

***Pertusaria thwaitesii*** Müll.Arg., *Flora* 67: 460 (1884)

T: Peradeniya, Ceylon [Sri Lanka], 1876, *G.H.K.Thwaites s.n.*; holo: G.

*Pertusaria wilsonii* A.W.Archer, *Mycotaxon* 41: 250 (1991). T: Clarke Ra., 46 km S of Proserpine, Qld, *J.A.Elix 20943*; holo: CANB.

Illustration: A.W.Archer, *op. cit.* 243, fig. 11 (1991), as *P. wilsonii*; A.W.Archer, *Fl. Australia* 56A: 106, pl. 53 (2004).

Thallus off-white to pale grey, wrinkled, cracked and areolate, dull. Soredia and isidia absent. Apothecia numerous, conspicuous, verruciform, concolorous with the thallus, strongly flattened-hemispherical or irregular in outline, 1–2 mm wide. Ostioles numerous, conspicuous, initially pale, becoming black, punctiform and somewhat sunken, 3–8 (–15) per verruca. Ascospores 2 per ascus, elongate-ellipsoidal, rough, 110–160 (–175) × 35–50 µm.

*Chemistry*: Thallus K–, KC–, C–, Pd+ orange-red; containing protocetraric acid (major), virensic acid (trace) and ±lichexanthone (trace to minor).

A predominantly coastal, corticolous species in Qld, N.S.W. and Vic.; also in Sri Lanka and Papua New Guinea.

Qld: Ravenshoe S.F., 18 km SE of Ravenshoe, *J.A.Elix 16156* (CANB); Killarney, 1890, *F.R.M.Wilson s.n.* (H). N.S.W.: Foxtail Rd, Toonumbar S.F., 26 km NW of Kyogle, *A.W.Archer P434* (NSW); Olney S.F., 25 km W of Morisset, *A.W.Archer P167* (NSW). Vic.: 2 km N of Mallacoota, *A.W.Archer P541* (NSW).

The species is characterised by the off-white thallus with conspicuous, multiostiolate, flattened verrucae, asci with 2 rough-walled ascospores and the presence of protocetraric acid. It resembles *P. hartmannii*, but that species contains norstictic acid and has smooth ascospores.