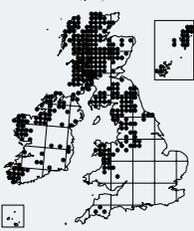


*Mylia taylorii*

Taylor's Flapwort

Key 65



**Identification** A fine plant, usually in deep cushions or large patches that are normally strongly coloured from yellow-brown or red-brown to a striking purplish-red, but green in deep shade. *M. taylorii* is a large liverwort with stems up to 10 cm long and 5 mm wide. The rounded leaves are 1.5 mm long and wide, somewhat concave at the leaf base and reflexed above. However, the upper leaves are often held erect, with the opposite faces pressed together. The leaf cells are very large and can easily be seen with a hand lens. Gemmiferous shoots are often present, with the leaf margins at the tip of the shoot breaking up. Dioicous and fairly frequently fertile.

**Similar species** The size and colour, plus the very large cells should mean that confusion is only possible with *M. anomala* (p. 142), but that species has distinctive, narrow, pointed gemmiferous leaves which are almost always present.

**Habitat** A western species which grows in a variety of humid and sheltered sites on rocks, crags and tree bases, but also on heathy banks in woodland and ravines. It may also occur on bogs, sometimes with *M. anomala*, and is a common constituent of the oceanic-montane hepatic mat in block scree or under heather on north- and north-east-facing slopes.