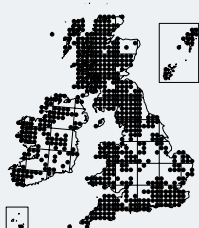
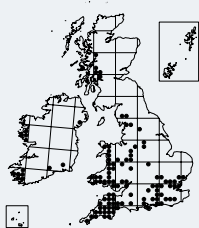
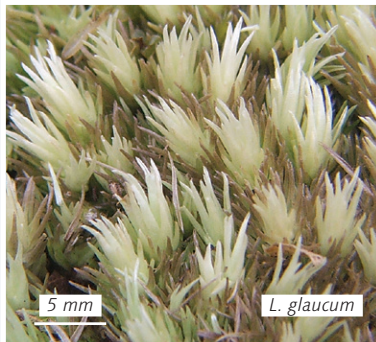


Leucobryum glaucum/juniperoideum

Large/Smaller White-moss

Key 82

*L. glaucum**L. glaucum**L. juniperoideum**L. juniperoideum**L. glaucum**L. juniperoideum*

Identification

L. glaucum grows in very dense, glaucous green, swollen cushions or hummocks, turning dirty white when dry, and sometimes over 50 cm tall. The leaves are typically 6–9 mm long, erect and straight, occasionally slightly turned in one direction in larger plants, appressed and overlapping when dry, and largely composed of nerve. The lower, broader part of the leaf is as long as or longer than the narrow, tubular upper part. The hummocks of *L. juniperoideum* tend to be lower and less swollen, the leaves a little shorter and the lower, broader part of the leaf is shorter than the narrow, tubular upper part. Capsules in *L. glaucum* are very rare, curved and swollen at the base, while those in *L. juniperoideum* are slightly more frequent, straight and without swellings at the base.

Similar species

The dense, whitish-green cushions and hummocks are instantly recognizable as *Leucobryum*; those in more open areas like heaths or mire are probably always *L. glaucum*, but patches in woodland may be either species.

Habitat

L. glaucum has a fairly broad ecological range, but the most common habitats are acidic woodland and mires, from wet heath through to valley mires, raised bogs and even fens. Some hummocks in woodland can be massive and colonized by other bryophytes and vascular plants. *L. juniperoideum* usually avoids wet places and is most frequent on soil, tree bases and rocks in woodland.