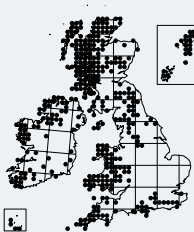


Entosthodon obtusus

Funaria obtusa

Blunt Cord-moss



Identification A small (shoots up to 5 mm tall) moss growing in scattered shoots or loose tufts. The leaves are 1.5–2.5 mm long, spreading, with large, lax cells, easily visible with a 10 hand lens. Capsules are frequent, reddish, erect, almost spherical, with a low and shortly domed lid, and narrowed abruptly into the seta.

Similar species *E. attenuatus* (p. 562) has a longer capsule tapering gradually into the seta, and deep cherry-red rhizoids. *E. fascicularis* (p. 564) looks similar, but usually grows in arable fields or on other recently disturbed soil. Also, its leaves lack a border of elongated cells (present in *E. obtusus*, but not always easy to discern with a hand lens). *Physcomitrium pyriforme* (p. 565) is larger, with capsules that have a beaked (rather than conical) lid. Species of *Bryum* (pp. 581–599), *Pohlia* (pp. 603–611) and related genera have much smaller leaf cells.

Habitat Wet, peaty soil in western areas, such as ditches, rock crevices, etc. *E. obtusus* is more frequent in the uplands than *E. attenuatus*, and also occurs more frequently in marshy ground.