

CERATONIA

Vessels typically medium-sized (100-200 μ mean tangential diameter) typically solitary with a few multiples of 2-3 cells and some irregular clusters; these clusters, usually of small cells, not always present in every section, but a tendency to produce them locally appears to be a characteristic. Mostly between 1.5 and 5 per mm. Perforations simple. Intervascular pitting alternate, small. Pits to parenchyma and ray cells similar to the intervacular pits. Pits vestured. Solid deposits present in nearly all spp. Tyloses rare. Mean member length 0.2-0.5 mm.

Parenchyma usually moderately abundant and predominantly paratracheal; most typically as a sheath, several cells wide about the vessels, round, diamond-shaped or distinctly aliform in cross section and often locally confluent where the vessels are close together, with considerable variation within those limits in different parts of the ring and in different specimens, commonly rounded; scattered strands (diffuse) without crystals. Terminal parenchyma present in most spp. Strands most commonly of 2-4 cells.

Rays mostly 2-3 or 4-7 cells wide in different spp., less than 1 mm high. Woods with multiseriate rays often with few uniseriates. Mostly from 4-12 rays per mm. Heterogeneous (Kribs's Types II and III) with 1-2 marginal rows of upright cells; containing gum-like deposits in most spp. Without any distinct tendency to arrangement in echelon or stories.

Fibres with few small simple pits, more numerous on radial than on tangential walls. Septate. Walls usually moderately to very thick; commonly with a gelatinous inner layer and often with dark gum-like contents. Mean length 0.7-1.4 mm.

Ceratonia Siliqua L.

Diffuse-porous. Pores in short radial multiples, more frequently solitary; medium sized, maximum tangential diameter 145 μ ; numerous but not crowded. Vessels with simple perforations; pits alternate, medium sized, vestured. Wood parenchyma vasicentric, aliform, and terminal. Rays heterogeneous, both procumbent and upright cells present, upright cells mostly in marginal tiers 1 to 2 cells high; rays 1 to 3 cells wide; less than 25 cells high; ray-vessel pitting medium sized, pit outline short oval. Fibres with simple or in-

distinctly bordered pits. septate. Crystals present in ray cells, numerous in the terminal parenchyma. (Ilanoth Specimen 3)