

Pertusaria neotriconica Elix & A.W.Archer, *Australas. Lichenol.* 60: 22 (2007)

T: Mount Hyland Nature Reserve, 20 km N of Hernani, N.S.W., 30°10'44"S, 152°25'19"E, alt. 1340 m, on base of tree in temperate rainforest, 30 Apr. 2005, *J.A.Elix 36570*; holo: NSW; iso: CANB.

Illustration: J.A.Elix & A.W.Archer, *op. cit.* 25, fig. 4.

Thallus creamy white to pale glaucous, thick, cracked-areolate, verrucose, dull to slightly glossy, lacking soredia, isidiate. Isidia numerous, simple, cylindrical, very fragile, concolorous with the thallus, 0.5–1.0 mm tall, 0.05–0.10 mm diam. Apothecia and pycnidia not seen.

Chemistry: Cortex K+ yellow; medulla K+ yellow then red, C–, KC–, P+ deep orange-red; containing neotricone (major), norstictic acid (minor), salazinic acid (minor), norperistictic acid (minor), protocetraric acid (minor).

This corticolous lichen is known from the type locality in northern N.S.W. and eastern Vic.

N.S.W.: type locality, *J.A.Elix 36584, 36599* (CANB). Vic.: Drummer Rainforest Walk, 10 km E of Cann River, *J.A.Elix 43565* (CANB).

Pertusaria neotriconica is characterised by the sterile, isidiate thallus and the unique thalline chemistry. Neotricone, the major metabolite, is a very rare orcinol depsidone previously known only from *Phaeographis neotricosa* Redinger and *Usnea* sp.

This species closely resembles *P. muricata* and *P. umbricola*, but all three can be distinguished by chemistry, *P. muricata* containing the stictic acid chemosyndrome, and *P. umbricola* containing protocetraric acid as the major metabolite.