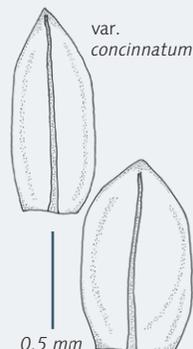
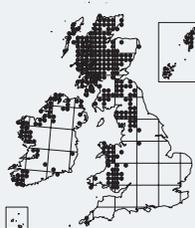


Anomobryum julaceum

A. filiforme

Slender Silver-moss



Identification

Shoots grow in tufts or scattered, typically 1.5–4 cm tall, but only 0.25–0.5 mm wide, and often have a few branches. They are glossy, silvery green or yellowish above and pale brown below, with short (1 mm long), erect, concave leaves that overlap each other and appress the stem. The nerve reaches half or three-quarters of the way towards the leaf tip and sometimes even closer to the tip in var. *julaceum*; in var. *concinnatum* (*A. concinnatum*) the nerve reaches the tip. Bulbils quite often develop in the axils of leaves. Horizontal or drooping, cylindrical capsules about 3 mm long are rare from late spring to autumn. They have a short, yellow peristome, and are borne on a red seta about 2 cm long. The leaves surrounding the base of each seta are longer than the other leaves.

Similar species

Bryum argenteum (p. 596) also has pale, narrow shoots, but these are silvery white rather than silvery green or yellowish, and are never branched. Its leaves are not so oblong or tongue-shaped as in *A. julaceum*, and the capsule is 1.5 mm long rather than 3 mm. *B. argenteum* may also develop bulbils in its leaf axils, like *A. julaceum*. *Plagiobryum zieri* (p. 578) has wider shoots tinged pink below, and capsules 6–7 mm long. The leaves of *Aongstroemia longipes* (p. 363) are not clearly widest at the middle, and they narrow more abruptly to a blunt tip. *Myurella julacea* (p. 775) is tiny, with leaves only about 0.5 mm long.

Habitat

A. julaceum grows on moist, often slightly base-rich soil by streams, waterfalls and lakes, in flushes and gullies, and on wet sloping rock; also in disused quarries and gravel pits. *A. julaceum* var. *concinnatum* favours more base-rich, often drier places in the mountains.