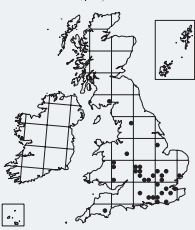


Dicranum flagellare

Whip Fork-moss



Identification Mid- to yellow-green cushions or patches to 5 cm tall. The leaves are about 3.5–4 mm long, erect above, but rather more spreading below when moist, occasionally tending to point in one direction, crisped when dry. They are narrowly spearhead-shaped and taper gradually to a long, fine, tubular tip. Small, erect, small-leaved branchlets are usually present at the tip of the shoots.

Similar species Of other *Dicranum* species, *D. montanum* (p. 386) occasionally has small-leaved branchlets, but it grows on the bark of living trees. *Campylopus flexuosus* (p. 395) is a similar size to *D. flagellare*, but the leaves of *C. flexuosus* have a much wider nerve near the leaf base. *C. flexuosus* has deciduous leaves and shoot apices, but does not have deciduous branches in the same way as *D. flagellare*.

Habitat Grows on decaying logs and stumps in woodland.