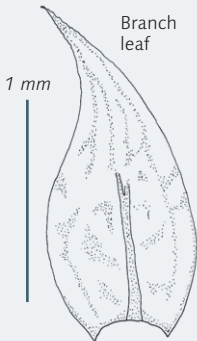
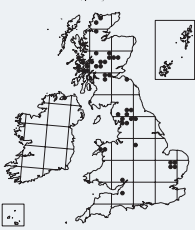


*Rhytidium rugosum*

Wrinkle-leaved Feather-moss

**Identification**

This large, uncommon moss forms yellow-green and golden brown tufts and patches. Its swollen shoots grow 5–10 cm long, and curve at the tip. The glossy, egg-shaped, concave leaves closely appress and overlap each other, and all curve and point in the same direction. Whether dry or moist, the leaves are transversely wrinkled as well as being furrowed longitudinally. Leaves on the stems are 3–4 mm long; those on the branches are smaller and narrower relative to their length. The nerve forks slightly where it ceases in mid-leaf. Capsules are unknown in Britain.

**Similar species**

*Pseudocalliergon lycopodioides* (p. 726) looks somewhat similar, but occurs in wet places.

**Habitat**

*R. rugosum* grows in short, well-drained, calcareous grassland, and on south- and south-west-facing ledges on limestone cliffs, especially in the mountains. It may also be found in limestone quarries, and more rarely in calcareous dunes.