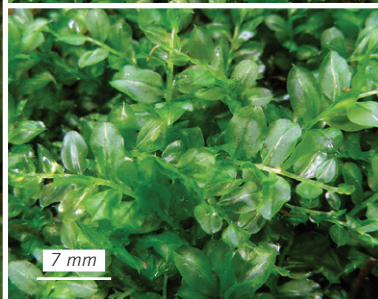
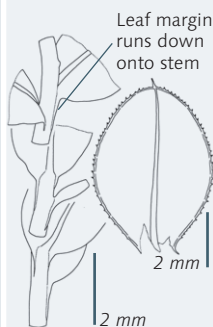
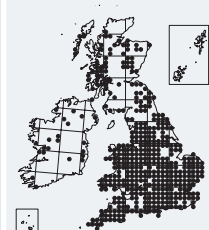


Plagiomnium affine

Many-fruited Thyme-moss

Key 167



Identification *P. affine* has trailing, non-fertile stems (shoots grow up to 10 cm long), and leaves (5–7 mm long) that longly but narrowly run down onto the stem, and are toothed throughout. The leaf cells are longer than wide, arranged in diagonal rows which can be discerned with a 20 hand lens. The habitat helps to distinguish *P. affine* from some similar *Plagiomnium* species. Capsules are very rare.

Similar species *P. elatum* (p. 620) has a leaf base that runs down onto the stem more broadly, and its non-fertile shoots are erect rather than curved. *P. cuspidatum* (p. 619) and *P. rostratum* (p. 623) differ in the leaf cells being little longer than wide, and not in diagonal rows. *P. ellipticum* (p. 622) has leaves that do not run down onto the stem, and grows in wetter places.

Habitat Occurs on the ground in moist, but not wet, base-rich or slightly acidic habitats in woodland and in turf. Frequent, mainly lowland in distribution.