

***Pertusaria erythrella* Müll.Arg., *Bull. Herb. Boissier* 1: 41 (1893)**

T: Lakes Entrance, Vic., 1891, *F.R.M. Wilson* 999; holo: G.

Illustration: A.W.Archer, *Biblioth. Lichenol.* 69: 183, fig. 72 (1997).

Thallus off-white to pale greyish white, slightly cracked and areolate, faintly wrinkled, dull. Isidia absent. Soralia numerous, conspicuous, white, disc-like or subhemispherical, sometimes constricted at the base, 0.5–1.0 mm diam.; upper surface occasionally becoming smooth and pale reddish brown. Apothecia not seen.

Chemistry: Thallus K+ yellow then red, KC–, C–, Pd+ yellow; containing norstictic acid (major), connorstictic acid (trace) and \pm lichexanthone (minor to trace).

An endemic, corticolous species that is usually found in rainforest in eastern Australia (Qld, N.S.W. and Vic.); also on islands in Bass Strait, Tas.

Qld: Bald Mtn. Gambubal S.F., *J.Hafellner* 16340 (GZU). N.S.W.: Fitzroy Falls, 16 km SE of Moss Vale, *D.Verdon* 3030 (CANB). Vic.: 6 km N of Club Terrace, 60 km ENE of Orbost, *J.A.Elix* 19251 (CANB). Tas.: Deal Is., Kents Group, Bass Str., *J.Whinray* s.n. (MEL 1012473).

The lichen is characterised by the sterile, sorediate thallus containing norstictic acid. It resembles *P. leucosorodes* (*q.v.*), but that species contains thamnolic acid.