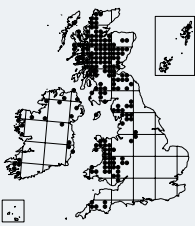


Lophozia sudetica

Hill Notchwort

Key 61



Identification This widespread, upland liverwort seems to be easily ignored or overlooked by beginners. This may be because its brown gemmae are usually rather sparse, or because judging the shape of the leaf notch is considered difficult. It is roughly the same size as *L. ventricosa*, or slightly smaller (shoots 0.5–2 mm wide), but is usually brownish-green. Its leaves are about 1 mm wide and long, and often well-spaced on a stem, not crowded. The shallow, rounded notch in the leaf tip is characteristic.

Similar species *L. ventricosa* (p. 116) normally has deeper, more V-shaped leaf notches, but these can occasionally be rounded as in *L. sudetica*. In such cases, green gemmae indicate *L. ventricosa*. Red gemmae and deeper notches suggest *L. excisa* (p. 120), whilst densely set leaves, deeper notches and a distinctive scent indicate *L. bicrenata* (p. 121). The rare, montane *L. wenzelii* (Paton, p. 191) is green, rather than brownish, but otherwise differs only in microscopical characters. The very scarce *Barbilophozia kunzeana* (Paton, p. 168) has a shallow notch, but differs from *L. sudetica* in having prominent underleaves. The montane *Nardia breidlerii* (p. 154) also has underleaves.

Habitat A frequent species in well-drained, acidic, exposed places in the uplands. *L. sudetica* is typical of boulder tops, block scree, tors, drystone walls, disused quarries and ravines. It grows either in relatively pure patches directly on rock, or intermixed with *Diplophyllum albicans* and other liverworts on a thin layer of soil.