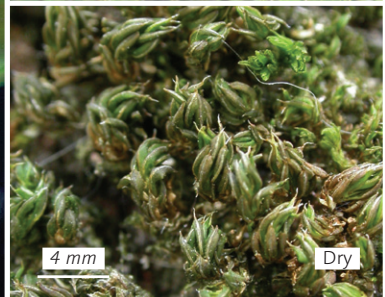
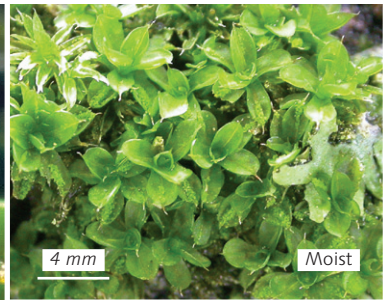
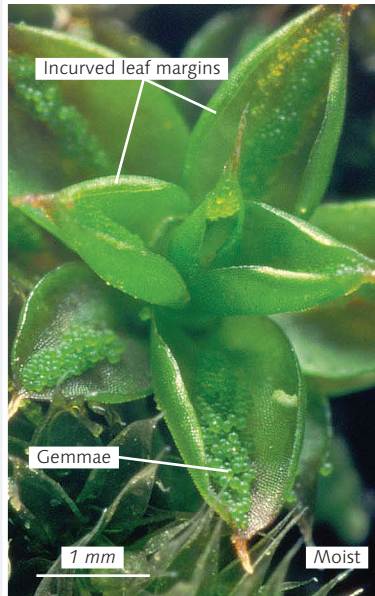
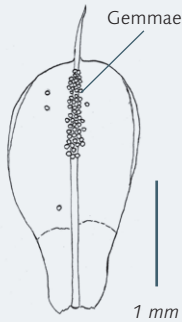
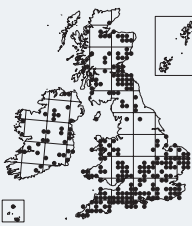


*Syntrichia papillosa**Tortula papillosa*

Marble Screw-moss

Key 109

**Identification**

S. papillosa grows in small (2–10 mm tall), dark green patches. The leaves spread when moist, and become incurved rather than twisted when dry. They are about 2.5 mm long, and broadly oval with an excurrent nerve. The margins are incurved and the nerve in the upper part of the leaf is covered with small, round gemmae, giving a very characteristic appearance. Capsules are unknown in Britain.

Similar species

S. papillosa is unlikely to be confused with any other species.

Habitat

This distinctive species usually grows on mature trees; more rarely on walls, stones or tarmac. It is infrequent throughout Britain and Ireland, but may be spreading. It is particularly associated with urban street trees and is often abundant on tree trunks in western towns.