

Pertusaria albissima Müll. Arg., *Flora* 67: 350 (1884)

T: locality unknown, New Zealand, *C.Knight s.n.*; lecto: G, *fide* A.W.Archer & J.A.Elix, *Mycotaxon* 5: 203–217(1994)

Pertusaria leucodeoides C.Knight, *nom. nud.*

Illustration: A.W.Archer & J.A.Elix, *Australas. Lichenol.* 67: 20, figs 7, 8 (2010).

Thallus corticolous, off-white, smooth and dull, lacking isidia and soredia. Apothecia concolorous with the thallus, conspicuous, numerous, verruciform, sometimes confluent, flattened-hemispherical, 1–2 mm diam.; ostioles inconspicuous, pale, translucent. Ascospores 8 per ascus, hyaline, uniseriate, ellipsoidal, smooth, 50–74 × 20–26 µm.

Chemistry: no lichen compounds detected.

A rare, coastal, corticolous species in N.S.W.; also in New Zealand and the Auckland Islands.

N.S.W.: Queens Head Area, Limeburners Creek Nature Reserve, 15 km S of Crescent Head, *J.A.Elix 43610* (CANB).

Pertusaria albissima is characterised by the verruciform apothecia with inconspicuous ostioles, the absence of lichen compounds and, in particular, the eight uniseriate ascospores. The species is corticolous in New Zealand and Australia, but has been reported growing on rock in the Auckland Islands. *Casuarina* bark, is the only known substratum in Australia.