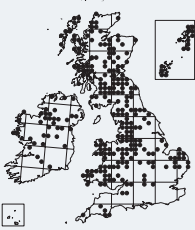


*Plagiomnium ellipticum*

Marsh Thyme-moss



**Identification** Non-fertile stems of *P. ellipticum* on wet ground are usually erect, but sometimes curved, and shoots are up to 9 cm long. Leaves are 5–6 mm long. The leaf cells are longer than wide and arranged in diagonal rows. The leaf base that does not or scarcely runs down onto the stem is an important distinction from related species. Capsules are very rare.

**Similar species** *P. affine* (p. 621), *P. elatum* (p. 620), and *P. medium* (Smith, p. 631) have a leaf base that distinctly runs down onto the stem (although these are narrow in *P. affine*).

**Habitat** Occasional on wet ground in flushes, beside streams, and in damp grassland and woodland.