

Pertusaria alboatra

FAMILY

Pertusariaceae

AUTHORITY

Pertusaria alboatra Zahlbr.

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, Sp

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the corticolous habit; verruciform apothecia with black ostioles; 2-spored (rarely 3-spored) asci; and thiophaninic acid in the medulla.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Waitiki Stream, Paihia), Auckland (Rangitoto Island). **South Island:** Marlborough (Resolution Bay).

HABITAT

On coastal shrubs, especially mangroves (*Avicennia marina* subsp. *australasica*) in northern localities; on *Corynocarpus laevigatus* and *Melicytus ramiflorus* in the Marlborough Sounds locality.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus pale yellowish fawn, conspicuously areolate, surface smooth and dull, without isidia or soredia. **Apothecia** in pore-like verrucae, numerous, conspicuous, often confluent, flattened-hemispherical to immersed, 0.5–1 mm diam.; **ostioles** conspicuous, black, 1 per verruca, 0.1–0.4 mm diam., sometimes with a pale-grey translucent margin. **Ascospores** 2 per ascus (rarely 3), ellipsoidal, smooth (70–)85–110(–132) × 35–45 µm.

Chemistry: K–, KC+ weak yellow, C–, Pd–; containing thiophaninic acid (major) with 2-chloro-6-O-methylnorlichexanthone (tr.) and 4-chloro-6-O-methylnorlichexanthone (tr.).

SIMILAR TAXA

Pertusaria melaleuroides is similar but lacks thiophaninic acid and never has 3-spored asci.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (16 June 2023). Information in the Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features, and Similar taxa sections copied from Galloway (1985, 2007).



Corticolous on grey willow, Karaka Auckland.
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:
10/02/2022, Licence: CC BY.



Corticolous on grey willow, Karaka Auckland.
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:
10/02/2022, Licence: CC BY.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

- Galloway D.J. 1985: *Flora of New Zealand: Lichens*. Wellington: PD Hasselberg, Government Printer. 662 pp.
- Galloway D.J. 2007: *Flora of New Zealand: Lichens, including lichen-forming and lichenicolous fungi*. 2nd edition. Lincoln, Manaaki Whenua Press. 2261 pp.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pertusaria-alboatra/>