

FICUS

Vessels usually medium sized (mean tangential diameter 100-200 μ). Solitary vessels typically predominating, but some multiples of 2 or 3 cells always present. 1-25 per sq. mm., very commonly less than 5 per sq. mm in *Ficus*. Perforations exclusively simple. Intervascular pitting varying from very small to large, generally medium. Pits to ray and wood parenchyma typically larger than the intervacular pitting, often simple and elongated. Tyloses present and sometimes very abundant. Apparently a correlation between thick-walled tyloses and the occurrence of thick-walled fibres, vessels, parenchyma and ray cells. Mean member length 0.15-0.6 mm.

Parenchyma typically paratracheal, usually aliform or confluent or both, in regular, narrow to broad bands which cannot well be classified as confluent in *Ficus*. Terminal bands sometimes present. Strands most commonly of 2-4 cells, sometimes up to 8 cells in *Ficus*. Storied in occasional spp. of *Ficus*, e.g. *F. indica* L and *F. vetusa* L.

Rays most commonly up to 3-6 cells wide, sometimes up to 7-10 cells wide in *Ficus*. Rather more than 1 mm. high. Uniseriates typically few and small and composed of mixed procumbent and square to upright cells - 3-11, mostly 5-7 rays per mm. Usually heterogeneous (Kribs's Type II B or, less commonly II A) with 1-3 (often only 1) marginal rows of square to upright cells. Sheath cells rare, but occasionally present in some spp. Storied in occasional spp. of *Ficus*, e.g. *F. altissima* Bl., *F. benjamina* L. and *F. indica* L.

Fibres typically with small simple pits, which are almost entirely limited to the radial wall. Septate in some spp. Walls rather thin to very thick.

Ficus Sycomorus L.

Diffuse-porous. Pores solitary and in short radial multiples; medium sized, maximum tangential diameter 190 μ ; scattered, less than 5 pores per square mm. Vessels with simple perforations; pits alternate, medium sized. Wood parenchyma in broad tangential bands which include the pores, the bands coalesce and form over one half of the ground mass. Rays weakly heterogeneous, square cells in marginal tiers of 2 to 3 and interspersed with the procumbent cells; up to 12

cells wide; up to 60 cells high; ray-vessel
pitting coarse, pit outline short oval to elongated.
Fibres with simple or indistinctly bordered pits.
Crystals occasional in wood parenchyma cells and
in margins of ray cells. Latex tubes not
observed. (Ilanoth Specimen No. 63)