

Pertusaria saltuensis A.W.Archer & Elix, *Mycotaxon* 45: 422 (1992)

T: Old Mill Rd, Lannercost State Forest, 40 km WSW of Ingham, Qld, 18°46'S, 145°48'E, 19 June 1984, *J.A.Elix 15471*; holo: CANB.

Illustration: A.W.Archer & J.A.Elix, *op. cit.* 419, fig. 4.

Thallus pale yellowish white to pale yellowish green, thin, discontinuous, cracked, smooth and glossy, lacking soredia and isidia. Apothecia inconspicuous, verruciform, confluent or rarely solitary, concolorous with the thallus, strongly flattened-hemispherical, not constricted at the base, 0.5–0.8 mm diam. Ostiole inconspicuous, black, c. 0.05 mm diam., 1 per verruca. Ascospores 2 per ascus, ellipsoidal, smooth, $105\text{--}117 \times 35\text{--}40 \mu\text{m}$.

Chemistry: Thallus K⁻, KC⁺ orange, C⁺ orange, Pd⁻; containing thiophanic acid (major), 4,5,7-trichloronorlichexanthone (minor), arthothelin (minor), 4,5,7-trichloro-6-*O*-methylnorlichexanthone (trace) and 4,5-dichloronorlichexanthone (trace).

This endemic, corticolous species is known only from the type locality in north-eastern Qld.

Pertusaria saltuensis is characterised by 2-spored asci and the presence of chloronorlichexanthones. It is chemically rather similar to *P. malabara* from Lord Howe Island, but that species contains 6-*O*-methylarthothelin and stictic acid.