

Pertusaria aberrans Müll.Arg., *Bull. Herb. Boissier* 1: 42 (1893)

T: Loughton Gully, Lakes Entrance, Vic., Mar. 1889, *F.R.M. Wilson 1517*; holo: G; iso: NSW.

Illustration: A.W.Archer, *Biblioth. Lichenol.* 69: 49, fig. 7 (1997).

Thallus off-white to pale greyish white, coarsely areolate and cracked, smooth and slightly glossy. Soredia and isidia absent. Apothecia numerous, verruciform, contiguous, almost completely covering the thallus, 0.8–1.0 mm diam., immersed or occasionally slightly raised above the surface; centre slightly depressed. Ostioles 1–3 per verruca, black, punctiform, conspicuous, fusing to become 0.1–0.5 mm diam. and slightly sunken and disc-like. Ascospores (3 or) 4 per ascus, uniseriate, ellipsoidal, smooth, $75\text{--}87 \times 28\text{--}36 \mu\text{m}$.

Chemistry: Thallus K–, KC+ weak yellow, C–, Pd–; containing thiophanic acid (major), stictic acid (major), 2-chloro-6-*O*-methylnorlichexanthone (minor) and constictic acid (trace).

A rare, endemic, corticolous species in southern Vic.; known only from the type locality.

The species is characterised by 4-spored asci and the presence of thiophanic and stictic acids in the thallus. In this respect it resembles the Japanese species, *P. boninensis* Shibuchi, but the ascospores of the latter are larger ($100\text{--}130 \times 30\text{--}45 \mu\text{m}$).