

Pertusaria dissita Elix & A.W.Archer, in J.A.Elix, W.M.Malcolm & A.W.Archer, *Mycotaxon* 53: 273 (1995)

T: Mt McLachlan, 7 km NW of Pine Creek, N.T., 13°47'S, 131°47'E, 20 July 1991, *J.A.Elix* 28213; holo: CANB.

Illustration: J.A.Elix *et al.*, *op. cit.* 277, fig. 1.

Thallus dull yellowish green to pale olive-green, areolate and cracked, subtuberculate and dull. Soredia and isidia absent. Apothecia conspicuous, verruciform, scattered, rarely confluent, flattened-hemispherical, concolorous with the thallus, usually constricted at the base, 0.8–1.5 mm diam. Ostioles inconspicuous, black, punctiform, surrounded by a pale yellow opaque zone, c. 0.2 mm diam., 1 or 2 per verruca. Ascospores 8 per ascus, irregularly biseriata, ellipsoidal, smooth, (60–) 70–90 (–105) × 30–40 (–45) µm.

Chemistry: Thallus K–, KC+ orange, C+ orange, Pd–; containing stictic acid (major), thiophanic acid (major), 2-chloro-6-*O*-methylnorlichexanthone (minor), lichexanthone (trace to minor), constictic acid (minor), hypostictic acid (minor), 4-chloro-6-*O*-methylnorlichexanthone (trace), cryptostictic acid (trace), hypoconstictic acid (trace) and menegazziaic acid (trace).

This rare, endemic, saxicolous species is known from two localities in northern N.T.

N.T.: Green Ant Ck, 35 km SSE of Adelaide River settlement, *J.A.Elix* 28191 (CANB).

Pertusaria dissita is characterised by the dull, predominantly yellowish green thallus, asci with 8 biseriata ascospores and the distinctive thallus chemistry.