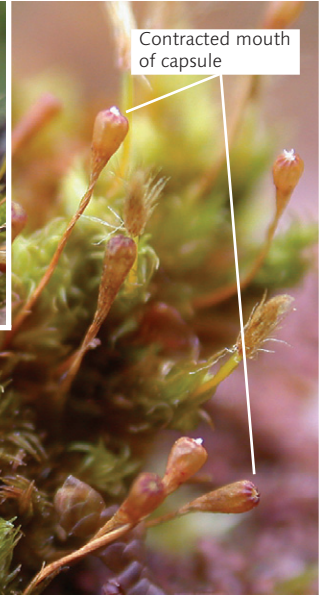
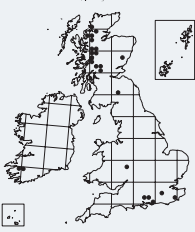


*Ulota coarctata*

Club Pincushion

**Identification**

*U. coarctata* forms small, loose, dull green, yellowish or brownish tufts about 1 cm tall. Its narrowly spearhead-shaped leaves are about 3 mm long and taper to a rather blunt tip. The nerve disappears below the tip. Leaves are held erect when moist, and become slightly twisted as they dry. Characteristic pale whitish-brown, pear-shaped, almost entirely smooth capsules with a small, much contracted mouth are frequent in autumn. The outer peristome teeth are held erect when dry. The calyptra is hairy.

**Similar species**

The smooth, pear-shaped capsules with a markedly contracted mouth are diagnostic, but plants without mature capsules might be overlooked as another species of this genus (pp. 658–659, 661–664).

**Habitat**

*U. coarctata* is uncommon on birch (*Betula*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), oak (*Quercus*), willows (*Salix*), and other trees and bushes in sheltered, humid sites. It favours young trees in mountainous districts.