

Plagiothecium denticulatum
var. *denticulatum*/var. *undulatum*

Dented/Swamp Silk-moss



Identification

This species has complanate and sparingly branched shoots which are often light green and noticeably glossy, although darker and less glossy plants can also occur. The leaves are distinctly asymmetrical in shape, with one side more strongly curved than the other. Capsules are common in var. *denticulatum*, and have longitudinal furrows when mature and dry. Var. *undulatum* has more strongly asymmetrical leaves than var. *denticulatum*, with one of the margins mostly straight, but these two varieties are not well distinguished.

Similar species

P. succulentum (q.v.) and *P. nemorale* (q.v.) have more or less symmetrical leaves; capsules in those species are less frequently produced and are not furrowed. Microscopic characters are recommended for confirmation. *P. denticulatum* var. *obtusifolium* (q.v.) has more shortly pointed leaf apices.

Habitat

On soil, rocks, logs and tree bases, mostly in woodland, but also occasionally in upland block scree and rock crevices; var. *undulatum* tends to occur in wetter places, in swamps and wet woodland.