

ULEX

Vessels medium-sized (100-200 μ mean tangential diameter). In spp. with an oblique or tangential pattern the larger vessels may themselves be small and be set in a matrix of extremely small, angular storied vessels that are comparable with tracheids in cross section, e.g. Ulex. Arranged with an oblique pattern. Clusters common in nearly all woods with a distinct vessel pattern. Ring-porous or semi-ring-porous in at least some spp. Spiral thickening, often limited to the smaller vessels. Perforations simple. Intervascular pitting alternate, typically small. Pits to parenchyma and ray cells usually similar to the intervascular pits. Pits vested. Mean member length 0.1-0.4 mm.

Parenchyma usually moderately to very abundant and either predominantly paratracheal or in moderately regular bands that tend to be replaced by definitely paratracheal forms where the parenchyma is less abundant. Confluent, forming irregular bands or the matrix for oblique or tangential bands of vessels in some spp. of Ulex, or scattered strands (diffuse) in some spp. Strands most commonly of 1-2 or of only 1 cell. Parenchyma cells almost exclusively fusiform.

Rays exclusively uniseriate or with only occasional biseriate rays in some spp. Mostly from 4-12 rays per mm. Homogeneous (Kribs's Types I, II and III).

Fibres typically with few, small, simple pits, more numerous on radial than on tangential walls. Walls moderately to very thick. Mean member length 0.6-1.7mm.