
T: Noosa R., c. 60 km SE of Gympie, Qld, 26°23'S, 153°02'E, 27 July 1986, J. Hafellner 19664; holo: GZU.


Thallus off-white to pale greyish white, coarsely areolate and cracked, smooth and dull. Soredia and isidia absent. Apothecia numerous, conspicuous, verruciform, sometimes confluent, concolorous with the thallus, subhemispherical, becoming flattened-hemispherical, often constricted at the base, 0.7–1.0 mm diam.; ostioles conspicuous, black, punctiform, 1–3 per verruca, 0.05–0.10 mm diam., set in a pale grey sometimes concave translucent zone 0.3–0.5 mm diam. Ascospores 4 per ascus, uniseriate, ellipsoidal, smooth, 85–120 × 35–47 µm.

Chemistry: Thallus K-, KC-, C-, Pd-; containing lichexanthone (major), 2-chloro-lichexanthone (major), stictic acid (major) and constictic acid (trace).

A rare, endemic, corticolous species that is known only from the type locality in south-eastern Qld.

*Pertusaria atromaculata* is characterised by 4-spored asci and the distinctive thallus chemistry. It is morphologically similar to *P. dehiscens*, but it can be separated from that species by the number of ascospores per ascus (8 in *P. dehiscens*) and the presence of 2-chloro-lichexanthone as a major compound.