

## BOSWELLIA

*Burseriaceae*

Vessels moderately small (50-100  $\mu$  mean diameter); solitary and in multiples of 2 or three, occasionally 4 or 5, cells commonly with some irregular clusters; usually varying in number between 4 and 15 per sq. mm. Perforations exclusively simple; intervacular pitting alternate, with hexagonal borders, large; pits to ray cells and parenchyma large and simple, commonly unilaterally compound. Mean member length usually between 0.3 and 0.6 mm.

Parenchyma paratracheal, as sheaths round the vessels, usually rather scanty; when vasicentric, usually united to a single row; diffuse parenchyma in addition has been reported in some species. Sometimes containing dark gum; crystals not observed. Strands usually of 4 cells, but sometimes of up to 8 cells. Some of the cells reported to be septate.

Rays up to 4 cells wide in some species, 2-3 in others. Heimsch notes that the rays may be up to 5 or 6 cells wide in a few species; less than 1 mm high; uniseriate rays few in species with multiseriate rays and composed of both upright and procumbent cells; mostly 4-6 rays per mm, in woods with multiseriate rays; heterogeneous (Kribs Type IIB and III) with 1-3 rows of square or upright marginal cells; procumbent and upright cells commonly containing dark gum. Intercellular spaces moderately distinct in some species.

Fibres with moderately thick walls; sometimes with a mucilaginous layer and sometimes containing gum; septate; pits simple, small, slit-like to almost round, and more numerous on radial than on tangential walls; fibres often in regular radial rows. Mean length 0.8-1.4 mm.