

***Pertusaria melaleucoides* Müll.Arg., *Flora* 67: 284 (1884)**

T: [probably Wellington], New Zealand, 1883, *C.Knight s.n.*; holo: G.

Pertusaria atropunctata A.W.Archer, *Mycotaxon* 41: 224 (1991). T: Buckenbowra R. estuary, 7.5 km W of Batemans Bay, N.S.W., 29 May 1983, *J.A.Elix 11004*; holo: CANB.

Illustration: A.W.Archer, *op. cit.* 229, fig. 1, as *P. atropunctata*.

Thallus greyish white, areolate and cracked, dull, lacking soredia and isidia. Apothecia verruciform, immersed to flattened-hemispherical, concolorous with the thallus, 0.5–1.0 mm diam. Ostioles conspicuous, black, 1–4 per verruca, fusing to form an irregular black pseudolecideine disc 0.3–0.6 mm diam. Ascospores 2 per ascus, elongate-ellipsoidal, smooth, 85–100 (–120) × 30–40 µm.

Chemistry: Thallus K–, KC–, C–, Pd–; no lichen compounds detected.

An uncommon, corticolous species in south-eastern N.S.W.; also in New Zealand. Usually found on *Avicennia* at sea level.

N.S.W.: Narrawallee Inlet, c. 55 km N of Batemans Bay, *A.W.Archer P280* (CANB, NSW); Batemans Bay, *J.A.Elix 23342* (CANB).

Characterised by the 2-spored asci, conspicuous, black ostioles and the absence of lichen compounds. This lichen bears a superficial resemblance to some species of *Lecidea* (Lecideaceae).