

***Pertusaria lavata* Müll.Arg., *Flora* 67: 462 (1884)**

T: New Zealand, *s. loc.*, 1883, *C.Knight s.n.*; holo: G.

Illustration: A.W.Archer, *Biblioth. Lichenol.* 69: 92, fig. 25 (1997).

Thallus pale greyish white to pale fawn, thick, coarsely areolate and cracked, smooth and dull, lacking soredia and isidia. Apothecia numerous, verruciform, crowded, often confluent, concolorous with the thallus, markedly flattened-hemispherical, 0.7–1.0 mm diam. Ostiole conspicuous, black, punctiform, surrounded by a pale translucent zone, 1 per verruca. Ascospores (6–) 8 per ascus, predominantly biseriata, ellipsoidal to subfusiform, smooth, $85\text{--}105 \times 30\text{--}40 \mu\text{m}$.

Chemistry: Thallus K–, KC–, C–, Pd–; containing 4,5-dichlorolichexanthone (major), 2'-*O*-methylperlatolic acid (major) and \pm confluent acid (minor).

An uncommon, predominantly coastal, saxicolous species in eastern Qld and N.S.W.; also in Lord Howe Is. and New Zealand.

Qld: Castle Crag, Lamington Natl Park, *S.Brownlie A90a* (MEL). N.S.W.: near Point Lookout, New England Natl Park, 80 km E of Armidale, *A.W.Archer P372* (NSW); Boulder Bay, 3 km S of Tathra, *A.W.Archer 531* (NSW).

This lichen is characterised by flattened verrucae, asci with mostly 8 biseriata ascospores and a distinctive chemistry. The chemically similar *P. lophocarpa* has conspicuous, raised verrucae and smaller, uniseriate ascospores.