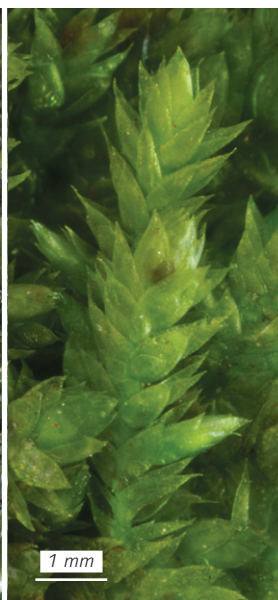
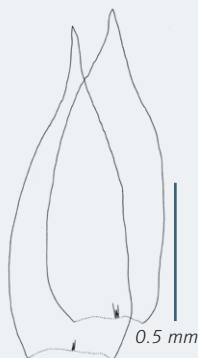
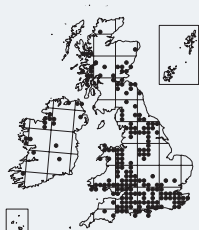


Taxiphillum wissgrillii

Depressed Feather-moss

**Identification**

This is a rather anonymous plant, which looks like *Pseudotaxiphillum elegans*, but grows on calcareous substrates. Its flattened shoots grow up to 3 cm long, and form pale green mats which are often noticeably glossy. Leaves are slightly less than 1 mm long, mostly symmetrical, and taper to an acute point. The nerve is very short and double, or absent. Capsules are very rarely produced.

Similar species

Pseudotaxiphillum elegans (p. 788) has more longly tapering leaves, often has thread-like branchlets and avoids calcareous substrates. Some *Plagiothecium* species (pp. 779–785) look similar; until experience has been gained, they are best distinguished microscopically by the leaf base which runs down onto the stem.

Habitat

A lowland moss of calcareous habitats, growing mostly on rock, but sometimes on soil and tree bases, usually in woodland; it often grows on loose pieces of limestone on the ground.