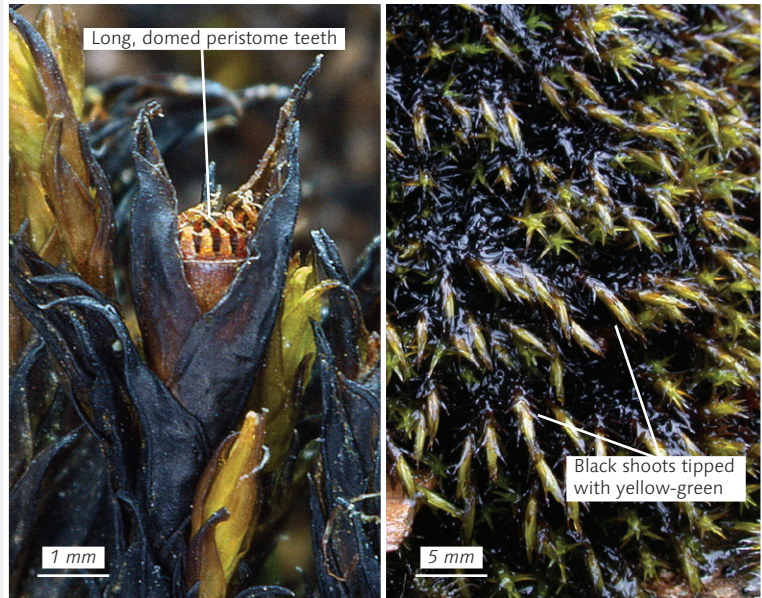
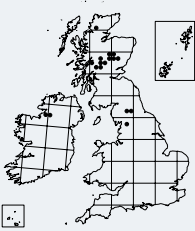


Schistidium trichodon

Stook Grimmia



Identification A sprawling (shoots several centimetres long) *Schistidium* with almost black shoots tipped with young, yellow-green leaves. This combination of colours is distinctive, as are the very long peristome teeth, which form a dome over the capsule mouth when dry. The hair points are very short or absent. Lower leaves are 1.75 mm long; whereas the leaves surrounding the capsule are more than 3 mm long.

Similar species Other sprawling *Schistidium* species, such as *S. apocarpum* (p. 510) and *S. papillosum* (Smith, p. 410) do not have almost black shoots with a yellow-green tip. *S. atrofusum* (p. 518) is almost black, but grows in compact cushions and shows little contrast in colour at the shoot tip. No other British *Schistidium* species have peristome teeth forming a dome.

Habitat A rare, upland calcicole found on Dalradian and Carboniferous Limestones, schist or volcanic tuff. It tends to grow on outcrops rather than boulders, although it is locally frequent on boulders in parts of Scotland.