

***Pertusaria ceylonica* Müll.Arg., *Flora* 67: 351 (1884)**

T: Ceylon [Sri Lanka], 1876, *G.H.K.Thwaites*; holo: G; iso: H-NYL.

Thallus pale greenish grey, slightly areolate and cracked, smooth and glossy. Soredia and isidia absent. Apothecia numerous, verruciform, scattered or sometimes confluent, concolorous with the thallus, flattened-hemispherical, 0.4–0.6 mm diam. Ostioles black, punctiform, 1 (or 2) per verruca. Ascospores 3 (or 4) per ascus, uniseriate, ellipsoidal, smooth, (75–) 95–125 (–135) × 30–45 (–50) µm.

Chemistry: Thallus K+ weak yellow, KC–, C–, Pd+ weak yellow; containing stictic acid (major), 2,5-dichlorolichexanthone (major to minor), 2,4,5-trichlorolichexanthone (minor to trace), 2,4-dichlorolichexanthone (minor to trace), constictic acid (minor), ±4,5-dichlorolichexanthone (minor) and 2-chlorolichexanthone (trace).

A tropical to subtropical corticolous species in northern N.T. and north-eastern Qld. Also in Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea.

N.T.: Kapalga, Kakadu Natl Park, *M.Day* (CANB); Baroalba Ck, 19 km S of Jabiru, Kakadu Natl Park, *J.A.Elix* 22574 (CANB); 19 km S of Jabiru, *J.A.Elix* 22574 (CANB). Qld: Machans Beach, N of Cairns, *H.Mayrhofer* 11419 (GZU); 27 km NE of Coen, McIlwraith Ra., *H.Streimann* 56814 (CANB).

Pertusaria ceylonica is characterised by the predominantly 3-spored asci and the presence of 2,5-dichlorolichexanthone and stictic acid in the thallus. It is chemically similar to *P. cicatricosa* and *P. pertusella*, but the smooth inner ascospore wall and the mainly 3-spored asci are distinctive.