

Marchantia polymorpha subsp. *montivagans*/*polymorpha*/*ruderalis*
Mountain/Star-headed/Common Liverwort

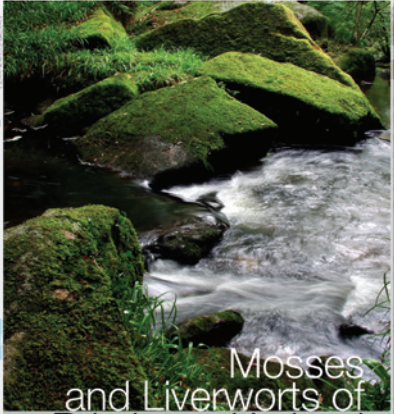


Mosses and Liverworts of Britain and Ireland a field guide

The want of a field guide has for many years greatly hindered further spread of interest in British and Irish field bryology. By filling this gap in the market, the guide will make a group that has largely been the realm of specialists into an accessible and popular interest for naturalists, reaching far beyond the current pool of bryologists, and into the wider community of naturalists beyond. Indeed, the guide makes an attractive, modestly priced Christmas or birthday gift for friends and relatives who are or might become interested in bryophytes.

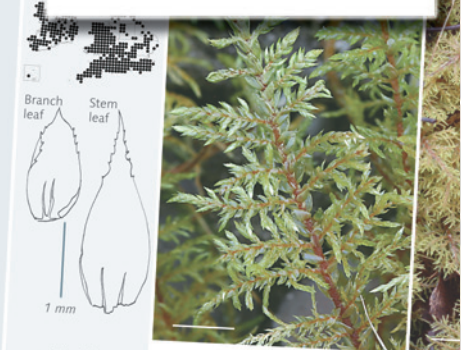
This book is the only up-to-date, user-friendly guide to identifying British and Irish bryophytes in the field, with hundreds of colour photographs and black and white drawings showing what species look like, together with notes on how to identify and distinguish similar species, and habitat notes and distribution maps showing where they occur. You can view accounts of species, the keys and galleries, and other introductory material at <http://britishbryologicalsociety.org.uk/>

The **British Bryological Society** will publish the guide, minimizing the price. Use this flyer to order your copies (see *overleaf*), or go to the BBS website at <http://britishbryologicalsociety.org.uk/> to order online using PayPal. You can buy the guide at a concessionary pre-publication price of **£19.95** per copy until **31 October 2009**, after which it will be available at **£24.95** per copy.



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British Bryological Society



Identification

This glossy, bright green, robust moss has regularly a red stem. Stem leaves are quite large, 2.5–3 mm outline with a long, tapering tip. Branch leaves are shorter tip. Both types of leaf have a short, double sharply toothed margins in their upper half. Under a appear furry due to the presence of branched filaments.

Similar species

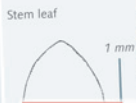
Thuidium tamariscinum (p. 598) is also has branched leaves grow in similar habitats, but has a green (rather than red) stem. Also, stem leaves of *T. tamariscinum* are shorter point.

Habitat

H. splendens is common and may be abundant among moorlands and in acidic woodlands. Whilst usually found in similar habitats, it may sometimes be found in...

Sphagnum skyense

Skye Bog-moss



Barbula unguiculata
Bird's-claw Beard-moss

Identification This species grows in distinctive, bright yellow-green turfs up to 1.5 cm high. The leaves spread on the stems when moist, but take on a tight spiral level when dry, making the yellow nerve very conspicuous. Each leaf is parallel-sided for most of its length with a rounded tip from which the nerve protrudes in a short, thick point. The margins are incurved, often for most of the length of the leaf. Capsules are not common, but when present are borne upright on a red seta.

Similar species *B. convoluta* (p. 256) tends to be a smaller plant, the leaf tip is more tapered and the nerve ends in the leaf tip or is only very shortly incurved. The capsules of *B. convoluta* are borne a yellow seta. *B. unguiculata* may be confused with *Fructetum brachybotrum* (p. 294), but that is a bigger plant which has leaves that are mostly twice as long and do not have an incurved margin. *Syntherisma amplicornis* (Smith, p. 388) lacks a protruding nerve at the leaf tip, and the leaves may become orange-brown.

Habitat This is a plant of neutral or base-rich, disturbed and open habitats such as the edges of paths, gardens, fields and old walls. It is common throughout Britain and Ireland.

Photos: Richard Looft (top) & Eric Colclough (right) (1) Drawing: © Neil Martin Geddy

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