

*Pseudocalliergon lycopodioides**Drepanocladus lycopodioides*

Large Hook-moss



Identification This scarce and declining moss of strongly calcareous wetlands is larger than the other Hook-mosses, forming shoots 10–25 cm long, and looks more like a golden brown *Scorpidium scorpioides*, but with more longly tapering leaves. Leaves are about 3 mm long. It differs from *S. scorpioides* in having long, well-defined nerves that almost reach the tip of the broad, curved leaves. Its fat shoots form spongy carpets in suitable conditions. Capsules are rare.

Similar species The only similar-looking species of this size is *S. scorpioides* (p. 721) which has either a very short, double nerve (but in the field it often appears to be absent) or very occasionally one which reaches mid-leaf, whereas the nerve in *P. lycopodioides* extends almost to the leaf tip. *Drepanocladus sendtneri* (Smith, 779) and *D. aduncus* (p. 714) may share the habitats of *P. lycopodioides*, but have narrower leaves and more slender shoots.

Habitat Very locally abundant in calcareous dune slacks, seasonal pools and turloughs (seasonal pools overlying limestone), with sedges (*Carex*), silverweed (*Potentilla anserina*) and creeping willow (*Salix repens*). It needs low fertility levels (hence its loss from many fens) and only slightly fluctuating water levels.