

HYPERICUM

Vessels extremely small (less than 25 μ); solitary and in radial pairs, sometimes with a tendency to a tangential pattern; typically with fewer than 5 vessels per sq. mm. but sometimes up to 200 or more. Occasionally with a slight tendency to be ring porous. Perforation plates simple, slightly oblique. Vestal notes scalariform or clustered perforations plates in some spp. Intervascular pitting alternate, of medium size to rather small; pits to ray cells usually similar to the intervacular pitting. Tyloses present in some spp. solid deposits sometimes moderately abundant. Mean member length 0.4-0.5 mm. Very small, spirally thickened vessels.

Parenchyma absent

Rays all uniseriate. Less than 1 mm. and commonly less than 5 cells high. Up to 24 rays per mm. Composed entirely of square and upright cells in the material examined, but Vestal describes the rays of this genus as falling into Kribs's Types Heterogeneous II B and III.

Fibres typically with simple or indistinctly bordered pits that occur mostly on the radial walls. Vestal notes occurrence of some septate fibres, particularly in Asiatic spp. e.g. *H. androsaemum* L. Walls moderately thick to thick. Mean length 1.0-1.4 mm.

Vasicentric tracheids present in some spp; together with very small vessels, and sometimes parenchyma, they form a matrix linking together and surrounding groups of larger vessels.