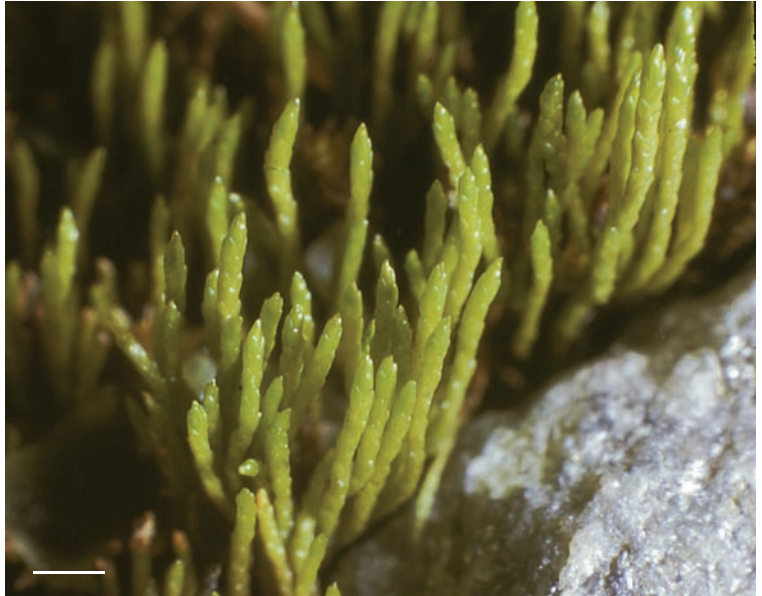


Aongstroemia longipes

Sprig-moss



Identification

A small moss, forming lax pale green tufts or open patches to 10 mm, often with decumbent stems. The leaves are appressed to the stem, making the fragile shoots narrow, broadening a little at the apex as the upper leaves are longer. The leaves are short and broad and somewhat concave with entire, plane margins, and narrowing to a blunt point. The nerve is stout and extends to the apex, but can be hard to make out with a lens.

Similar species

In the field this moss looks very similar to *Anomobryum julaceum* (q.v.) and sometimes occurs with this species. *Aongstroemia longipes* has leaves which narrow abruptly to a bluntly pointed apex while in *Anomobryum julaceum* the more ovate leaf narrows evenly to an acute apex. Microscopic confirmation may be necessary. It also somewhat resembles the narrow stems of *Pohlia filum* (Smith, p. 604), but lacks the axillary gemmae of that species and has a different leaf shape.

Habitat

This is a rare moss of damp, disturbed sites which are at least moderately base-rich, with recorded sites on track sides, by hydro dams and gravel pits.