

***Pertusaria oblongata* Müll.Arg., *Flora* 67: 401 (1884)**

T: Apiahy, Brazil, 1883, *J.I.Puiggari* 1394, 1883; holo: G

Pertusaria howeana A.W.Archer & Elix, *Teloepa* 6: 15 (1994). T: Neds Beach Road at Malabar Hill Track, Lord Howe Is., 22 June 1992, *J.A.Elix* 32889; holo: CANB.

Illustration: A.W.Archer & J.A.Elix, *op. cit.* 16, fig. 2.

Thallus off-white to dull yellowish green, areolate and cracked, smooth. Soredia and isidia absent. Apothecia numerous, conspicuous, verruciform, scattered, flattened-hemispherical, sometimes becoming constricted at the base and distorted, 0.8–1.5 (–2.0) mm diam. Ostioles inconspicuous, black or translucent, 1 (or 2) per verruca. Ascospores 8 per ascus, irregularly biseriolate, ellipsoidal to subfusiform, (65–) 75–87 × 30–35 µm.

Chemistry: Thallus K–, KC+ yellow-orange, C+ yellow-orange, Pd–; containing arthothelin (major), 6-*O*-methylarthothelin (major), 2,5-dichloronorlichexanthone (minor), 2,7-dichloronorlichexanthone (minor) and 4,5-dichloronorlichexanthone (trace).

An uncommon, corticolous species in eastern N.S.W.; also in Lord Howe Island and Papua New Guinea.

N.S.W.: Sawtell, c. 6 km S of Coffs Harbour, *A.W.Archer* P888 (NSW); track to Resolute Beach, Ku-ring-gai Chase Natl Park, *A.W.Archer* P803 (NSW).

The lichen is characterised by asci with 8 biseriolate ascospores and the presence of chlorinated norlichexanthenes in the thallus. It resembles *P. bartlettii* A.W.Archer & Elix, from New Zealand, but the two differ in their chemistry: *P. bartlettii* contains thiophanic acid in place of the 6-*O*-methylarthothelin of *P. howeana*. *Pertusaria howeana* is chemically identical to *P. idukkiensis* Awasthi & Srivastava from India, but the ascospores in the latter are 112–212 µm long.