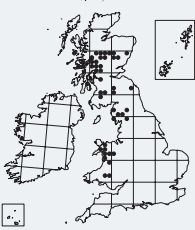


Oedipodium griffithianum

Gouty-moss



Identification A soft and succulent species with very large leaf cells, forming small green colonies. Shoots are up to 1 cm tall, and the spreading leaves are very broadly rounded (about 3 mm long and 2 mm wide) from a narrow base that has tiny hairs. The leaves often have oval gemmae in the axils. The nerve ends below the leaf tip, and the margins are untoothed. The capsules are also distinctive, having a thick neck and being held erect on an unusually thick seta.

Similar species Not easily confused with any other species. *Funaria* (p. 561), *Physcomitrium* (pp. 565–566) and *Entosthodon* (pp. 562–564) species all have large leaf cells, but none of these species have a very broadly rounded leaf tip, or occur on acidic soil or rock in the mountains.

Habitat On peaty and acidic soil in rock crevices and in boulder scree in the mountains. Curiously patchy in its distribution.