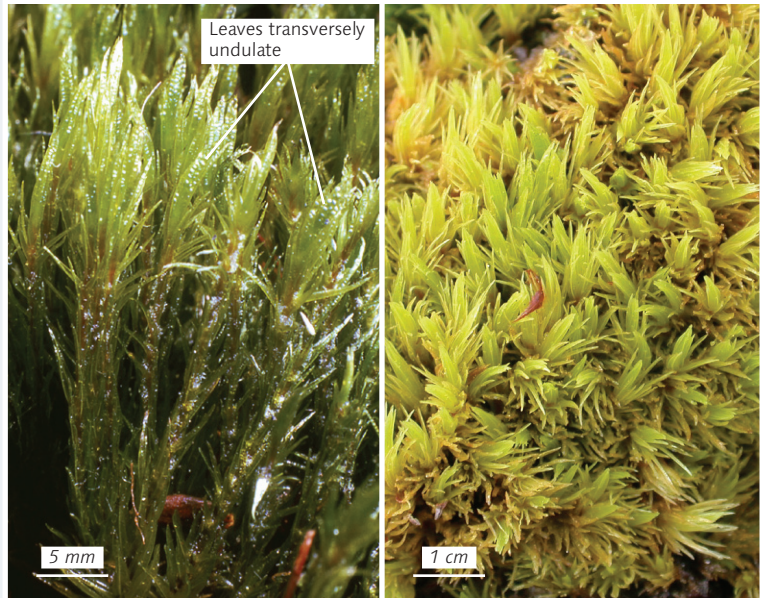
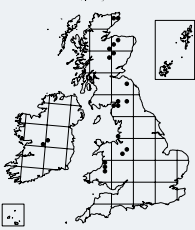


*Dicranum bergeri**D. affine*, *D. undulatum*

Waved Fork-moss



Identification A robust moss, usually occurring in rather dense cushions or turfs, but sometimes forming large hummocks of a characteristically olive-green colour. The leaves are 4–7 mm long, strongly undulate, spearhead-shaped, and taper to a narrow tip which is often bluntly pointed. The leaf margins are usually toothed near the tip, but the nerve lacks teeth at the back. Irregularly shaped cells in the leaf tip are just discernible with a 20 hand lens.

Similar species Confusion is only likely with *D. bonjeanii* (p. 380), but the habit of *D. bergeri*, the usually olive-green colour and the frequently blunt points to the leaves should be sufficient for identification. If the plant is forming large hummocks in a mire with *Sphagnum* species, then confusion is unlikely. On a superficial glance it could be overlooked as *Aulacomnium palustre* (p. 625).

Habitat *D. bergeri* is a rare moss of two rather different sorts of mire. It occurs on raised bogs and similar mires within Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) woodland, but also grows in mires adjacent to strongly base-rich flushes. It has declined in the south and sites have been lost to afforestation in Scotland. However, new colonies are still being found.