
T: slopes of Black Mtn, 25 km NW of Kuranda, Qld, 16°40’S, 145°29’E, 7 July 1984, J.A.Elix 17541; holo: CANB.


Thallus greenish yellow to pale greenish grey, wrinkled and cracked, smooth and dull. Soredia and isidia absent. Apothecia conspicuous, verruciform, occasionally confluent, concolorous with the thallus, flattened-hemispherical, becoming constricted at the base, sometimes slightly concave above, 0.8–1.4 mm diam. Ostioles inconspicuous, pale to dark brown, in a subhyaline zone, 1–4 per verruca. Ascospores 4 or 8 per ascus, irregularly uniseriate, ellipsoidal to subfusiform, smooth, 75–145 x 30–45 µm.

Chemistry: Thallus K–, KC+ violet, C+ violet, Pd–; containing 4-O-methylisocryptochlorophaeic acid (major), stictic acid (major), thiophaninic acid (minor) and constictic acid (minor).

The *meta*-depside 4-O-methylisocryptochlorophaeic acid is the only 5'-hydroxy-substituted *meta*-depside found so far in lichens.

Two varieties of this corticolous species are recognised.

Ascospores 4 per ascus, 95–125 (~145) µm long.................................................................b. var. *tetraspora*

Ascospores 8 per ascus, 75–100 µm long.................................................................a. var. *paradoxa*

**a. Pertusaria paradoxica** A.W.Archer & Elix var. *paradoxa*

Ascospores 8 per ascus, 75–100 µm long.

An uncommon, endemic variety in rainforest in eastern Qld and N.S.W.

Qld: Conway S.F., 18 km E of Proserpine, J.A.Elix 20223 (CANB); Noosa R., c. 70 km SE of Gympie, J.Hafellner 19630 (GZU).

N.S.W.: Evans R., c. 3 km S of Evans Head, A.W.Archer P390 (DUKE, NSW); 1 km S of Springwood, Blue Mountains Natl Park, A.W.Archer P221, P223 (NSW); Glenbrook Ck, Blue Mountains Natl Park, K.Kalb 18870 (Herb. K.Kalb).


T: by side of Wilson R., Mount Boss State Forest, 37 km NW of Wauchope, N.S.W., 32°33’S, 151°29’E, alt. c. 250 m, 14 Oct. 1993, A.W.Archer P662; holo: NSW.

Ascospores 4 per ascus, 95–125 (~145) µm long.

This variety is sympatric with var. *paradoxa* in eastern N.S.W.

N.S.W.: Towlers Bay, c. 30 km N of Sydney, A.W.Archer P818 (NSW).

The variety is chemically and morphologically almost identical to var. *paradoxa*, and the two varieties are differentiated only by the length of their ascospores and the number of ascospores in the ascus.