Solanaceae

LYCIUM

Vessels very variable in size, commonly ranging from very small (25-50 μ mean tangential diameter) to medium sized (100-200 u) even in different species of the same genus; mostly small (less than 100 u); very variable in arrangement, but very commonly with irregular clusters and frequently with some multiples of 4 or more cells; sometimes arranged in distinct oblique groups (dendritic). Woods with dendritic pattern often with groups of extremely small vessels that look like tracheids or parenchyma in transverse section. Mostly 7-30 per sq. mm. Ring-porous in some species. Spiral thickening, sometimes limited to smaller vessels. Perforations simple. Intervascular pitting typically moderately large. Pits to ray and wood parenchyma usually simple and elongated, but similar in size and shape to intervascular pitting in Lycium. Tyloses rare, not abundant. Mean member length 0.3-0.4 mm.

Parenchyma usually scanty and limited to a few cells or a narrow sheath round each vessel. Premominantly apotracheal, as scattered cells or irregular uniseriate bands. Strands of 2 or 2-4 cells.

Rays sometimes of 2 distinct sizes; 1-2 cells wide; exclusively uniseriate or with only occasional biseriate rays in some species. Uniseriates, in woods with heterogeneous rays, usually numerous and composed of square to upright cells or with some procumbent cells. Rays 4-13, mostly 7-9, per mm. Typically heterogeneous (Kribs type II and B, and occasionally I), sometimes with more than 4 marginal rows of square or upright cells, rarely with 10 or more. Composed of small, but all square to upright, cells in some species.

Fibres typically with somple or indistinctly bordered pits, more numerous on radial than on tangential walls. Walls usually thin. Mean length 0.7-0.95 mm.