**Riccia canaliculata**
Channelled Crystalwort

This terrestrial *Riccia* of waterside habitats grows in rosettes or patches up to 2 cm diameter. The linear thalli fork 2–6 times into 2 nearly equal branches that are less than 1 mm wide, bright or yellowish-green and sometimes tinged violet, opaque, with a groove along the upper surface, particularly near the tip (this groove becomes more conspicuous on drying). The tip is narrowed and broadly pointed without a central notch. The surface has a very faint network of lines, and minute air pores are visible as dots. Capsules are frequent, and visible as bulges on the underside of the thallus.

**Similar species**
Terrestrial forms of *R. fluitans* (p. 261) and *R. rhenana* (Paton, p. 583) are very similar, but differ in the translucent thalli which have a network of lines on the upper surface, and lack a median groove even when dry. The most reliable difference is the branch tips, which are broad and almost truncate with a central notch. However, microscopical confirmation of spore ornamentation is advisable. *R. cavernosa* (p. 263), *R. crystallina* (p. 262) and *R. huebeneriana* (p. 264) grow in similar habitats, but all differ in the broader thalli that become distinctly spongy in the older parts.

**Habitat**
This rare species is mostly found on damp mud on reservoir margins, sometimes by lakes and ponds.