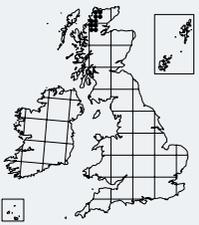
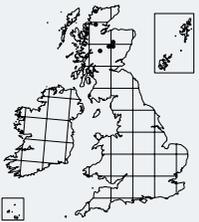


*Anastrophyllum alpinum/joergensenii*

Joergensen's Notchwort

*A. alpinum**A. joergensenii**A. alpinum**A. alpinum**A. alpinum*

## Identification

These two liverworts look very similar, with very concave, symmetrical leaves, all of which are curved forwards slightly. Both are glossy, dark reddish-brown and grow as loose patches of upright plants. Until 2005 they were thought to be forms of a single species, but now *A. alpinum* is known to be the slightly commoner, larger species (with shoots between 1 and 2 mm wide), and *A. joergensenii* a rarer, smaller plant (with shoots up to 1 mm wide). Although of different widths, both species have stems of similar length (about 5 to 10 cm), so *A. joergensenii* is noticeably more slender.

## Similar species

The only species that is similar to *A. alpinum* is the longer-leaved *A. donnianum* (p. 134). There is a slight possibility of confusing the slender *A. joergensenii* with *A. minutum* (p. 132), but *A. minutum* has less concave leaves, with deep apical notches and asymmetrical lobes.

## Habitat

*A. alpinum* is one of the scarcer members of the northern hepatic mat and restricted to the far north-west of the Scottish mainland. It grows among rocks or under heather on well-drained areas by very humid, steep, north- or east-facing slopes, often above lochans in corries. In contrast, *A. joergensenii* is primarily a plant of poorly drained, montane heaths and bogs, although it also grows occasionally on rocky slopes. It is slightly more widespread than *A. alpinum*, occurring in the Cairngorms as well as the north-west, but is known from fewer sites.

*Note.* *A. alpinum* does not appear in Paton (1999). For further details, please refer to *Journal of Bryology* 28, 108–117, 280.