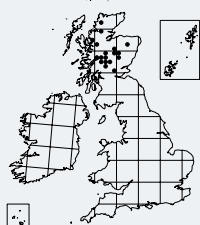
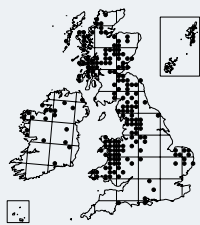


Rhizomnium magnifolium/ *pseudopunctatum*

Large-leaf/Felted Thyme-moss



R. magnifolium



R. pseudopunctatum



R. magnifolium



R. pseudopunctatum

Identification

The erect shoots are 4–12 cm tall in *R. pseudopunctatum*, and 2–7 cm tall in *R. magnifolium*. The leaves are 7–8 mm long and 5–6 mm wide, with an untoothed, differentiated border. Like *R. punctatum*, the stem has relatively coarse rhizoids arising from the leaf axils, but in addition, numerous more slender rhizoids arise along the internodes, forming a close felt. Younger parts of the stem where rhizoids first appear are the best place to see the distinction between the two types of rhizoid. In *R. pseudopunctatum* the leaves only rarely have a small, abrupt point, and the nerve always ends below the leaf tip. In *R. magnifolium* the leaves sometimes have a short, abrupt point, and the nerve occasionally reaches the leaf tip. However, determining the inflorescence (male and female together in one inflorescence in *R. pseudopunctatum*, but on different parts of the shoot in *R. magnifolium*) is the most reliable way to distinguish the two. *R. pseudopunctatum* frequently produces capsules 3.5 mm long in winter and spring. *R. magnifolium* is not known to produce capsules in the British Isles.

Similar species

R. punctatum (p. 616) differs in the absence of very small, fine rhizoids. *Plagiomnium* species (pp. 618–623) differ in the lack of red or brown pigments, and in the (usually) toothed leaf margins.

Habitat

R. pseudopunctatum occurs in fens and base-rich marshes and flushes. *R. magnifolium* is typical of wet, base-poor, montane habitats, including sheltered gullies and snowbeds, but is also known from mildly base-rich flushes down to about 400 m altitude in the hills.