

**European Community Directive  
on the Conservation of Natural Habitats  
and of Wild Fauna and Flora  
(92/43/EEC)**

**Fourth Report by the United Kingdom  
under Article 17**

on the implementation of the Directive  
from January 2013 to December 2018

Supporting documentation for the  
conservation status assessment for the species:

**S6216 - Slender green feather- moss (*Hamatocaulis  
vernicosus*)**

**ENGLAND**

## **IMPORTANT NOTE - PLEASE READ**

- The information in this document is a country-level contribution to the UK Report on the conservation status of this species, submitted to the European Commission as part of the 2019 UK Reporting under Article 17 of the EU Habitats Directive.
- The 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document provides details on how this supporting information was used to produce the UK Report.
- The UK Report on the conservation status of this species is provided in a separate document.
- The reporting fields and options used are aligned to those set out in the European Commission guidance.
- Explanatory notes (where provided) by the country are included at the end. These provide an audit trail of relevant supporting information.
- Some of the reporting fields have been left blank because either: (i) there was insufficient information to complete the field; (ii) completion of the field was not obligatory; (iii) the field was not relevant to this species (section 12 Natura 2000 coverage for Annex II species) and/or (iv) the field was only relevant at UK-level (sections 9 Future prospects and 10 Conclusions).
- For technical reasons, the country-level future trends for Range, Population and Habitat for the species are only available in a separate spreadsheet that contains all the country-level supporting information.
- The country-level reporting information for all habitats and species is also available in spreadsheet format.

Visit the JNCC website, <https://jncc.gov.uk/article17>, for further information on UK Article 17 reporting.

# Report on the main results of the surveillance under Article 11 for Annex II, IV and V species (Annex B)

## NATIONAL LEVEL

### 1. General information

1.1 Member State	UK (England information only)
1.2 Species code	6216
1.3 Species scientific name	<i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i>
1.4 Alternative species scientific name	
1.5 Common name (in national language)	Slender green feather- moss

### 2. Maps

2.1 Sensitive species	No
2.2 Year or period	2013-2018
2.3 Distribution map	Yes
2.4 Distribution map Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
2.5 Additional maps	No

### 3. Information related to Annex V Species (Art. 14)

3.1 Is the species taken in the wild/exploited?	No																
3.2 Which of the measures in Art. 14 have been taken?	<table> <tr> <td>a) regulations regarding access to property</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>b) temporary or local prohibition of the taking of specimens in the wild and exploitation</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>c) regulation of the periods and/or methods of taking specimens</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>d) application of hunting and fishing rules which take account of the conservation of such populations</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>e) establishment of a system of licences for taking specimens or of quotas</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>f) regulation of the purchase, sale, offering for sale, keeping for sale or transport for sale of specimens</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>g) breeding in captivity of animal species as well as artificial propagation of plant species</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>h) other measures</td><td>No</td></tr> </table>	a) regulations regarding access to property	No	b) temporary or local prohibition of the taking of specimens in the wild and exploitation	No	c) regulation of the periods and/or methods of taking specimens	No	d) application of hunting and fishing rules which take account of the conservation of such populations	No	e) establishment of a system of licences for taking specimens or of quotas	No	f) regulation of the purchase, sale, offering for sale, keeping for sale or transport for sale of specimens	No	g) breeding in captivity of animal species as well as artificial propagation of plant species	No	h) other measures	No
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3.3 Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild for Mammals and Acipenseridae (Fish)

a) Unit

b) Statistics/ quantity taken	Provide statistics/quantity per hunting season or per year (where season is not used) over the reporting period					
	Season/ year 1	Season/ year 2	Season/ year 3	Season/ year 4	Season/ year 5	Season/ year 6
Min. (raw, ie. not rounded)						
Max. (raw, ie. not rounded)						
Unknown	No	No	No	No	No	No

3.4. Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild Method used

3.5. Additional information

## BIOGEOGRAPHICAL LEVEL

### 4. Biogeographical and marine regions

4.1 Biogeographical or marine region where the species occurs

**Atlantic (ATL)**

4.2 Sources of information

British Bryological Society, 2018. Database to the end of 2017.  
 Blockeel, T.L., Bosanquet, S.D.S., Hill, M.O. & Preston, C.D. 2014. Atlas of British & Irish Bryophytes. Pisces Publications, Newbury.  
 Atherton, I., Bosanquet, S. & Lawley, M. (eds). 2012. Mosses and Liverworts of Britain and Ireland: A Field Guide. British Bryological Society.  
 Edwards, S.R. 2012. English Names for British Bryophytes. British Bryological Society.

### 5. Range

5.1 Surface area (km<sup>2</sup>)

5.2 Short-term trend Period

5.3 Short-term trend Direction

Uncertain (u)

5.4 Short-term trend Magnitude

a) Minimum

b) Maximum

5.5 Short-term trend Method used

5.6 Long-term trend Period

5.7 Long-term trend Direction

5.8 Long-term trend Magnitude

a) Minimum

b) Maximum

5.9 Long-term trend Method used

5.10 Favourable reference range

a) Area (km<sup>2</sup>)

b) Operator

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	c) Unknown d) Method
5.11 Change and reason for change in surface area of range	Use of different method The change is mainly due to: Use of different method
5.12 Additional information	Hamatocaulis vernicosus was recorded in ten 10x10 km grid squares in this 2013-18 reporting round, compared to thirteen in the 2007-12 reporting round. This decrease is however considered to be likely to be the result of differences in recorder coverage rather than a genuine change. The Atlas of British & Irish Bryophytes was published in 2014 (see Species Sources), and the years leading up to this were the focus of increased bryological recording effort to contribute to the Atlas before publication. It is thus considered that this is likely to be a major cause of the higher number of hectads in which Hamatocaulis vernicosus was recorded in 2007-2012, and it is not considered that there is evidence of overall decline.

## 6. Population

6.1 Year or period	2013-2015
6.2 Population size (in reporting unit)	a) Unit number of map 1x1 km grid cells (grids1x1) b) Minimum c) Maximum d) Best single value 27
6.3 Type of estimate	Minimum
6.4 Additional population size (using population unit other than reporting unit)	a) Unit b) Minimum c) Maximum d) Best single value
6.5 Type of estimate	
6.6 Population size Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
6.7 Short-term trend Period	2007-2015
6.8 Short-term trend Direction	Uncertain (u)
6.9 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum b) Maximum c) Confidence interval
6.10 Short-term trend Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
6.11 Long-term trend Period	
6.12 Long-term trend Direction	
6.13 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum b) Maximum c) Confidence interval
6.14 Long-term trend Method used	

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6.15 Favourable reference population (using the unit in 6.2 or 6.4)

- a) Population size
- b) Operator
- c) Unknown
- d) Method

6.16 Change and reason for change in population size

No change  
The change is mainly due to:

6.17 Additional information

## 7. Habitat for the species

7.1 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat

a) Are area and quality of occupied habitat sufficient (to maintain the species at FCS)? Unknown

b) Is there a sufficiently large area of occupied AND unoccupied habitat of suitable quality (to maintain the species at FCS)? Unknown

7.2 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat Method used

Based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data

7.3 Short-term trend Period

2007-2018

7.4 Short-term trend Direction

Unknown (x)

7.5 Short-term trend Method used

Based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data

7.6 Long-term trend Period

7.7 Long-term trend Direction

7.8 Long-term trend Method used

7.9 Additional information

## 8. Main pressures and threats

### 8.1 Characterisation of pressures/threats

Pressure	Ranking
Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters (A26)	H
Drainage for use as agricultural land (A31)	H
Pollution to surface or ground water due to urban run-offs (F11)	H
Conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage) (B01)	H
Threat	Ranking
Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters (A26)	H
Drainage for use as agricultural land (A31)	H
Pollution to surface or ground water due to urban run-offs (F11)	H

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Conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage) (B01) H

## 8.2 Sources of information

## 8.3 Additional information

# 9. Conservation measures

## 9.1 Status of measures

a) Are measures needed? Yes

b) Indicate the status of measures Measures identified and taken

## 9.2 Main purpose of the measures taken

Maintain the current range, population and/or habitat for the species

## 9.3 Location of the measures taken

Both inside and outside Natura 2000

## 9.4 Response to the measures

Medium-term results (within the next two reporting periods, 2019-2030)

## 9.5 List of main conservation measures

Reduce diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters from agricultural activities (CA11)

Reduce/eliminate diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters from industrial, commercial, residential and recreational areas and activities (CF05)

Manage drainage and irrigation operations and infrastructures in agriculture (CA15)

Adapt/manage reforestation and forest regeneration (CB04)

## 9.6 Additional information

Some conservation measures still require to be taken to reduce pressures and threats to the species from nutrient enrichment from agriculture, drainage for agriculture, urban run-off pollution and tree-planting activities in the uplands.

# 10. Future prospects

## 10.1 Future prospects of parameters

- a) Range
- b) Population
- c) Habitat of the species

## 10.2 Additional information

# 11. Conclusions

## 11.1. Range

## 11.2. Population

## 11.3. Habitat for the species

## 11.4. Future prospects

## 11.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status

## 11.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status

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11.7 Change and reasons for change in conservation status and conservation status trend

a) Overall assessment of conservation status

No change

The change is mainly due to:

b) Overall trend in conservation status

No change

The change is mainly due to:

11.8 Additional information

## 12. Natura 2000 (pSCIs, SCIs and SACs) coverage for Annex II species

12.1 Population size inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network (on the biogeographical/marine level including all sites where the species is present)

a) Unit                      number of map 1x1 km grid cells (grids1x1)  
b) Minimum  
c) Maximum  
d) Best single value    1

12.2 Type of estimate

Minimum

12.3 Population size inside the network Method used

Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

12.4 Short-term trend of population size within the network Direction

Unknown (x)

12.5 Short-term trend of population size within the network Method used

Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

12.6 Additional information

## 13. Complementary information

13.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends

13.2 Trans-boundary assessment

13.3 Other relevant Information



## Distribution Map

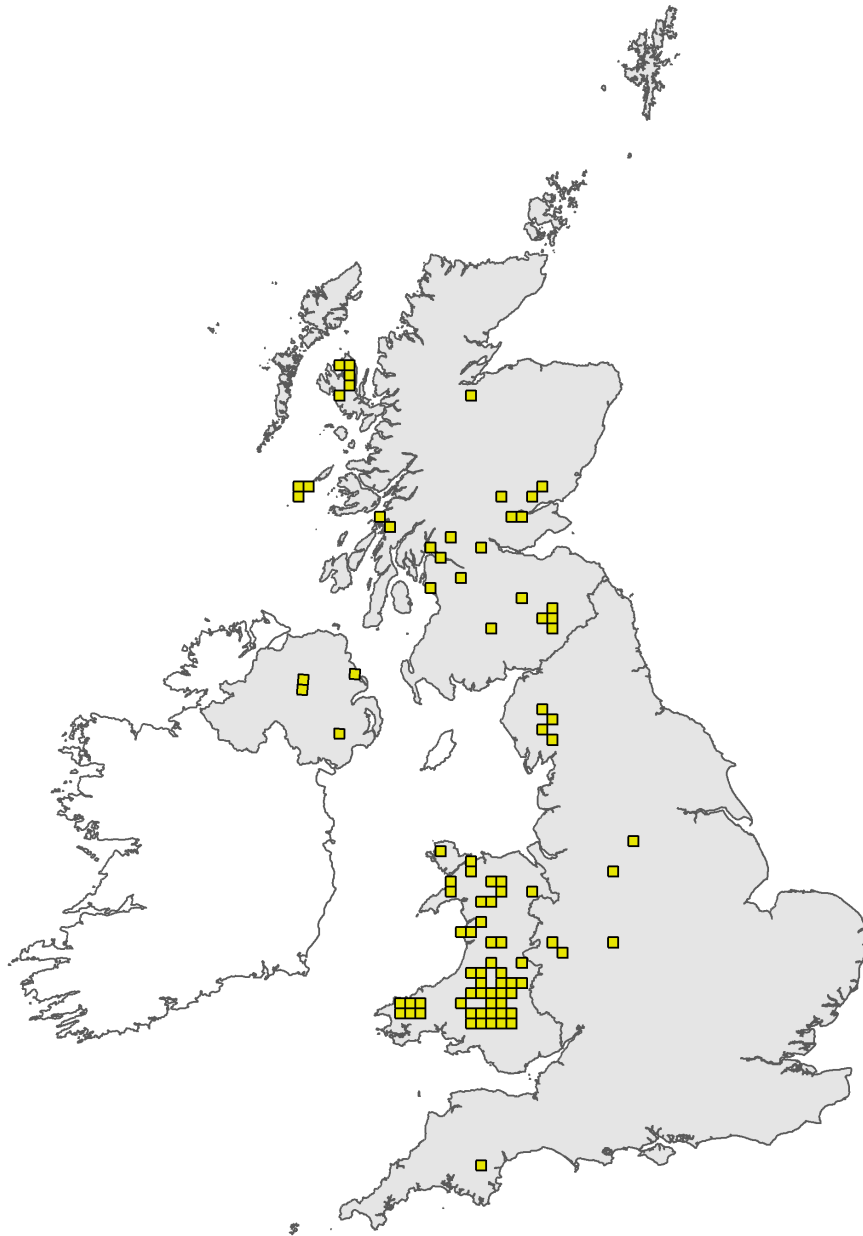


Figure 1: UK distribution map for S6216 - Slender green feather- moss (*Hamatocaulis vernicosus*). Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority.

The 10km grid square distribution map is based on available species records within the current reporting period. For further details see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.

## Range Map

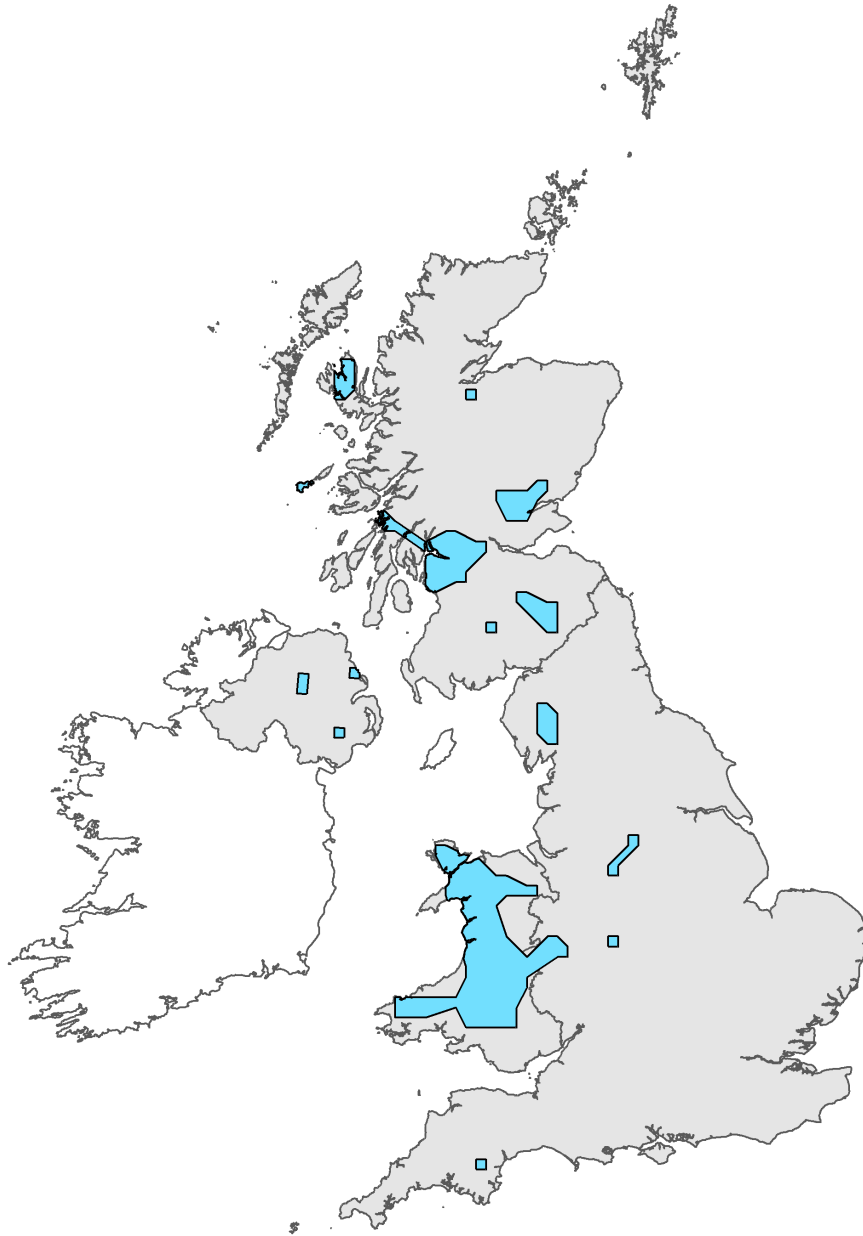


Figure 2: UK range map for S6216 - Slender green feather- moss (*Hamatocaulis vernicosus*). Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority.

The range map has been produced by applying a bespoke range mapping tool for Article 17 reporting (produced by JNCC) to the 10km grid square distribution map presented in Figure 1. The alpha value for this species was 20km. For further details see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.

# Explanatory Notes

## Species name: *Hamatocaulis vernicosus* (6216)

Field label	Note
1.5 Common name	The common name for <i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i> provided by the Mosses and Liverworts Field Guide (2010) (see species sources) is Varnished Hook-moss, which appears to be a more distinctive and appropriate name than Slender Green feather-moss. Edwards (2012) uses the name Varnished Hookmoss.
2.1 Sensitive species	The species is not considered to be at risk from collecting, hence not sensitive.
2.2 Year or Period	Species records from 2013, 2014 & 2015 have been used for this reporting round.
2.3 Distribution map	10 x 10 km grid map, produced by Natural England.
2.4 Distribution map; Method used	Records of <i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i> on the British Bryological Society database.

## Species name: *Hamatocaulis vernicosus* (6216) Region code: ATL

Field label	Note
5.2 Short term trend; Period	This trend covers the years 2007 to 2018.
5.3 Short term trend; Direction	<i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i> was recorded in ten 10x10 km grid squares in this 2013-18 reporting round, compared to thirteen in the 2007-12 reporting round. This decrease is however considered to be likely to be the result of differences in recorder coverage rather than a genuine change. The Atlas of British & Irish Bryophytes was published in 2014 (see Species Sources), and the years leading up to this were the focus of increased bryological recording effort to contribute to the Atlas before publication. It is thus considered that this is likely to be a major cause of the higher number of hectads in which <i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i> was recorded in 2007-2012, and it is not considered that there is evidence of overall decline.
5.11 Change and reason for change in surface area of range	Any reduction in recorded range considered to be likely to be the result of differences in recorder coverage rather than a genuine change, as discussed in 5.3 above, and it is thus not considered that there is evidence of overall decline in range.
6.1 Year or Period	2013-2018, with species records made in 2013, 2014 & 2015.
6.2 Population size	A total of 27 1x1 km grid squares were recorded as supporting <i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i> in England in the 2013-18 reporting round, with records from 2013, 2014 & 2015.
6.6 Population size; Method used	Species records in BBS database.
6.7 Short term trend; Period	2007 to 2015 (there are no records for the species on the BBS database from 2016 to 2018).
6.8 Short term trend; Direction	The population trend is assessed as Uncertain, as it is considered that there is insufficient evidence within this reporting round to further assess this.
10.1 Future prospects of parameters	The future prospects for <i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i> are assessed as Uncertain, as it is considered that there is insufficient evidence within this reporting round to further assess this.