

***Pertusaria cryptostoma* Müll.Arg., *Flora* 71: 206 (1888)**

T: Lydenberg, Transvaal, South Africa, 1885, *Dr Wilms* 24; holo: G.

Pertusaria limbata Vain., *Acta Soc. Fauna Fl. Fenn.* 7: 110 (1890). T: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1885, *E.A.Vainio (Lich. Bras. Exsicc.* 208); holo: TUR-V 6719; iso: UPS.

Illustration: A.W.Archer, *Biblioth. Lichenol.* 69: 92, fig. 30 (1997), as *P. limbata*.

Thallus pale olive-green, cracked and areolate, smooth and dull. Soredia and isidia absent. Apothecia conspicuous, verruciform, flattened-hemispherical, concolorous with the thallus, scattered, sometimes confluent, becoming constricted at the base, 0.7–1.2 mm diam. Ostioles inconspicuous, pale, translucent, 1 or 2 per verruca, sometimes fusing to form a sunken translucent disc. Ascospores 8 per ascus, irregularly biseriata, ellipsoidal to subfusiform, smooth, 65–75 (–80) × 25–30 µm.

Chemistry: Thallus K–, KC–, C–, Pd–; containing 2-chlorolichexanthone (major), stictic acid (major) and constictic acid (minor).

An uncommon, corticolous species in eastern Qld and north-eastern N.S.W.; also in Lord Howe Is., southern Africa and Brazil.

Qld: Daintree Ferry, *W.H.Ewers* 8385 (CANB); Carnarvon Natl Park, 91 km NNW of Injune, *J.A.Elix* 34075 (CANB); Moreton, 4 km N of Richmond Gap, *A.W.Archer* P418 (NSW). N.S.W.: Antarctic Beech Lookout, Border Ranges Natl Park, *A.W.Archer* P428 (NSW); 3 km SW of Evans Head, Bundjalung Natl Park, *A.W.Archer* P529 (NSW).

The species is characterised by the asci with 8 biseriata ascospores and the presence of 2-chlorolichexanthone and stictic acid in the thallus. It is distinguished from the chemically similar *P. delicatula* Müll.Arg., from Brazil, by the smaller ascospores (55–65 µm long) of the latter. The chemically similar *P. torquatella* Müll.Arg., also described from Brazil, has black ostioles.

This was previously reported from Australia under the more recent synonym *P. limbata*.