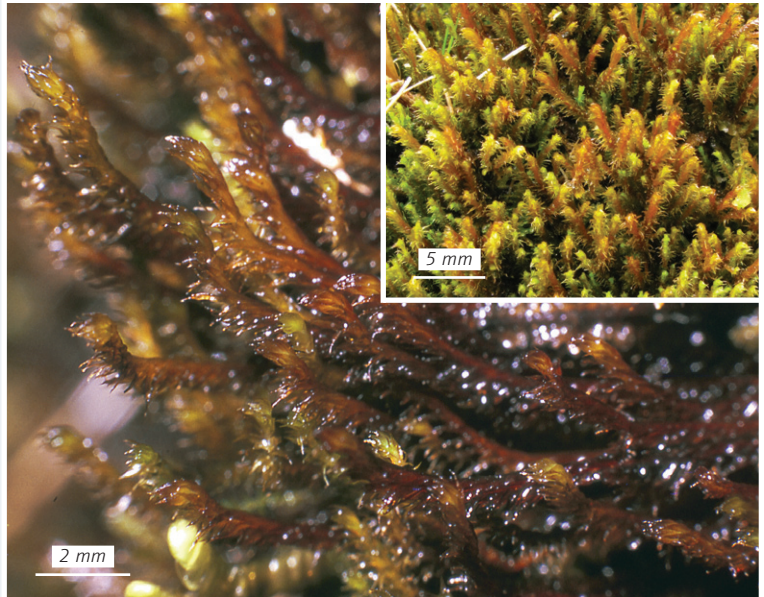
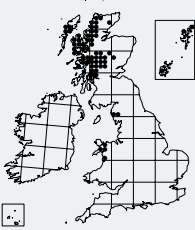


Herbertus stramineus

Straw Prongwort



Identification *H. stramineus* is a very moss-like liverwort, growing in erect, dirty brown or almost black tufts. Shoots are 3–7 cm tall. With a hand lens, its closely overlapping leaves are obviously bilobed to about the middle. The leaves are 1–1.5 mm long. The lobes are finely pointed and spreading, but not horizontally. Fertile plants are rare.

Similar species Both *H. aduncus* (p. 75) and *H. borealis* (p. 76) differ in their larger size, up to 20 cm tall, in colourful tufts, with leaf tips spreading horizontally and in their preference for liverwort heaths in montane dwarf shrub communities.

Habitat *H. stramineus*, unlike *H. aduncus* and *H. borealis*, often grows on calcareous substrates, such as soil on cliffs and rock ledges, turf banks and amongst boulders, usually in the mountains, but also down to sea level.