

Pertusaria rigida Müll.Arg., *J. Linn. Soc., Bot.* 29: 221 (1893)

T: Manipoor [Manipur], India, *G.Watt s.n.*, ex Herb. Kew 1891; holo: G.

Illustration: A.W.Archer, *Biblioth. Lichenol.* 69: 141, fig. 49 (1997).

Thallus pale greyish olive, minutely areolate and cracked, smooth and dull, lacking soredia and isidia. Apothecia numerous, verruciform, occasionally confluent, concolorous with the thallus, flattened-hemispherical, 0.8–1.5 mm diam. Ostioles conspicuous, black, punctiform, sometimes in a pale grey translucent zone (and inconspicuous), 1 (rarely 2) per verruca, more numerous in confluent verrucae. Ascospores 4–6 (–8) per ascus, irregularly uni- or biseriolate, ellipsoidal to subfusiform, smooth, (60–) 65–80 (–90) × 25–38 µm.

Chemistry: K–, KC–, C–, Pd–; containing 4,5-dichlorolichexanthone (major), ±4,5-dichloro-3-*O*-methylnorlichexanthone (trace) and ±4,5-dichloro-6-*O*-methylnorlichexanthone (trace).

A predominantly inland, corticolous species in W.A., Qld and northern N.S.W.; also in India.

W.A.: along the road to The Loop and Z-Bend, Kalbarri Natl Park, 24 km NE of Kalbarri township, *J.A.Elix 33651* (CANB). Qld: Hervey Ra., 45 km SW of Townsville, *J.A.Elix 20437* (CANB); 5 km E of Injune, *J.A.Elix 34032* (CANB, MSC); 39 km NNW of Roma, *J.A.Elix 34102* (CANB). N.S.W.: Murray Scrub Lookout, Toonumbar S.F., *A.W.Archer P472* (NSW); track to The Needles, Gibraltar Range Natl Park, *A.W.Archer P474* (NSW).

Pertusaria rigida is characterised by 8-spored asci and 4,5-dichlorolichexanthone in the thallus. The chemically similar *P. irregularis* has 2-spored asci.