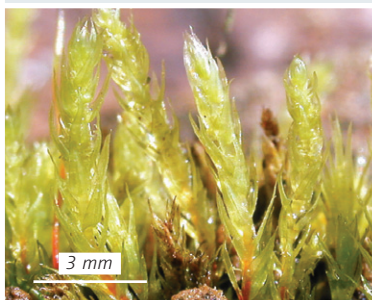
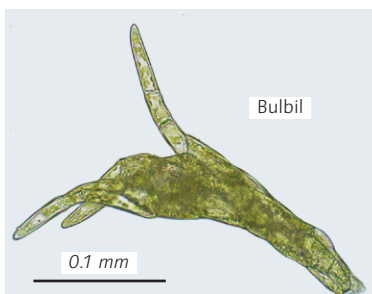
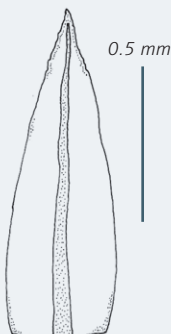
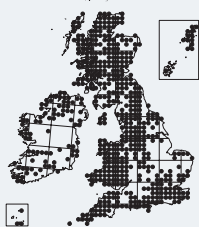


# *Pohlia annotina*

*P. proligera*

Pale-fruited Thread-moss

Key 252



## Identification

*P. annotina* is a small (about 0.75–1 cm tall), delicate-looking, pale green moss with many (usually 3 to about 20) light green bulbils in each of the leaf axils on the upper part of the shoots. These bulbils are less than 0.5 mm long, vary greatly in shape, and are visible to the naked eye when they form clusters in the leaf axils. They become very obvious when viewed through a hand lens. Leaves are 1–1.25 mm long. Capsules are very rare.

## Similar species

*P. annotina* resembles several other less common bulbiferous *Pohlia* species (*P. filum*, *P. andalusica*, *P. bulbifera*, *P. proligera*, *P. camptotrachela*, *P. flexuosa*; Smith, pp. 604–609). *P. drummondii* (p. 606) and *P. filum* (Smith, p. 604) have only one larger (up to 1 mm long) bulbil in each leaf axil, but other species have numerous bulbils in each leaf axil. It is wise to examine these microscopically in order to distinguish them, although with experience they can be distinguished using a hand lens. *Bryum gemmiferum* (p. 594) also has many light green bulbils in the upper leaf axils, but its leaves are shorter relative to their width than those of bulbiferous *Pohlia* species.

## Habitat

*P. annotina* grows on well-drained but usually damp soil by ditches, streams and rivers, margins of pools, on waste ground, in gravel pits, woodland rides, and on damp rocks.