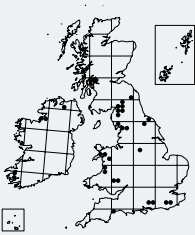


# *Campylostelium saxicola*

Bent-moss



**Identification** This very small moss with shoots only 1–2 mm tall has very narrow, bristle-like leaves (1 mm long). The minute shoots can sometimes form extensive patches in suitable habitats. The smooth capsule is borne on a long, wavy seta.

**Similar species** Similar in size and general appearance to other minute species such as *Seligeria* species (pp. 545–551), especially *S. recurvata* (p. 546), and *Brachydontium trichodes* (p. 552). *B. trichodes* has a longitudinally furrowed capsule borne on a straight seta. *S. recurvata* has slightly shorter capsules and a more regularly curved, not wavy seta. The leaf blade of *C. saxicola* is apparent all the way to the tip, whereas the upper part of *S. recurvata* leaves is more or less entirely composed of nerve. Confusingly, *C. saxicola* and *S. recurvata* tend to grow in the same habitat and often occur together. *Tetradontium brownianum* (p. 334), another small plant of similar habitats, can be distinguished by its capsules having only 4 large peristome teeth and its nerveless, thickened protonemal leaves.

**Habitat** Growing mainly on damp sandstone near streams in hilly districts. It can also grow on rocks which are rich in heavy metals.