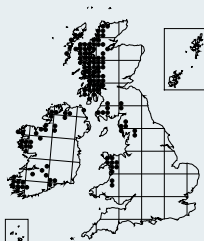


Aphanolejeunea microscopica

Long-leaved Pouncewort



Identification

A minute (shoots up to 6 mm long but less than 0.5 mm wide), pale green leafy liverwort; appressed to the substrate, forming intricate thin mats or small dense patches, often with other small liverworts. The leaves are ovate-elliptical, bluntly pointed, distant and very narrowly inserted, appearing barely attached to the stem. There are no underleaves.

Similar species

Other tiny Lejeuneaceae; *Harpalejeunea molleri* (q.v.) and *Drepanolejeunea hamatifolia* (q.v.) have more sharply pointed leaves; species of *Lejeunea* are mostly larger (shoots up to 2 cm long and 1 mm or more wide) and usually have much more conspicuous lobules; British and Irish species of *Cololejeunea* (q.v.) have shorter, much more rounded leaves.

Habitat

Shaded, humid places on damp or dry rocks, especially by streams and waterfalls. Confined to Atlantic areas in the north and west, but not yet found in south-west England.