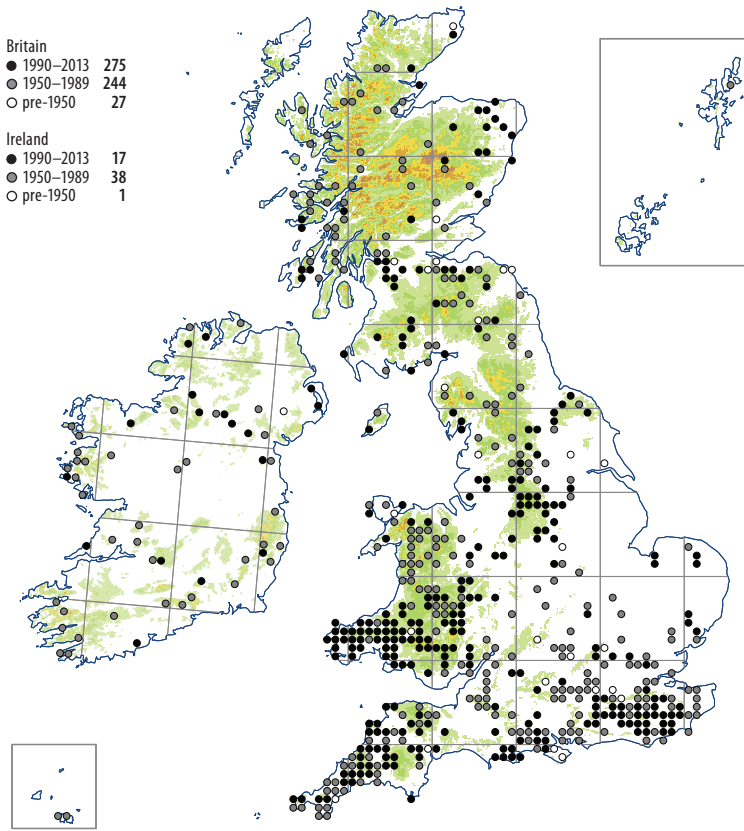


Fossombronina wondraczekii



On damp acid soil on disturbed woodland rides, tracksides, streamsides, ditch banks, marshy pastures, stubble fields and at the edge of ponds, lakes and reservoirs. In the chestnut woods of Kent it behaves as a 'coppice plant', tending to occur on recently disturbed soil in the year after coppicing. Although very similar ecologically to *Fossombronina pusilla* and often growing with it, *wondraczekii* extends onto more acid, less fertile soils, and occurs by lakes and reservoirs – a habitat not exploited by *F. pusilla*. Although rarer in England, it tends to be commoner than *F. pusilla* in many areas of Scotland. It is a characteristic species of Pennine reservoirs, where common associates include *Ephemerum serratum*, *Pseudophemerum nitidum*, and bulbiferous species of *Pohlia*. Altitudinal range: 5–550 m.

There has been a similar decline to that experienced by *F. pusilla* and, as with that species, the Survey of the Bryophytes of Arable Land produced only a slight increase in records suggesting that the decline is particularly acute on arable land. However, that may merely reflect the rarity of *F. wondraczekii* as an arable species in lowland Britain.

Monoicous. Sporophytes are common, recorded throughout the year but perhaps most frequently in autumn.

European Temperate. Throughout mainland Europe. N Africa; Himalaya, Sri Lanka, Réunion and Mauritius; Australia; eastern N America.

C.D. Preston

