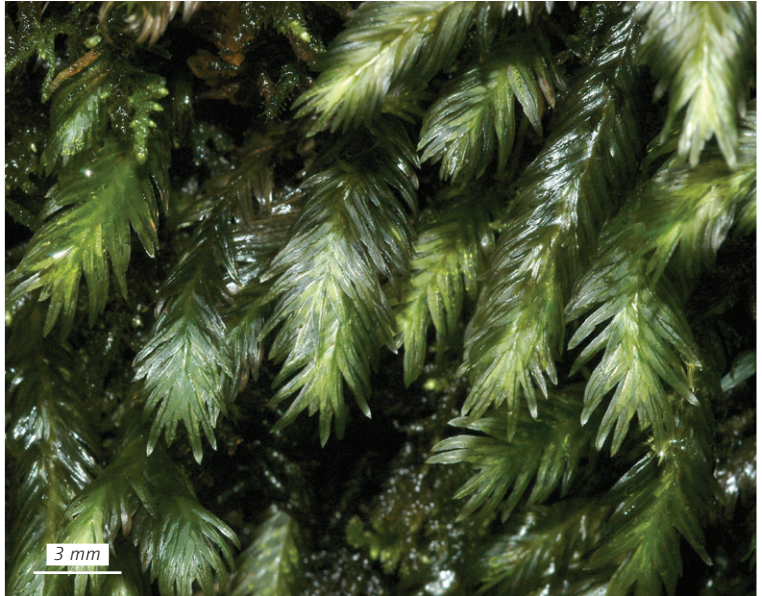
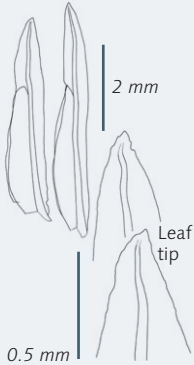
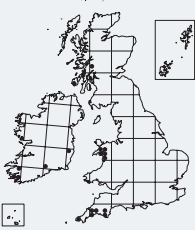


Fissidens polyphyllus

Many-leaved Pocket-moss



Identification

This is a large *Fissidens*, with long stems (up to 20 cm), and shoots commonly 3.5–6.5 mm wide. The narrowly oblong to spearhead-shaped leaves are noticeably elongated in shape (commonly 4.5–6 times as long as wide). The margins appear smooth with a hand lens (finely toothed under a microscope), and there is no differentiated border. The nerve ends in the leaf tip.

Similar species

F. osmundoides (p. 414) is a smaller plant with less elongated leaves. *F. adianthoides* and *F. dubius* (p. 416) have leaves which appear finely toothed when seen with a 20x hand lens, and which have a paler marginal band. Large forms of *F. taxifolius* (p. 415) differ in the shortly excurrent nerve.

Habitat

Rare on wet rocks and banks beside streams and in ravines, usually in shade.