

***Pertusaria clarkeana*** A.W.Archer, *Mycotaxon* 53: 280 (1995)

*Pertusaria confusa* A.W.Archer, *Mycotaxon* 41: 224 (1991), *nom. illeg., non P. confusa* Zahlbr., *Cat. Lich. Univ.* 5: 134 (1928). T: Clarke Ra., 46 km SSW of Proserpine, Qld, 29 June 1986, *H.Streimann* 37465; holo: CANB; iso: B.

Illustration: A.W.Archer, *Biblioth. Lichenol.* 69: 183, fig. 69 (1997).

Thallus off-white to pale yellowish white, wrinkled and cracked. Soredia and isidia absent. Apothecia numerous and crowded, disciform, adnate or rarely slightly stipitate, 0.5–1.5 mm diam.; disc rounded, somewhat sunken, plane, white-pruinose; margin concolorous with the thallus. Asci clavate, rarely fertile. Ascospores 1 per ascus, sublachrymoid to elongate-ellipsoidal, smooth, (100–) 135–150 (–175) × 30–55 µm; ascospore wall c. 1 µm thick.

*Chemistry*: Thallus K–, KC+ violet, C–, Pd–; containing lichexanthone (minor to major), with picrolichenic acid (minor) and subpicrolichenic acid (minor), or rarely with picrolichenic acid (minor), superpicrolichenic acid (minor) and hyperpicrolichenic acid (minor).

An endemic, corticolous species in eastern Australia (Qld and N.S.W.); mainly in mangroves (*Avicennia*, *Bruguiera* and *Rhizophora*), but also on *Acacia*, *Argyrodendron* and *Casuarina*.

Qld: Lake Barrine Natl Park, *J.A.Elix* 2639 (CANB); Noosa R., N of Tewantin, *J.Hafellner* 19229 (GZU); Hinchinbrook Is., *G.N.Stevens* 3925 (BRI). N.S.W.: 3 km SW of Evans R., Bundjalung Natl Park, *A.W.Archer* P383 (NSW); Buckenbowra R. estuary, W of Batemans Bay, *J.A.Elix* 21864 (CANB).

*Pertusaria clarkeana* is characterised by the sterile or 1-spored asci and the presence of lichexanthone and picrolichenic acid in the thallus. It resembles *P. velata* and *P. commutata*, but it is chemically distinct from those species.

A possible earlier name for this species is *P. velatoides* A.L.Sm. (1922), from New Caledonia. However, the type material of that taxon was not available for examination.