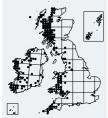
Colura calyptrifolia

Fingered Cowlwort





Identification This tiny liverwort forms pale yellow-green patches, just a few millimetres across. The long, drawn-out beak of the leaves sticking up from the inflated lower part is unique to C. calyptrifolia. Individual shoots are not usually easy to discern, and the complicated leaf structure is not easily comprehensible in the field. Leaves are up to 0.5 mm wide and 1.5 mm long. Perianths, with 5-angled mouths, are frequent.

Similar species Not easily confused with any other species. The yellowish colour is very distinctive, and all other small, related species lack leaves with a long, drawn-out beak.

Habitat Shaded, but usually damp or dry rather than wet rocks in humid places, such as in and by streams in oceanic districts. It also grows on a variety of trees, notably in willow (Salix) thickets (especially in Ireland) and, increasingly, on willows, spruce (Picea) and other tree species in conifer plantations.