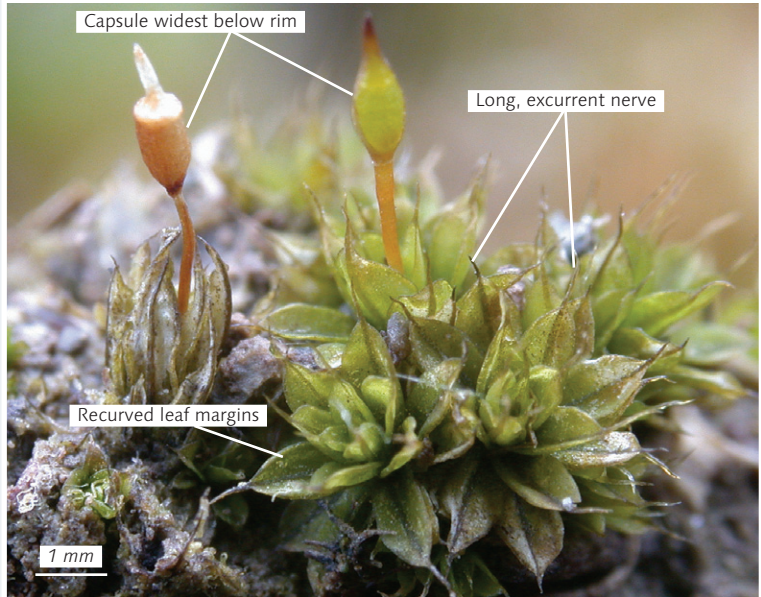
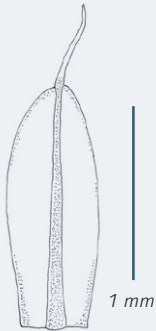
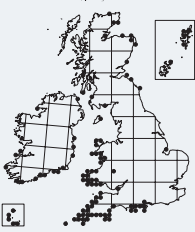


*Tortula viridifolia**Pottia crinita*

Bristly Pottia



Identification

Shoots form rather pale green tufts up to 5 mm tall. The upper leaves are about 1.5 mm long (excluding the usually longly excurrent nerve), widest in the upper part of the leaf, and larger than leaves further down the shoot. The leaf margins are recurved, and the nerve is excurrent for up to about 1 mm beyond the leaf tip. Capsules are common in spring, widest below the rim, longer than wide (about 1–1.5 mm long), with an obliquely pointed lid and no peristome.

Similar species

T. modica (p. 483) is often bigger (shoots up to 1.5 cm tall), has narrower leaves relative to their length, with a more tapering tip, and often a more shortly excurrent nerve. The rare *T. wilsonii* (Smith, p. 358) has more prominently roughened cells than *T. viridifolia*, so its leaves look very opaque – plants with opaque leaves need to be checked microscopically. The capsule of *T. lanceola* (p. 481) has a peristome. *T. canescens* (p. 478) has a silvery excurrent nerve. The leaves of *Pottiopsis caespitosa* (p. 437) are broader relative to their width, and have a nerve that is only shortly excurrent.

Habitat

T. viridifolia is a coastal species, frequent on shallow, unshaded soil on banks and cliffs, and in crevices of rocks.