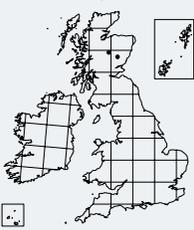


Saelania glaucescens

Blue Dew-moss



Identification A small moss forming open turfs to 3 cm tall, but usually somewhat less than this. Similar in leaf shape and habit to species of *Ditrichum*, but immediately distinguished by the striking, glaucous green colour of the 1.5–3 mm long leaves which is caused by a covering of waxy rods on the leaf surface. Erect, narrowly cylindrical capsules are quite frequent and borne on a relatively long seta.

Similar species *Pohlia cruda* (p. 603) often occurs with *S. glaucescens*, and is also glaucous but paler, has broader, shortly pointed stem leaves and a large, inclined or hanging capsule.

Habitat A rare moss growing on mineral soil in sheltered niches on calcareous crags in the mountains.