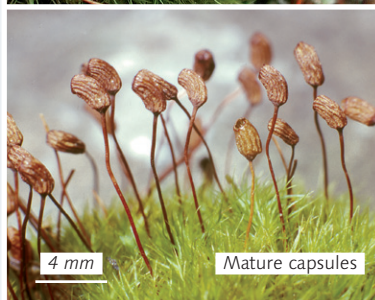
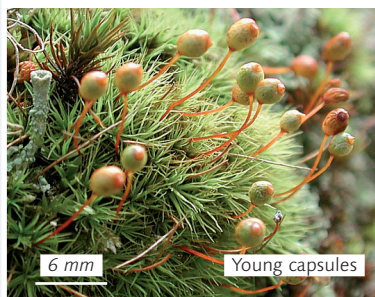
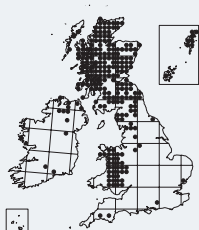
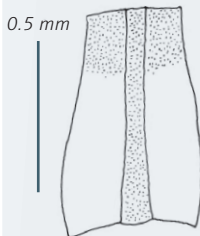


# *Bartramia ithyphylla*

Stiff Apple-moss



Leaf base



**Identification** Small- to medium-sized (shoots 0.5–4 cm tall), pale glaucous green tufts or cushions. The leaves are 5–6 mm long and narrowly spearhead-shaped. The upper part points straight out from the stem, and is reflexed from a silvery sheathing base which can clearly be seen with a 10 hand lens. When dry, the leaves are wavy or slightly crisped. Young capsules are spherical, but become deeply furrowed as they age. They are common, 2 mm long, and borne on a seta around 1–3 mm tall.

**Similar species** This is the only British species of *Bartramia* with a silvery sheathing leaf base. *B. pomiformis* (p. 630) is otherwise similar. *B. halleriana* (p. 629) is larger (up to 15 cm tall) with curlier leaves and capsules that lie amongst the leaves or just above them.

**Habitat** More or less base-rich rock crevices in northern and western districts. Occasionally also in hedge banks.