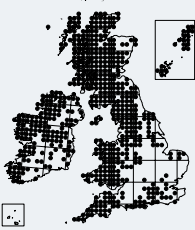


Sphagnum papillosum

Papillose Bog-moss

Section Sphagnum



Identification *S. papillosum* forms mats and low hummocks. The whole plant is typically pale ochre-brown, but can be green or yellowish. There is never any trace of red. The capitulum centre and spreading branches are always a similar colour. Fascicles have 2 spreading and 1 or 2 pendent branches. Upper spreading branches are short and blunt-tipped. Branch leaves are often distinctly spreading at an angle of 45–90° to the branch. Capsules are occasional.

Similar species Uniformly ochreous plants on bogs are distinctive. Green forms on bogs are virtually identical to green *S. magellanicum* (p. 280). However, in these open habitats, both species typically assume their more characteristic and very different colouring. On bogs, any trace of red in the leaves or stem of a plant in Section *Sphagnum* signifies that the plant is *S. magellanicum*. Green or ochreous forms at the margins of bogs, or beside flushes, may be very similar to some forms of *S. palustre* (p. 279) and to *S. affine* (p. 277), and can only be distinguished with certainty under a microscope.

Habitat Typically found on raised and blanket bogs, in valley mires and beside flushes.