

Pertusaria lophocarpa

SYNONYMS

Pertusaria superba Zahlbr., *Pertusaria dunedina* Zahlbr.

FAMILY

Pertusariaceae

AUTHORITY

Pertusaria lophocarpa Körb.

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

DISTRIBUTION

South Island: Canterbury (Port Hills, Banks Peninsula), Otago (Herbert State Forest, Maungatua, Flagstaff). **Campbell Island. Macquarie Island.** Also known in South East Australia (South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory) and Tasmania.

HABITAT

On subalpine rocks in grassland, s.l. to 1500 m.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus grey-white, pale glaucous grey or fawn-grey, matt, uniform, areolate-cracked or with parallel striations or deep or narrow cracks (rather like tree bark), 2-12 cm diam., margins indeterminate, effuse.

Fertile verrucae scattered, 0.5-5 mm diam., ± hemispherical deformed, constricted at base, round to irregular. **Apothecia** 1-5(-10) per verruca, immersed, ostioles black, apex of verruca surrounding ostiole red-brown, ± translucent margins grey-white or concolorous with thallus. **Asci** 8-spored. **Ascospores** uniseriate, oval-ellipsoid, ends pointed, (43.5-52-69.5 × 25-30 μm, walls 3-13 μm thick, thickest at apices.

Chemistry: K-, KC-, C-, Pd-; containing 4,5-dichlorolichexanthone (major), 2'-O-methylperlatolic acid (major), ±confluent acid (minor) or rarely with 2-O-methylperlatolic acid (minor) replacing confluent acid.

SIMILAR TAXA

Resembles *P. subverrucosa* Nyl., but is distinguished from it by the larger ostioles, the number of ascospores (8-spored in *P. lophocarpa*; 2-spored in *P. subverrucosa*) and the K reaction (*P. subverrucosa* reacts K+ red because of the presence of norstictic acid; *P. lophocarpa* reacts K-).

SUBSTRATE

Saxicolous



Local saxicolous lichen on exposed cairns, Slopedown Southland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 16/11/2022, Licence: CC BY.



Local saxicolous lichen on exposed cairns, Slopedown Southland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 16/11/2022, Licence: CC BY.

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).

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-lophocarpa/>