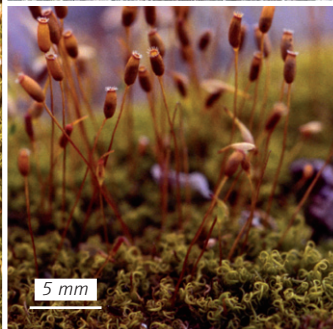
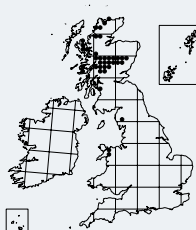


Dicranoweisia crispula

Mountain Pincushion



Identification Forming green to dark green cushions to 3 cm tall. The leaves are about 3 mm long, erect and wavy, or sometimes turned to one side when moist, and strongly crisped when dry. The leaf is narrowly spearhead-shaped, nerved to the tip, with plane margins and enlarged cells in the basal corners. Erect, cylindrical capsules are normally present and are held on a relatively tall, yellow seta.

Similar species *D. crispula* is usually a larger plant than *D. cirrata* (p. 364) with a very different habitat, so confusion is unlikely. In its montane habitat it may be overlooked as *Dicranum fuscescens* (p. 382) or even *Kiaeria blyttii* (p. 374), but these two species have inclined, curved capsules, and the leaves of *D. fuscescens* are 4–8 mm long.

Habitat A plant of montane rocks and usually occurring in relatively exposed sites such as the tops of boulders in scree, rocks on loch margins or along burns. Tolerant of a variety of rock chemistry, but most frequent where the rocks are at least moderately base-rich.