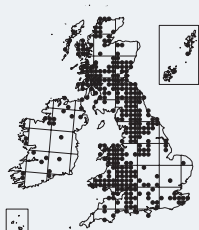


*Mnium stellare*

Starry Thyme-moss



**Identification** Shoots are 1–10 cm long. The leaves of *M. stellare* are 2–3 mm long, broadly egg-shaped with toothed margins, and lack a differentiated border. The contents of dead cells turn dull blue. This is unique in British and Irish mosses, and most striking in dried specimens. Capsules are 1.7 mm long, and very rare.

**Similar species** The leaves of all other British species of *Mnium* (pp. 612, 614) have a differentiated border of elongated cells.

**Habitat** This species is found on rocks and soil in damp and shady, base-rich habitats.