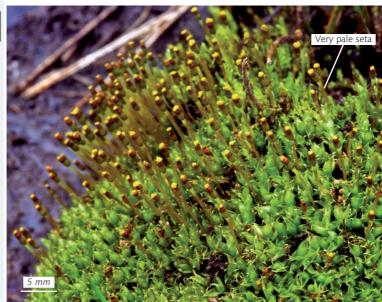
Aplodon wormskioldii

Carrion-moss





Identification Growing in lax, bright green tufts 5–6 cm tall, the leaves are 2.5 mm long, have very large cells, entire margins and often a reflexed tip. The seta is thin, wavy and colourless, bearing an erect capsule with a conspicuous neck.

Similar species The colourless seta of Aplodon distinguishes it from species of Splachnum (pp. 570– 571) and Tetraplodon (p. 569), which also grow on organic remains. Its highly restricted habitat further distinguishes it from most other species.

Habitat A. wormskioldii grows on the decomposing corpses of sheep, deer and other animals, or on dung, on boggy ground in the mountains. Not seen since 1981, and possibly extinct in Britain.