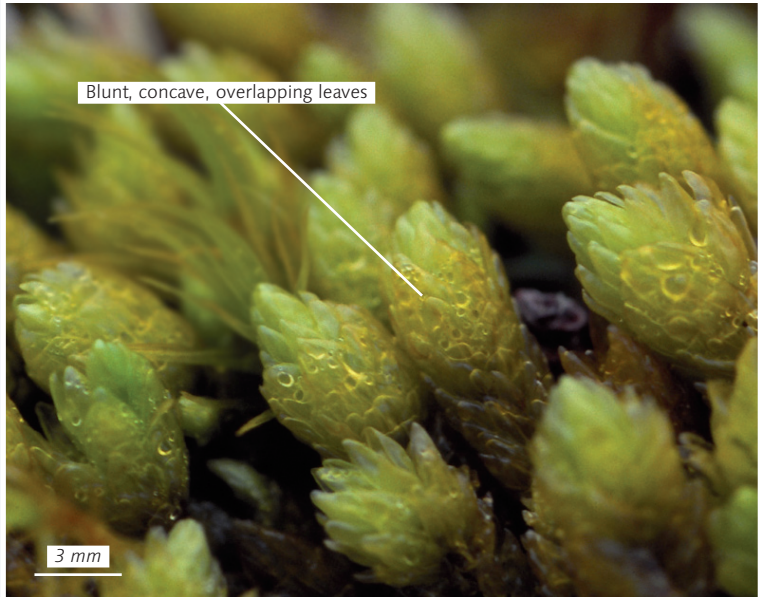
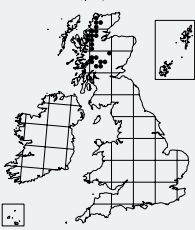


*Aulacomnium turgidum*

Swollen Thread-moss



**Identification** The shoots of *A. turgidum* are up to 10 cm tall. The blunt, concave leaves are 2.5–3 mm long, and appress the stem and overlap each other, giving the shoots of this fairly robust moss a very distinctive, swollen, turgid appearance. The pale yellow-green colour is similar to that of the much more widespread *A. palustre* (p. 625). It grows in small tufts or as scattered shoots. Capsules are unknown in the British Isles.

**Similar species** The large, pale green, turgid shoots are not easily confused with any other species. *A. palustre* (p. 625) is a similar colour, but its leaves are not concave and the shoots are not turgid.

**Habitat** *A. turgidum* grows in short vegetation on heathy ledges on base-rich crags and the tops of mountains, notably with dwarf shrubs and *Racomitrium*.