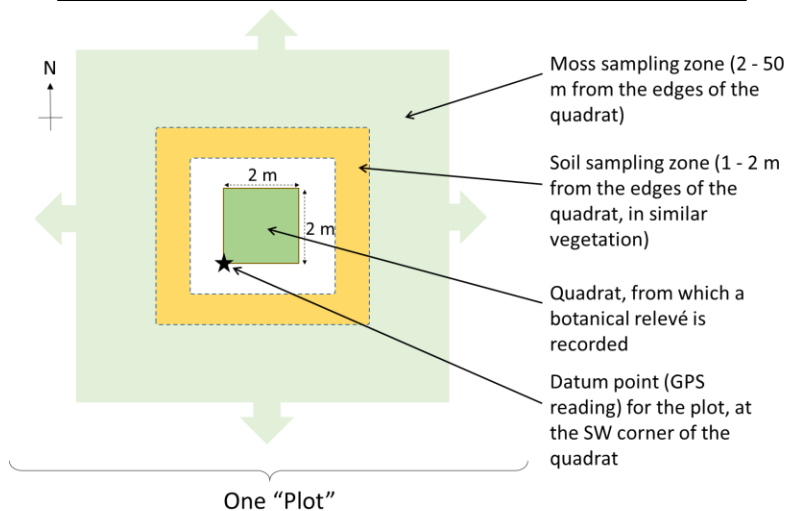


Field Guide to Moss Sampling for the NEMN



"Old growth" not suitable - discard



Minimum amount of "new, green" moss to be collected

nemn.ucd.ie/contact

Submit form plot_moss at nemn.ucd.ie/documentation

Collecting moss samples for foliar C:N analysis

Target species: Group A		If Group A absent: Group B		If A and B absent
<i>Hylocomium splendens</i>	<i>Pleurozium schreberi</i>	<i>Hypnum cupressiforme</i>	<i>Pseudoscleropodium purum</i>	any pleurocarpous sp.

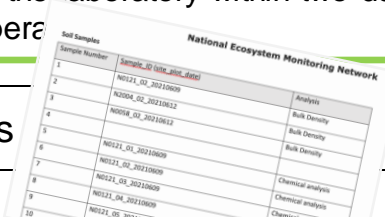
ID guide: <https://www.britishebryologicalsociety.org.uk/learning/species-finder/>

- Wear gloves (cotton, silk, or nitrile)
- Pinching a small amount of moss between fingers and thumb and gently pulling is a good method to extract moss from an area of mixed and intermingled vegetation.
- Avoid sandy moss or any with ants in it. Litter and animals should be removed from the moss sampled.
- Avoid areas within 10m of a tree. Where sampling is closer, record distance from tree on form.
- Unless the samples are going to the laboratory within two days, they should be air-dried at room temperature.

Air-dry

template_samples

Lab



Example moss sample label

National Ecosystems Monitoring Network			
Moss Sample: Air dry within 2 days of sample collection, then store in dark, dry conditions.			
Site	Plot	Date	Intended analysis
N000	00	yyyymmdd	Nitrogen
Moss species (tick one) <input type="radio"/> <i>Hylocomium splendens</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Pleurozium schreberi</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Hypnum cupressiforme</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Pseudoscleropodium purum</i> <input type="radio"/> Other (specify):			Comments: (optional)
NEMN Moss contact		Felicity Hayes: fhay@ceh.ac.uk	

Sample labelling

- Label the paper sample bags so they are uniquely identifiable.
- Moss species is suggested for inclusion on the label, but will also be recorded in the data form so is not essential if label space is a problem
- Place moss in a labelled paper bag. Seal paper bag, e.g. by folding over the open end several times.
- The paper bag can go into a plastic bag if necessary (e.g. if it is raining, or for transport).

Drying moss samples

- Spread paper bags out in a warm ventilated place until dry, turned occasionally to ensure drying all around.
- Once dry, store in a dry, dark place.
- Arrange for dispatch to designated laboratory, together with completed field forms.

Moss sample data recording form

Moss species	
Number of sub-samples (1 - 5)	
Mosses sampled occurred sparsely or in cushions or mats?	
Broad vegetation of moss collection (e.g. hedge, rough grassland, woodland fringe, heath)	
Approximate distance from quadrat	
Terrain: Slope or flat?	
Distance to nearest tree canopy (0 m if under a tree, up to >10 m if none)	
Intended analysis (relevant to future surveys when several analyses are included)	

Submit **plot_moss** for each plot in moss sample survey, at <https://nemn.ucd.ie/documentation>