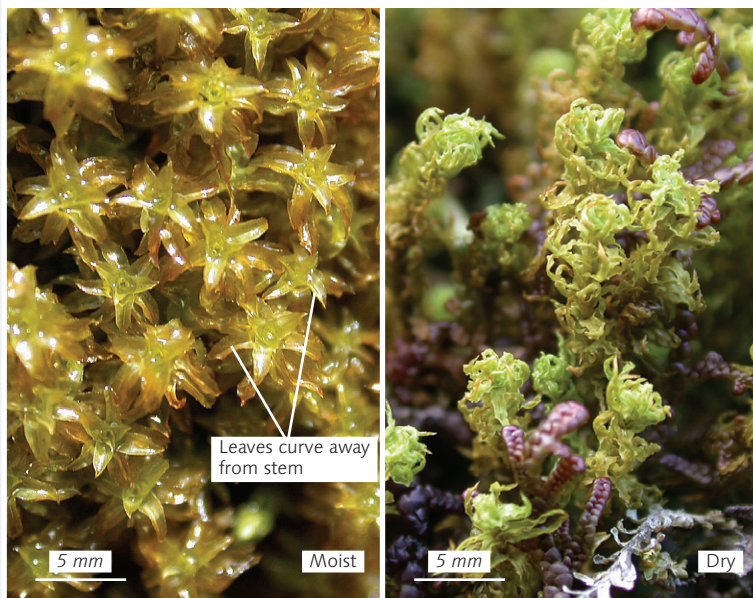
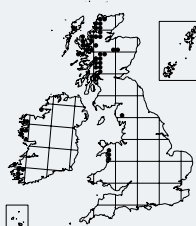


*Paraleptodontium recurvifolium**Leptodontium recurvifolium*

Drooping-leaved Beard-moss



**Identification** A pale yellowish-green moss growing in loose, erect tufts 2–4 cm (rarely up to 10 cm) tall or as stems mixed amongst other bryophytes. The most distinctive features are the leaves that curve strongly away from the stem; they are recurved and slightly undulate, and under a hand lens have plane margins with a pale border and coarse, irregular teeth towards the acute tip. Leaves are about 2.5 mm long. Capsules are unknown.

**Similar species** *Trichostomum hibernicum* (p. 436) is perhaps most similar in habit, and also sometimes in habitat, but *P. recurvifolium* differs in its smaller leaves that spread or strongly curve away from the stem and have a pale border and coarse teeth. *Dichodontium pellucidum* and *D. flavescens* (p. 361) can be similar and also have coarse, marginal teeth, but the leaves are more spearhead-shaped and lack a pale border.

**Habitat** This rare, oceanic-montane moss grows on rock ledges and rocky slopes, and under dripping rocks, sometimes near waterfalls, usually where base-rich water flushes the ground, and often on north- and east-facing slopes.