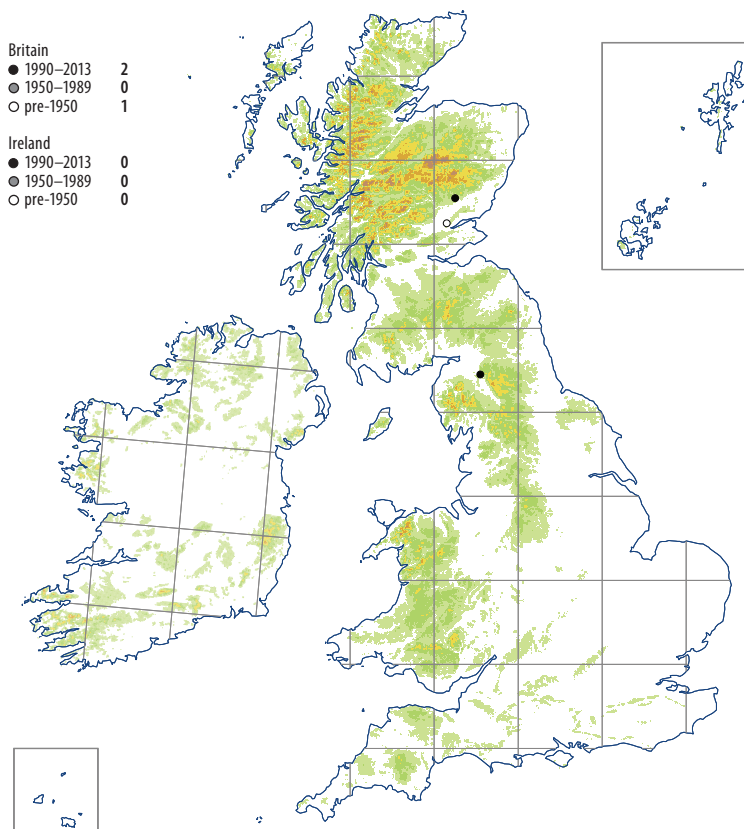


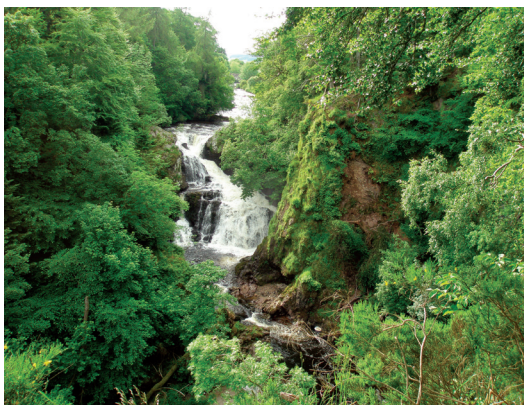
Anomodon attenuatus



In the Den of Airlie, Angus it grows on calcareous Old Red Sandstone and at the base of a sycamore in the flood zone of the stream, associated with *Neckera complanata*. In England it occurs on silty sandstone boulders and on the bases of alder and sycamore trees on the banks of the River Eden in Cumbria. Its associates on boulders there include *Anomodon viticulosus*, *Bryoerythrophyllum recurvirostrum*, *Homalia trichomanoides* and *Neckera crispa*. There is an old record of it as an epiphyte on alders at Elcho, Perthshire. Its association with river banks in Britain is not typical of its occurrence elsewhere. In Europe it is a characteristic

forest species on rocks and on the bases and trunks of trees. Altitudinal range: 40–150 m.

The species has a continental distribution, and is one of a number of bryophytes that are very rare in Britain but widespread and locally frequent in continental Europe. It was first recorded at the Den of Airlie in 1868 and was thought to be extinct there until rediscovered in 1996. At Elcho it was recorded from 1900 until 1911. Rather surprisingly its English site was not discovered until 2008, but there is no reason to suppose that it is a recent arrival there.



Dioicous; capsules are not known in Britain. The species lacks specialised means of vegetative propagation.

Circumpolar Boreo-temperate. C and N Europe north to Iceland, C Fennoscandia and the N Urals, and in the mountains of S Europe south to NE Spain, S Italy and N Greece. Turkey, Caucasus to Iran and Tajikistan. Himalaya, S and E Siberia. N and C America, West Indies.

T.L. Blockeel

◀ River Isla at Reekie Linn, Angus, 2011. Gordon Rothero