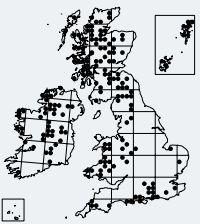
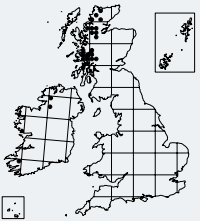


Calypogeia sphagnicola/suecica

Bog/Swedish Pouchwort

*C. sphagnicola**C. suecica*

Very narrow shoot

2 mm

C. sphagnicola

Identification These two small *Calypogeia* species are unlikely to be confused with each other in their typical habitats, but may occur together in a few places. They differ from other members of the genus in having shoots that are usually less than 1 mm wide, although both can get a little bigger, and sometimes in having leaves that point up from the substrate. Generally, *C. sphagnicola* has narrower leaves than other members of the genus, and these tend to curve down at the tip and often end with a notch. In contrast, *C. suecica* has rather stubby leaves with squarely truncate tips. Gemmae are common in *C. sphagnicola*, but rather less so in *C. suecica*.

Similar species Slender plants of *C. fissa* (p. 85) can appear identical to *C. sphagnicola* in the field; indeed they can sometimes be traced down through *Sphagnum* to where they are attached to typical shoots! Microscopical confirmation relies on examination of oil bodies, so should be done soon after collection because they disintegrate on drying. The same is true of small *C. fissa* or *C. muelleriana* (p. 86) on logs, which may mimic *C. suecica*.

Habitat As its name suggests, *C. sphagnicola* grows almost exclusively on *Sphagnum*: both in bog pools and on hummocks between them. Typically it lies flat on the surface of a *Sphagnum* patch. The favoured habitat of *C. suecica* is rotting logs in humid wooded valleys. Conifer logs are perhaps colonized more often than logs of deciduous trees. There are also two records of *C. suecica* on relatively exposed, recently burned peat.