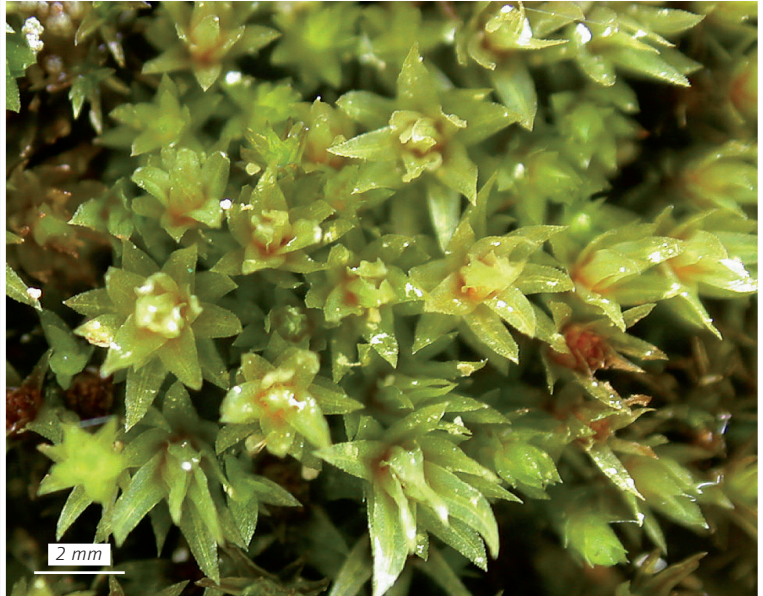
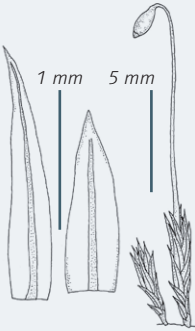
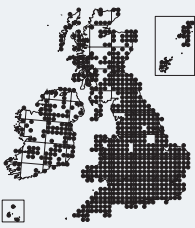


*Pohlia melanodon**P. carnea*, *P. delicatula*

Pink-fruited Thread-moss

Key 255



Identification *P. melanodon* forms scattered shoots or tufts, up to about 1 cm tall, with delicate-looking, pale green leaves and reddish stems. Upper leaves are about 1.5 mm long; lower leaves are less than 1 mm long. The prominent nerve ceases below the leaf tip. Horizontal or pendulous capsules occasionally develop in winter and spring, borne on a short (7–12 mm) seta. Young setae are thick and succulent.

Similar species *P. wahlenbergii* (p. 611) is a paler plant. *P. lutescens* (p. 609) and *P. lescuriana* (Smith, p. 611) have narrower leaves, but can sometimes only be confidently distinguished from *P. melanodon* by microscopical examination of their rhizoidal tubers. Similar *Bryum* species (e.g. *B. pallens*, p. 584, and *B. rubens*, p. 598) have leaves in which the nerve reaches the tip. *Epipterygium tozeri* (p. 602) has wider leaves in which the nerve ends about two-thirds of the way up the leaf.

Habitat *P. melanodon* grows on moist or wet clay banks in the lowlands, especially by streams and rivers; also by paths, in fields, and woodland rides.