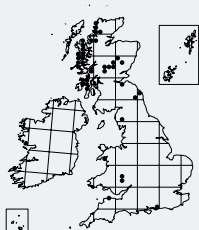


# *Grimmia longirostris*

*G. affine*

North Grimmia



**Identification** *G. longirostris* forms medium-sized, green (or less often hoary), compact cushions up to 2 cm deep. The key features are the rounded leaf back (the nerve not protruding), particularly in the upper part of the leaf, and recurved leaf margins, usually only on one side. Leaves are 2.5–3.75 mm long. Capsules are frequent in this species. They are held just clear of the upper leaves, and are smooth with a conspicuous, long-beaked calyptra.

**Similar species** *G. ovalis* (p. 520) also has smooth, rounded backs to the leaves, but plane leaf margins, and rarely produces capsules. The leaves of *G. trichophylla* (p. 529) are noticeably keeled, and its capsules (which are rare) are furrowed and held on a curved seta. *G. longirostris* may also be confused with *G. donniana* (p. 522), which also often has capsules, but they tend to be more rounded, and the leaves are keeled.

**Habitat** *G. longirostris* is predominantly a northern and upland species, and grows on base-rich to acidic rocks, crags and boulders. In the lowlands, where it is very rare, it occurs on roof tiles.