

VISCUM

Loranthaceae

Vessels extremely small (less than 25 μ mean tangential diameter); very variable in arrangement, mostly in radial multiples which are often of 4 or more cells in *V. articulatum*, and in long irregular radial masses between the rays in other species. Perforations simple. Intervascular pitting alternate and small to moderately large, sometimes with coalescent apertures. Pits to parenchyma mostly similar to the intervascular pitting, but usually with some larger and simple pits. Mean member length 0.07-0.10 mm.

Parenchyma typically predominantly apotracheal, as scattered cells or numerous, short, uniseriate bands; often with some cells about the vessels in addition; containing numerous, solitary crystals in *V. articulatum* and druses in *V. capense*; usually consisting almost entirely of fusiform cells and storied.

Rays usually 2-3 cells wide, in most species; typically more than 1 mm. high and often very high, uniseriates rare in species with large rays; usually about 5 rays per mm. or fewer; sometimes composed of irregularly mixed procumbent and square to upright cells, e.g. in *V. album*. Containing druses in *V. capense* and with groups of sclerotized cells, each usually containing a single crystal.

Fibres with simple pits. Walls very thick. Mean length 0.4-0.6 mm.