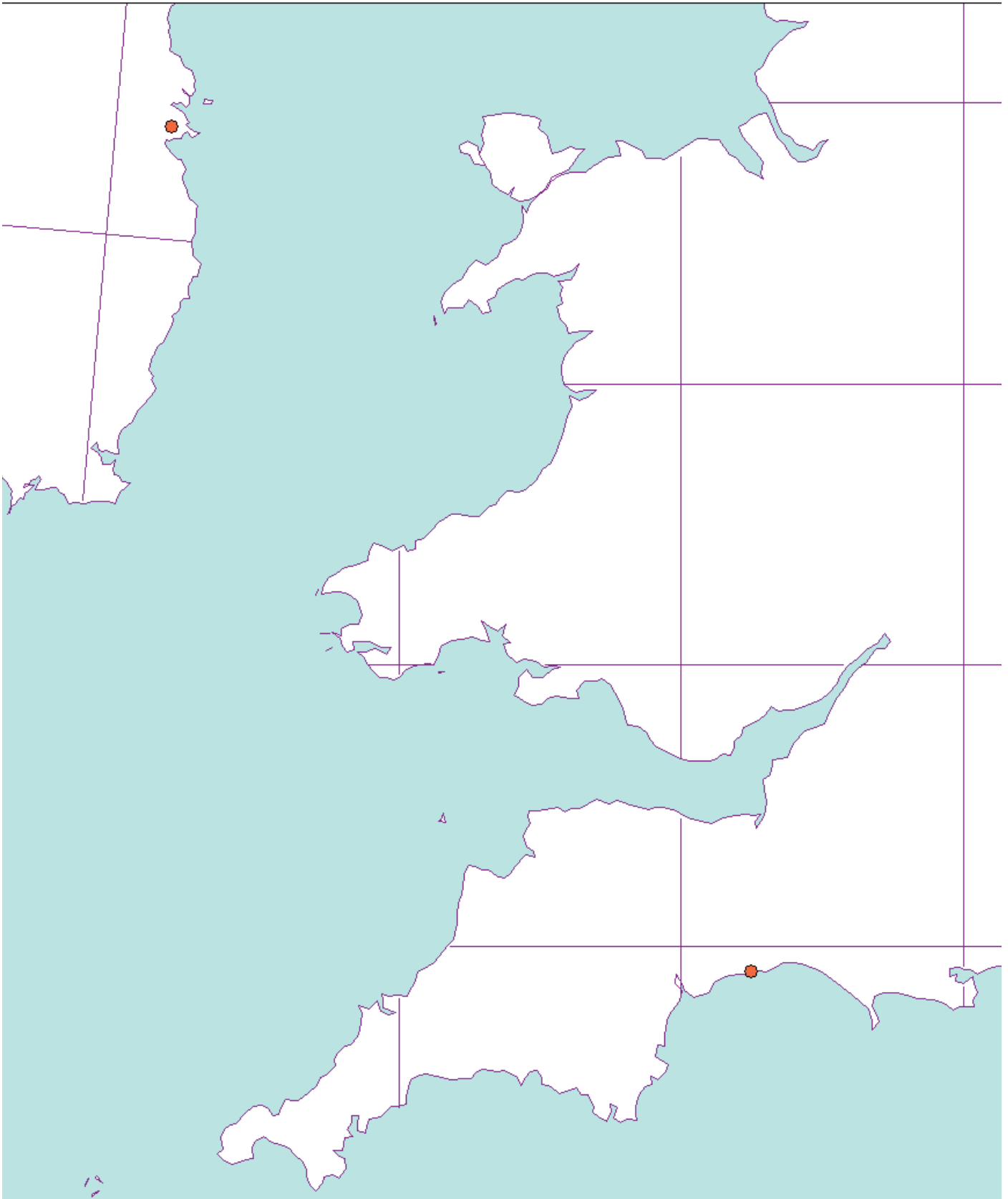


# *Chthonius halberti*



The cephalothorax and opisthosomare yellow-brown to reddish-brown, pedipalps and chelicerae brown. *Chthonius halberti* has been recorded in: Ireland, England and France. In Britain it was first recorded in 1915 at Malahide, C. Dublin, where it was found beneath stones on the seashore between the levels of orange lichens and *Pelvetia canaliculata* (just above high-water mark). H. W. Kew collected two specimens which were believed to be the same species at Axmouth in Devon, under stones on the beach near and below the high-water mark (Muchmore 1968). Attempts in recent years to find the species at both localities have proven unsuccessful. Beier's (1963) description of *K. halberti* is based upon specimens from the south coast of France and this description does not fit the type specimens of *K. halberti* in the National Museum of Ireland, Dublin (Muchmore 1968). *K. halberti* is considered by some authors to be the type species of the genus *Kewochthonius*, and in 1968 Muchmore redescribed *K. halberti* using the Irish and Devon material. Evans and Browning (1954) give the group subgeneric status, using the name *Neochthonius*, but this is incorrect on grounds of page priority. Body length: 1.2 mm.