

LAVATERA

Vessels small (less than 100 μ mean tangential diameter) or medium-sized (100-200 μ) the latter mostly less than 150 μ ; very small (25-50 μ) in some species, solitary, in irregular clusters and in radial multiples of 2 or 3; multiples commonly of 4 or more cells present in some species and sometimes producing a radial pattern; Perforations simple. Intervascular pitting alternate. Webber describes pitting as alternate, opposite or occasionally scalariform in part; small to minute; pits to ray and wood parenchyma typically similar to the intervascular pitting but sometimes simple, and with some horizontally or obliquely elongated pits in some species. Mean member length 0.2-07 mm.

Parenchyma rather scanty to abundant, aliform to confluent, paratracheal and with occasional broad bands of very thin-walled parenchyma cells, sometimes numerous locally or linking up to form a ground tissue in which, in cross-section, the groups of fibres and vessels appear as small islands or bands. Terminal parenchyma present in some genera. Strands most commonly of 2-4 cells. Storied in nearly all species except in very small stems.

Rays very varied in type. High multiseriate rays and relatively few uniseriates, both with alternating procumbent and upright cells, but the upright cells tend to be more nearly square. Rays up to 4-9 cells wide; commonly with tendency to be of 2 distinct sizes in woods with larger rays; markedly heterogeneous with square or upright cells intermingled with procumbent cells and tending to alternate in groups; very commonly containing crystals, with druses in some species.

Fibres Typically with small simple pits. With thin walls in some species. Commonly storied in woods in which the parenchyma is distinctly storied. Mean length 0.36-2.33 mm. usually of medium length 0.9-1.6