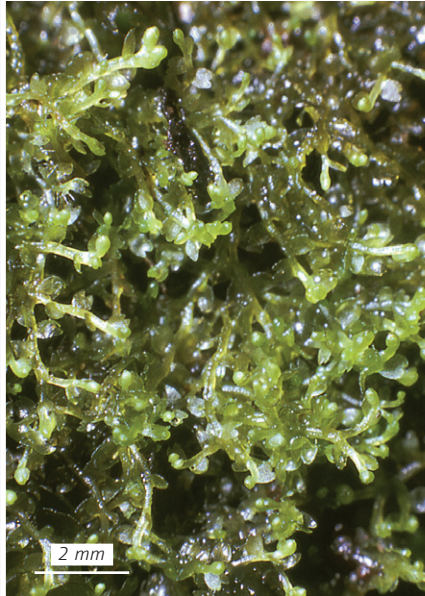
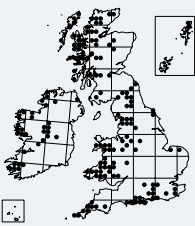


Cladopodiella fluitans

Bog Notchwort



Identification This dark brown or sometimes green liverwort is one of the few species that grows in bogs and also has rounded leaf lobes. Shoots are 0.5–2.5 mm wide. Each leaf is about 1 mm long, parallel-sided, and the notch between its 2 lobes is narrow, pointed and about one-quarter the depth of the leaf. The leaves are usually widely spaced along the sparsely branched, creeping, 0.5–2 mm wide shoots, as are small, inconspicuous underleaves. Thread-like branches, which stick down into the substrate, are always present and are one of the key features of *C. fluitans*. The tubular perianths and capsules are rare, and gemmae are unknown.

Similar species *Gymnocolea inflata* (p. 129) is the same size and colour as *C. fluitans* and sometimes grows on peat in bogs, although it avoids the wettest pools. It differs in having shorter, wider leaves, as well as lacking thread-like branches, and often having inflated perianths. *C. francisci* (p. 99) is smaller and has gemmae. *Marsupella* species (pp. 155–161) have a leaf base that hugs the stem.

Habitat *C. fluitans* is locally abundant in bog pools, where it creeps on the surface of *Sphagnum* carpets and is sometimes fully submerged. It also grows on wet peat or on *Sphagnum* hummocks, but is restricted to bogs and wet, peaty heaths.