

Pertusaria melanospora Nyl., *Ann. Sci. Nat., Bot.*, sér. 4, 3: 159 (1855)

T: Quilmenco, Chile, *C.Gay s.n.*; lecto: H-NYL 23603, *fide* A.W.Archer & J.A.Elix, *New Zealand J. Bot.* 31: 111–116 (1993); isolecto: H-NYL 23604.

Pertusaria crassilabra Müll.Arg., *Hedwigia* 32: 126 (1893). T: Loutit Bay, [near Lorne], Vic., 1891, *Leuhmann s.n.*; holo: G.

Illustration: A.W.Archer, *Biblioth. Lichenol.* 69: 106, fig. 33 (1997).

Thallus thick, pale yellow to dull yellow-brown, somewhat granular, minutely cracked and areolate, smooth. Soredia and isidia absent. Apothecia conspicuous, verruciform, scattered, immersed or flattened-hemispherical with constricted bases, concolorous with the thallus, 0.5–1.5 mm diam., the centre occasionally depressed. Ostiole black, conspicuous, becoming pseudolecanorine, 1 per verruca, 0.2–0.5 mm diam. Ascospores 8 per ascus, irregularly biseriata, ellipsoidal, smooth, colourless or occasionally pale bluish grey or brown, $60\text{--}75 \times 30\text{--}37 \mu\text{m}$.

Chemistry: Thallus K–, KC+ yellow-orange, C+ orange, Pd–; containing arthothelin (major) and 4,5-dichloronorlichexanthone (minor).

A rare, saxicolous species in coastal areas of S.A., N.S.W. and Vic.; also in New Zealand, Peru and South Africa.

S.A.: Dudley Penin., Hog Bay, Kangaroo Is., *J.A.Elix 19682* (CANB). N.S.W.: Kiama, *W.H.Ewers 4956* (CANB).

The lichen is characterised by asci with 8 biseriata ascospores, conspicuous, black ostioles and the presence of arthothelin (2,4,5-trichloronorlichexanthone) in the thallus. The ascospores are occasionally pale bluish grey or brown.