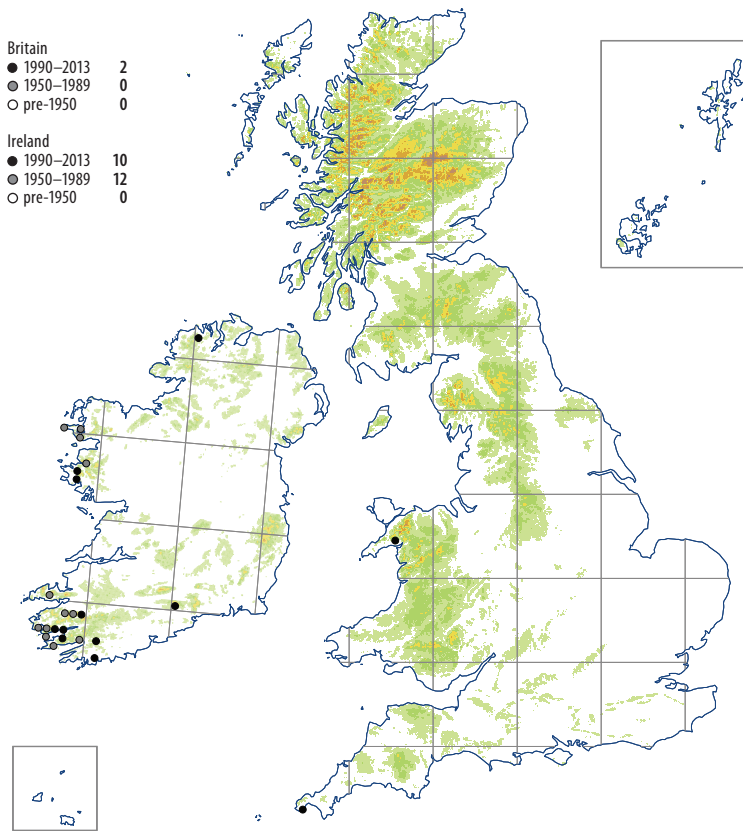


Telaranea europaea



This species favours moist peaty banks and peat on rocks, usually in deeply shaded, humid sites under rhododendron in woodlands and thickets on or near the coast. Associates include *Cephalozia bicuspidata*, *C. crassifolia*, *Diplophyllum albicans*, *Dicranella heteromalla* and *Pseudotaxiphyllum elegans*. Very rarely, it occurs amongst *Molinia* tussocks in marshes, or in turf on coastal slopes. The disjunct Cornish colony, at Trevelloe Carn, grows under rhododendron and cherry laurel in a mature beech plantation, and the disjunct Welsh population, in Coed Craflwyn, is close to extensive areas of rhododendron scrub and an old walled garden. Altitudinal range: 5–330 m.



The European plant formerly thought to be *Telaranea nematodes* (Austin) M. Howe was separated as a distinct species by Engel & Merrill (2004). A large patch on a peaty ditch in a conifer plantation on Nowen Hill, West Cork suggested that *T. europaea* could follow species such as *Colura calyptrifolia* in utilising plantations (Bosanquet & Preston, 2010); as yet the only other suggestion of spread is the recently discovered Welsh colony, although that may be of long standing.

Autoicous; often fertile; sporophytes are produced from May to June. Axillary bulbils are frequently produced (Paton, 1987) and evidently provide a specialised means of vegetative propagation.

Hyperoceanic Southern-temperate. Very local on the Atlantic fringe of Europe from Portugal north to Ireland; Canaries, Madeira and Azores; Turkey.

T.H. Blackstock, rev. S.D.S. Bosanquet

◀ Torc, North Kerry, 2014. Rory Hodd