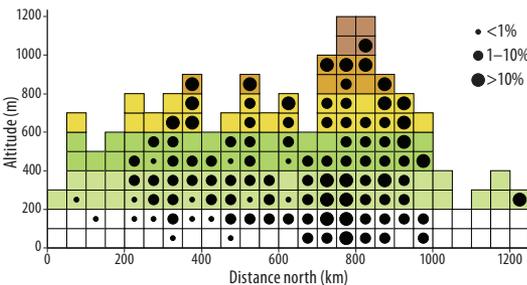


Rarely found outside upland districts, this species occurs on acid organic substrates. It is most common on the decaying wood of stumps and fallen branches, often occurring in extensive patches, and in humid sites it may colonise the trunks of living trees with acid bark such as birch and oak. It is not confined to wood, but also grows on mossy boulders and peaty soil in woods. Among its many associates in woodland are *Calypogeia* spp., *Lepidozia reptans*, *Nowellia curvifolia*, *Hypnum jutlandicum*, *Mnium hornum* and in oceanic regions *Scapania gracilis*. On moorland and montane ground it is found on sheltered peaty banks under heather or among rocks, mainly on north- or east-facing slopes and on rock ledges. Occasionally it grows in blanket bog, usually in the middle of a tussock of *Leucobryum* or *Sphagnum*.
 Altitudinal range: 20–1040 m.

In spite of the low proportion of post-1990 records in N England it is unlikely to have declined significantly there; it has been observed in great abundance recently at some sites in the South Pennines. Its current status in Ireland is less clear, as it was not a target species during surveys for the recent Red Data Book (Lockhart *et al.*, 2012).

Dioicous; capsules are very rare. Some plants have the majority of their leaves deciduous, presumably serving as a means of vegetative propagation.

European Boreal-montane. Widespread in the central latitudes of Europe, north to N Norway and south to N Spain, Montenegro and Bulgaria. Turkey, Caucasus. Asia, rare in the north, extending south to India, Sri Lanka and the Philippines, Japan. North-eastern and western N America, widely in C America; S America (Venezuela, Bolivia and Peru).



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