

***Pertusaria xenismota*** A.W.Archer & Elix, in A.W.Archer, *Biblioth. Lichenol.* 69: 170 (1997)

T: Red Rock, S side of Corinda R., 38 km NNE of Coffs Harbour, N.S.W., 30°00'S, 153°15'E, 22 Nov. 1996, A.W.Archer P889; holo: NSW.

Thallus off-white, thin, somewhat cracked, smooth and dull. Soredia and isidia absent. Apothecia numerous, verruciform, scattered, rarely confluent, flattened-hemispherical, concolorous with the thallus, 0.8–1.2 mm diam. Ostiole inconspicuous, pale grey, translucent, 1 per verruca. Ascospores 8 per ascus, uniseriate, ellipsoidal, 50–60 × 20–25 µm.

*Chemistry*: Thallus K–, KC–, C–, Pd–; containing 2-*O*-methylperlatolic acid (major), 4,5-dichlorolichexanthone (minor), methyl 2-*O*-methylperlatolate (minor) and planaic acid (trace).

A rare, endemic corticolous lichen known from two localities in north-eastern N.S.W.

N.S.W.: S side of Moonee Ck, 12 km NNE of Coffs Harbour, A.W.Archer P909 (NSW).

*Pertusaria xenismota* is characterised by 8-spored asci and 4,5-dichlorolichexanthone, 2-*O*-methylperlatolic acid and methyl 2-*O*-methylperlatolate in the thallus. Esters of orcinol depsides are uncommon in *Pertusaria*, although the β-orcinol depside ester atranorin is very common in lichens and occurs sporadically in *Pertusaria*. This species is distinguished from the chemically similar *P. praetermissa* by the smaller ascospores and the presence of methyl 2-*O*-methylperlatolate.