

Pertusaria flindersiana Kantvilas & Elix, *Sauteria* 15: 256 (2008)

T: Red Bluff, Patriarch Inlet, Flinders Island, Tas., 39°57'S, 148°12'E, on granite boulders along seashore, 3 m alt., 1 Apr, 2007, *G.Kantvilas 139/07*; holo: HO; iso: CANB.

Illustration: G.Kantvilas & J.A.Elix, *op. cit.* 357, fig. 3.

Thallus whitish grey, areolate and deeply cracked, to c. 350 µm thick, ecorticate. Apothecia verruciform, concolorous with and dominating the thallus; individual verrucae 1.5–2.0 mm wide, ± globose, usually somewhat flattened at the apex, mostly fused in clumps of 3–10 which are irregular, ±cerebriform, wrinkled, basally constricted, 3–5 mm wide. Ostioles black, rather sunken, mostly 2–4 per verruca. Asci 2-spored, narrowly oblong, soon rupturing at maturity. Ascospores ellipsoidal to oblong, hyaline, (80–) 120–140 (–192) × (34–) 53 (–66) µm; inner wall internally rough and sculptured. Pycnidia not found.

Chemistry: Thallus K–, KC± faint pink, C–, P± faint orange, UV+ whitish; containing divaricatic acid (major), subdivaricatic acid (minor), 4,5-dichlorolichexanthone (minor), 4,5-dichloro-3-*O*-methylnorlichexanthone (trace).

A very rare maritime saxicolous species in Flinders Island, Bass Strait, Tas.

Pertusaria flindersiana is superficially similar and very closely related to *P. knightiana* (*q.v.*). While the latter species occurs in a very similar habitat, the two can be distinguished unequivocally only by their chemistry, with *P. knightiana* containing norstictic acid in addition to 4,5-dichlorolichexanthone.