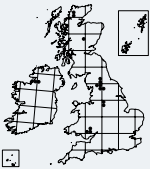
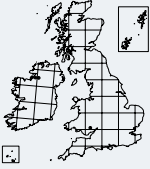
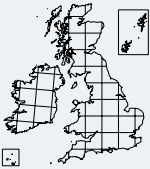
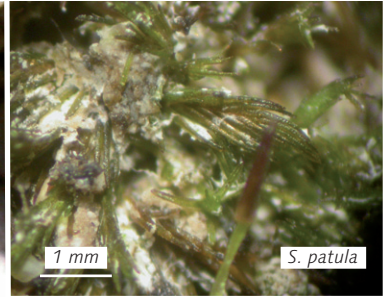
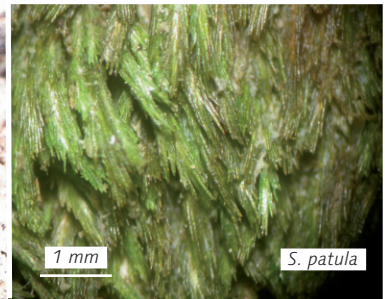


Seligeria patula/trifaria

Triangular/Trifid Rock-bristle

*S. patula/trifaria* agg.*S. patula**S. trifaria**S. patula**S. patula**S. patula*

Identification

S. patula and *S. trifaria* grow in shoots 2–4 mm tall and differ from other species of *Seligeria* in having narrow, pointed leaves that are less than 1 mm long, appressed and arranged in 3 distinct rows. However, the plants are often so encrusted with algae that this is hard to appreciate. Capsules are often present, but rather sparse, with a wide-mouthed, egg-shaped capsule held clear of the leaves on a short, straight, stout seta; the capsules have a peristome. Distinguishing the very rare *S. trifaria* from the uncommon *S. patula* requires a microscope and fertile material.

Similar species

None of the other British and Irish species of *Seligeria* (pp. 545–549, 551) has 3-ranked leaves that are held against the stem.

Habitat

On shaded, damp, often flushed, vertical, limestone rock faces, often encrusted with calcite and algae.