

Please direct questions about the collection to  
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## BBS Field Guide: progress report

To date (April 2006), authors have submitted text for draft accounts of 51 taxa. Alan Hale has formatted and published 21 of these drafts on-line, together with distribution maps supplied by Chris Preston from BRC Monks Wood. A draft preface and introduction are also on-line. The front page of Alan's web-site ([www.bryosoft.co.uk/fieldguide](http://www.bryosoft.co.uk/fieldguide)) indicates which accounts still lack illustrations.

Several authors are well on with their accounts, but have not yet submitted drafts. The agreed deadline for submission of draft accounts is the end of 2006.

Some genera still lack someone to write them up (see below). Please let me know if you feel that you can help by writing accounts and/or providing good quality digital images at high resolution.

Sample accounts will continue to be published in *Field Bryology* from time to time, in order to sustain interest, whet appetites, and keep the project in the front of members' minds. A draft account for *Scapania undulata* is reproduced at the end of this article.

### Who's doing what

#### *Text editor*

Sean Edwards (including preparing a key to taxa, with couplets illustrated by line-drawings).

#### *Photo editor*

Alan Hale (including preparing electronic copy).

#### *Distribution maps*

Chris Preston.

#### *Photographs*

In addition to Sean, Alan and a number of authors of accounts, David Holyoak, Peter Mactaggart, Tim Rafferty and Dan Wrench are also offering photographs.

#### *Writing accounts*

Seventeen people have kindly agreed to prepare text for accounts: Andy Amphlett, Tim Blackstock, Tom Blockeel, Sam Bosanquet, Des Callaghan, Bob Finch, Martin Godfrey, Nick Hodgetts, David Long, Alan Orange, John O'Reilly, Ron Porley, Chris Preston, Gordon Rothero, Fred Rumsey, Jonathan Sleath and Jacqueline Wright.

The following genera remain 'unadopted':

Acrocarps: *Buxbaumia*, *Pohlia*, *Plagiobryum*, *Anomobryum*, *Bryum*, *Philonotis*, *Trichostomum*, *Pottiopsis*, *Paraleptodontium*, *Dialytrichia*, *Leptodontium*, *Hymenostylium*, *Molendoa*, *Didymodon*, *Pterygoneurum*, *Aloina*, *Tortula*, *Acaulon*.

Pleurocarps: *Myurella*, *Isopterygiopsis*, *Herzogiella*, *Sematophyllum*.

Leafy liverworts: *Haplomitrium*, *Telaranea*, *Lepidozia*, *Cahpogeia*, *Cephaloziella*, *Anthelia*, *Pleurozia*, *Porella*, *Tetralophozia*, *Barbilophozia*, *Anastrepta*, *Lophozia*, *Leiocolea*, *Gymnocolea*, *Eremonotus*, *Sphenolobopsis*, *Anastrophyllum*, *Tritomaria*, *Leptoscyphus*, *Pedinophyllum*, *Plagiochila*.

Hornworts: *Anthoceros*, *Phaeoceros*.

*Mark Lawley*, 12A Castleview Terrace, Ludlow, SY8 2NG.

*Scapania undulata*

Water Earwort

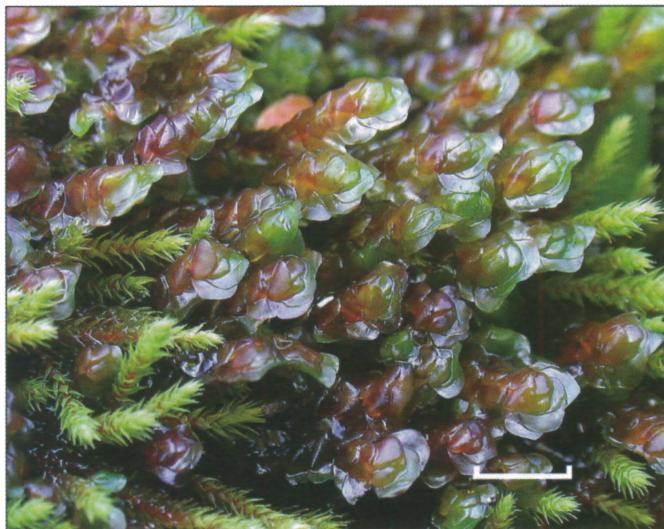


Photo: David Holyoak

Scale bar = 5mm

Line  
drawings  
to go  
here

**Identification**

Typically a large, flacid-looking *Scapania* with rounded leaf lobes which are appressed to each other, a straight keel, a non-decurrent front lobe and a decurrent back lobe. It is usually dark green, but may be bright mid green or yellowish-green; some forms from exposed places are bright purple.

**Similar species**

A very variable species that could be confused with two rare species as well as *S. irrigua* (page ...); the decurrent back lobe and appressed leaves are the main characters separating it from that species. The rare species need to be identified microscopically, but field characters allow them to be collected: *S. paludicola* has a very strongly arched keel and occasionally brown gemmae (usually absent), whilst *S. uliginosa* has longly decurrent front lobes, a strongly arched keel and shoot tips that curve backwards. A *Scapania* in a very wet place that does not exactly match another species is likely to be *S. undulata*.

**Habitat**

This, the commonest British *Scapania*, is often abundant in wet places. Its most typical habitats are rocks in streams and rivers and flushes and springheads in the uplands. On springheads it often grows as great spongy mounds. It can also occur in a wide range of other habitats, including damp sand, gravel or soil on stream- or ditch-sides, in old quarries or in woodland. *S. undulata* sometimes even grows on decaying logs in humid woodland, but this is an atypical habitat.

