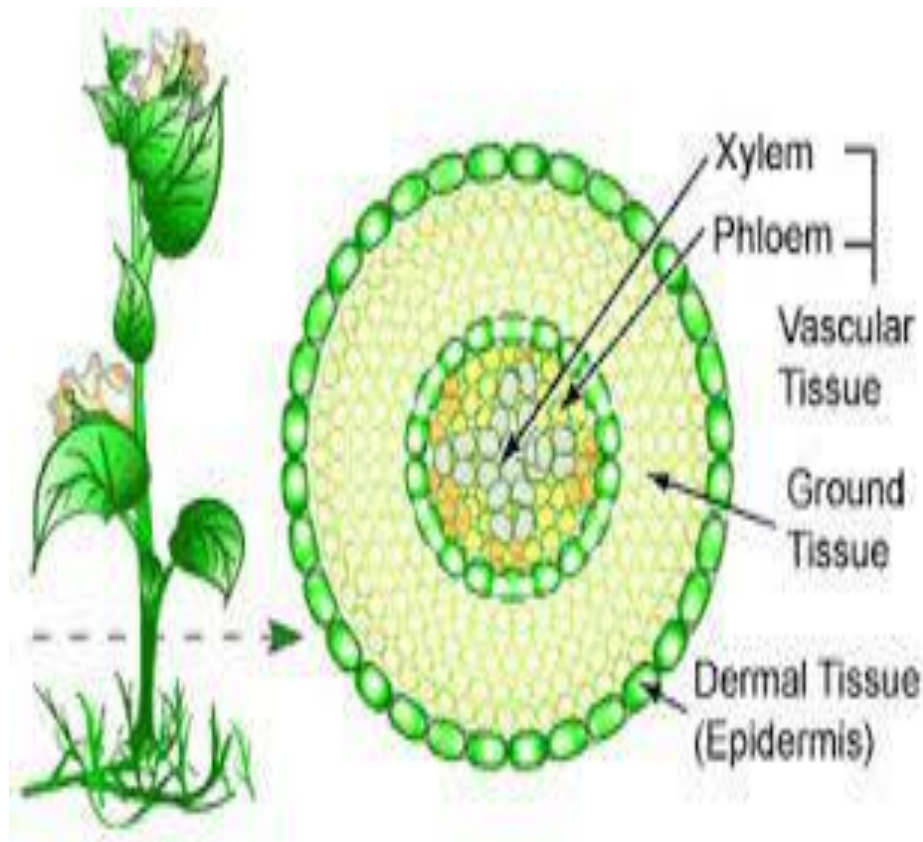


S.YBSc.Credit pattern Term II BO 241  
Botany paper I.Plant Anatomy & Embryology  
Chapter 3- Mechanical Tissue System



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# What is Mechanical Tissue?

- Tissue which protect the plant from bending down , cutting down , leaf tearing , uprooting due to natural calamities & gives mechanical support is called mechanical tissue.
- Plant body is constructed to cope up different stresses like head or canopy load, bending stress , pulling forces or longitudinal tension etc.
- Chief mechanical tissue is
  - 1.Collenchyma
  - 2.sclerenchyma
  - 3.xylem

# Collenchyma

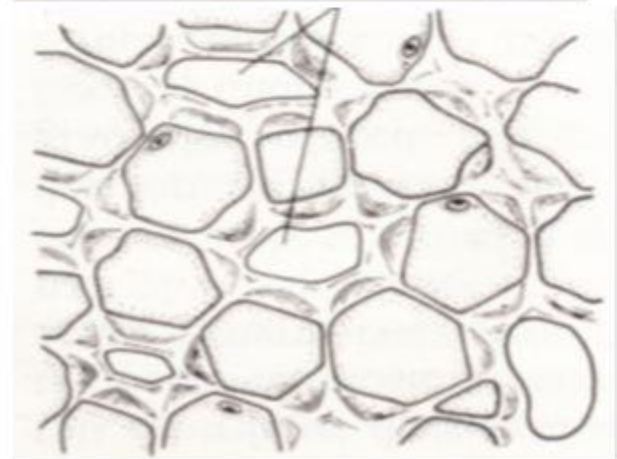
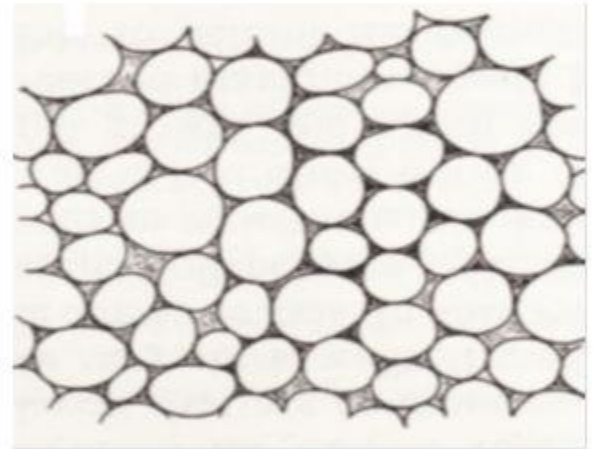
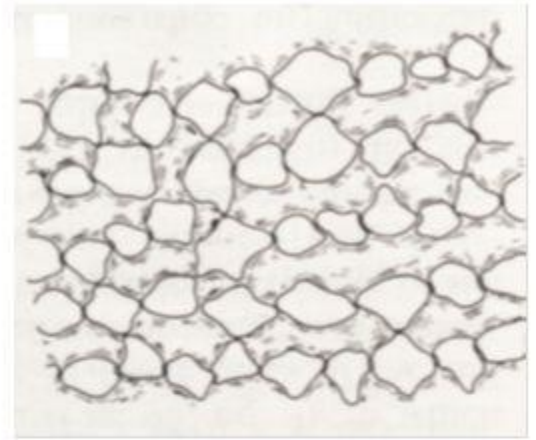
- Living, elongated cells with corners or intercellular spaces filled with cellulose & pectin
- Location- younger parts of plant i.e. growing stem , ,leaves .both sides of veins & margins of leaf blade.
- Function- to give mechanical support to younger plant parts.Gives tensile strength with flexibility & plasticity to root,stem

## Types:

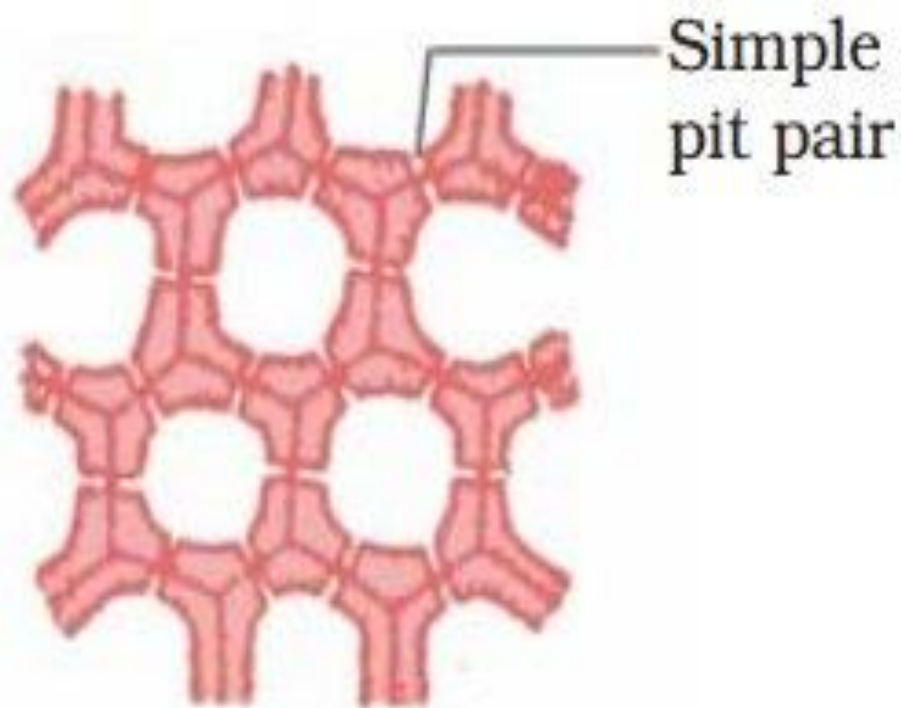
**Lamellar:** thickening on tangential walls.

**Angular:** thickening on angles between the cells.

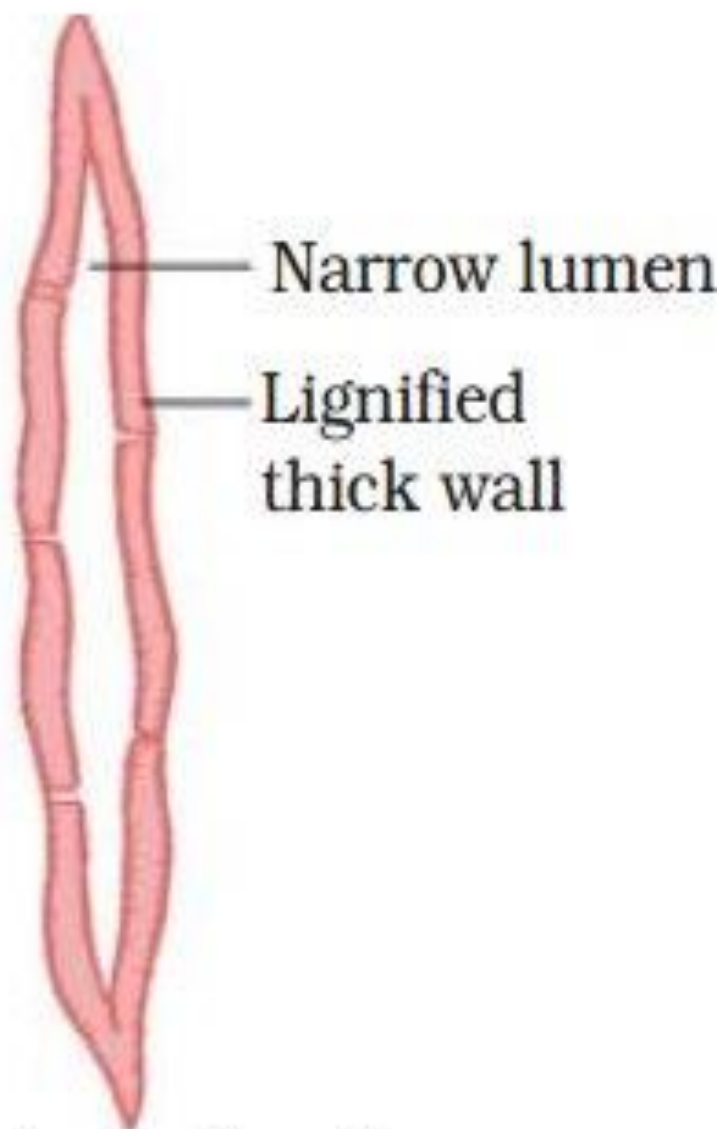
**Lacunar:** thickening on walls facing the intercellular spaces.



## Sclerenchyma



**Transverse section**

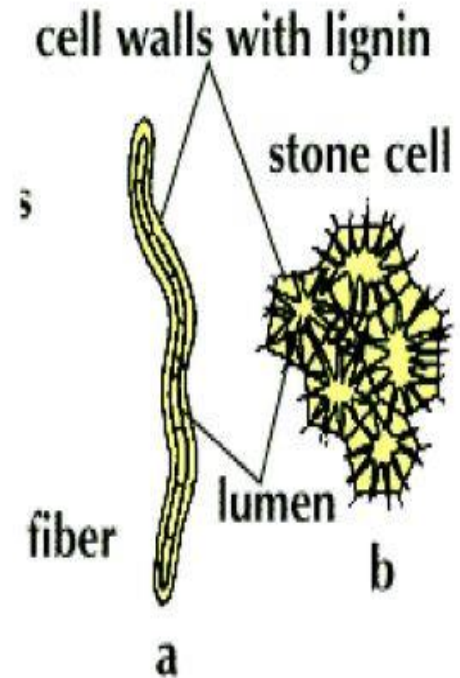


**Longitudinal section**



# Sclerenchyma Cells

- ▶ Two types of sclerenchyma: **Fiber** and **sclereids**
- ▶ **Fibers:** long, slender cells as strands or bundles, vary in length (0.8-16 mm in jute and 9-70 mm in flax)
- ▶ **Sclereids:** variable in shapes and often branched, relatively short cells compared to the most fibers.
- ▶ Found singly or aggregated throughout the ground tissue
- ▶ Seed coats of many seeds, shells of nuts, the stone (endocarp) of stone fruits (olives, peaches, cherries) and gritty texture of pears



**Sclerenchyma Tissue**

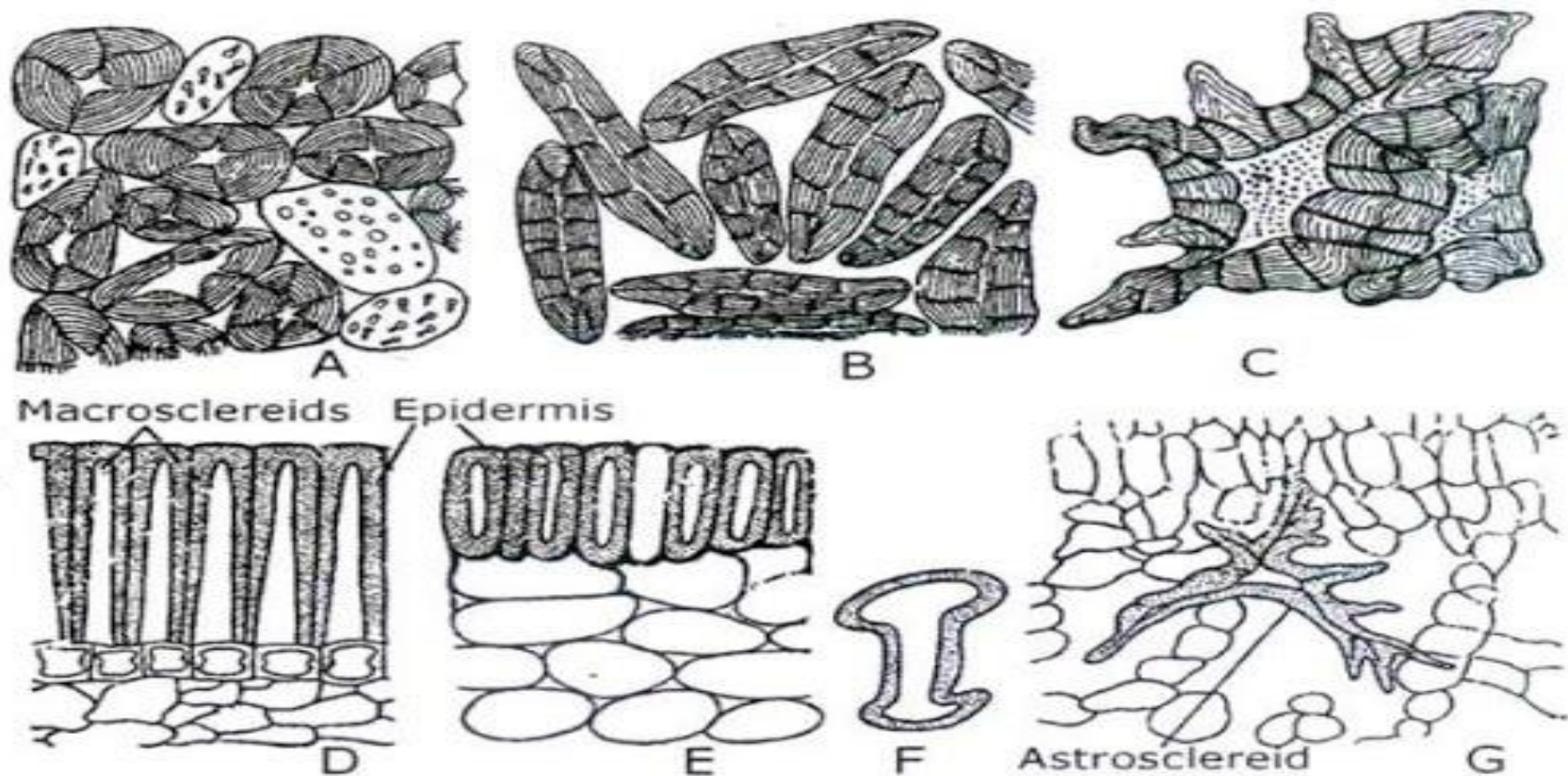


Figure 8.5

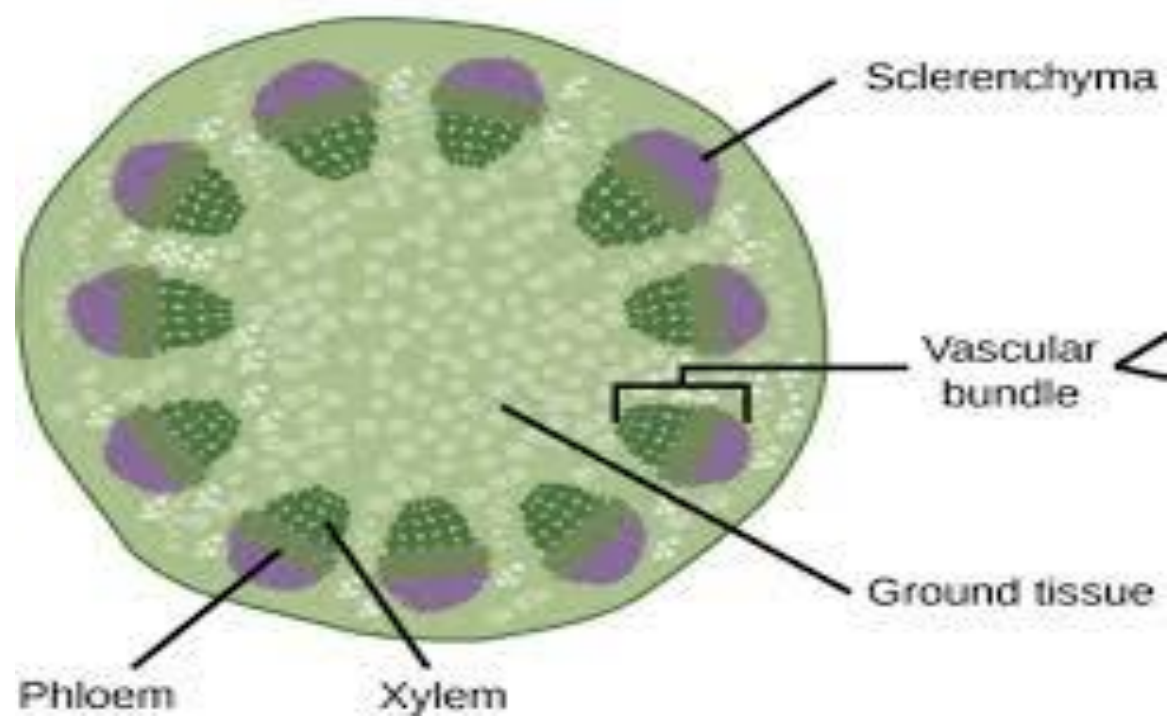
Sclereids. A. Brachysclereids from flesh of *Pyrus*. B. Same from *Cocos*. C. Irregular sclereids from *Tsuga*. D. Macrosclereids from epidermis of *Phaseolus* and E. from epidermis of *Allium sativum*. F. Osteosclereids from seed coat of *Pisum*. G. Astrosclereid from a leaf.

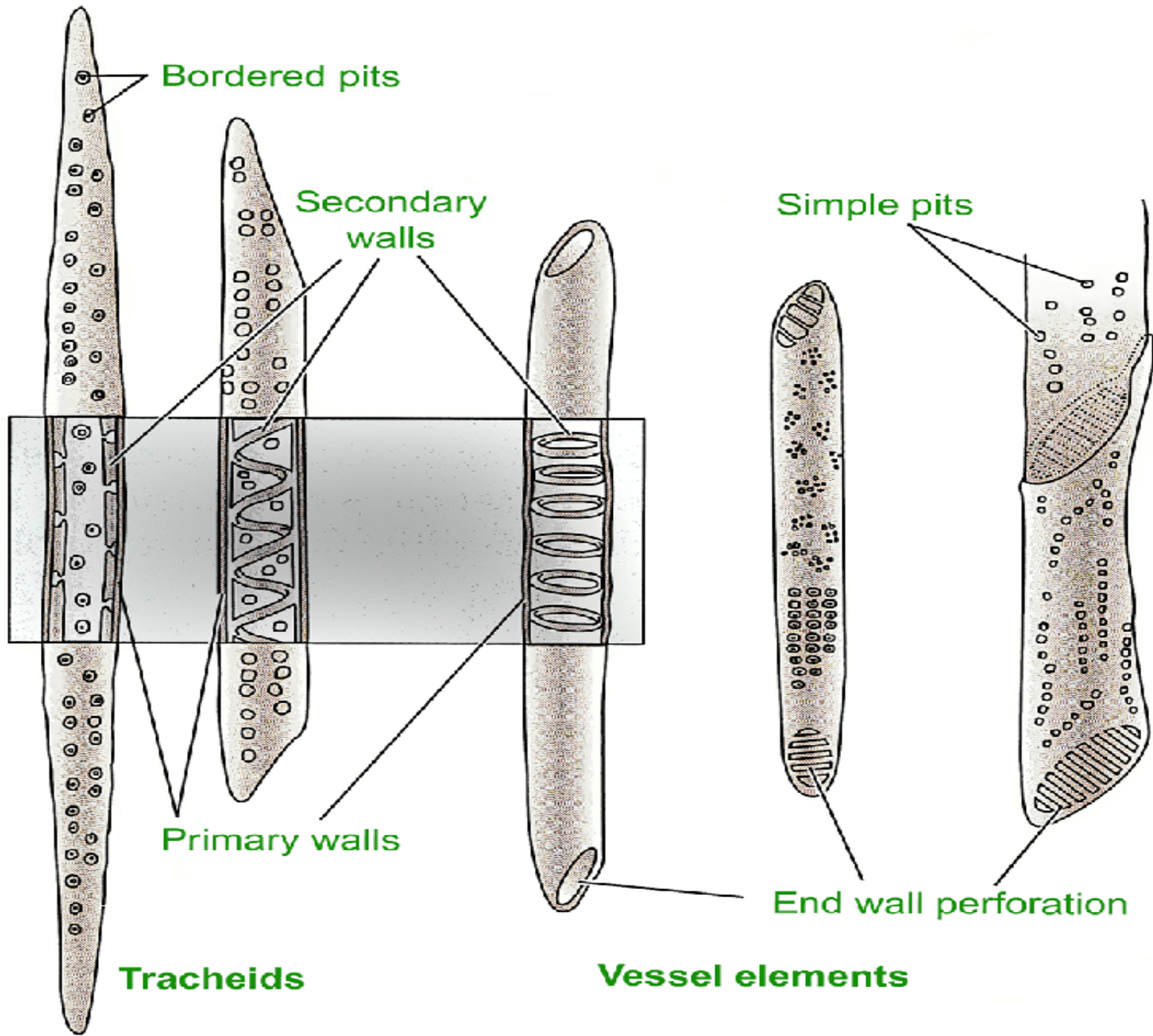
# Complex tissue xylem & phloem

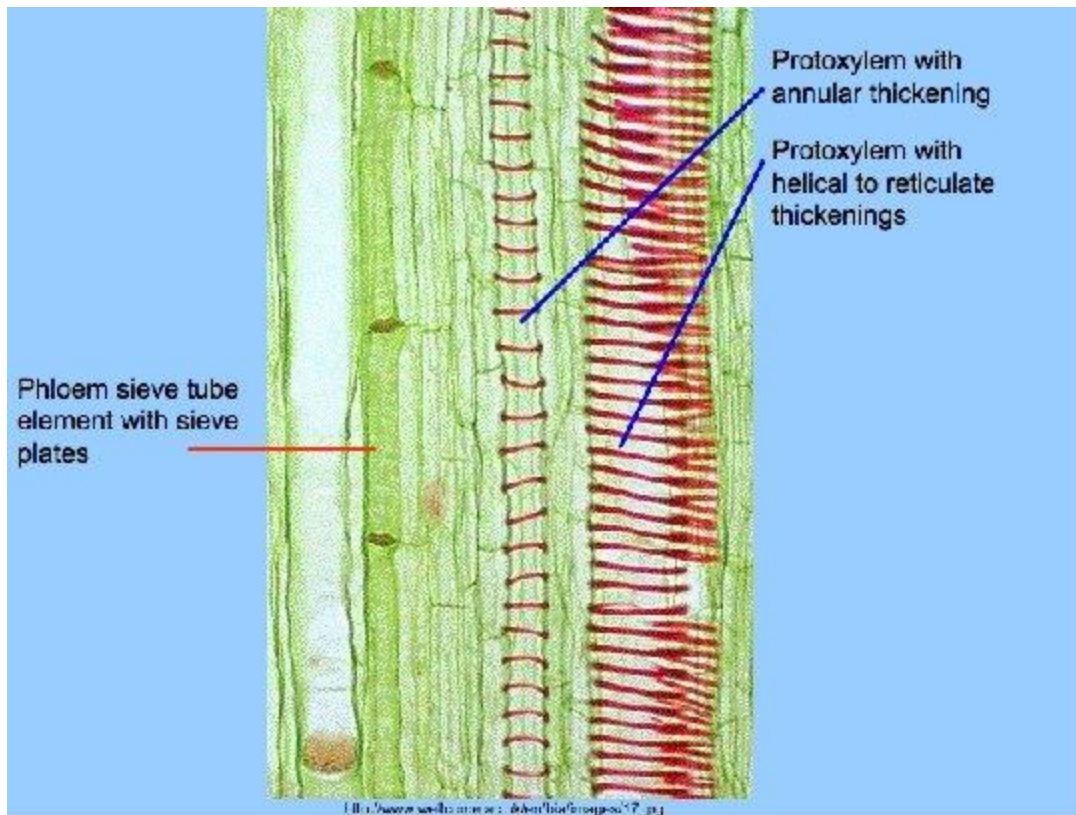
- 1.Xylem – Elements
  - 1.Trachea , 2. Vessels , 3. Xylem parenchyma 4. Xylem sclerenchyma
- 2. phloem – elements
  - 1.siew tube 2. siew plates .3.ph.parenchyma 4.ph.sclerenchyma



# Dicot stem







Phloem

### Interesting Fact:

Do you remember that sucrose is made up of glucose and fructose monosaccharides? Plants transport sucrose rather than glucose because it is less reactive and has less of an effect on the water potential.

## Vessel elements

Main conducting cells of angiosperms

Short cells arranged in rows forming large tubes

Large inner diameter and thinner cell walls

Small and abundant pits

Perforated plates

Higher efficiency in water conduction

## Tracheids

Main conducting cells of gymnosperms and ferns

Long cells with overlapping ends

Small inner diameter and thicker cell walls

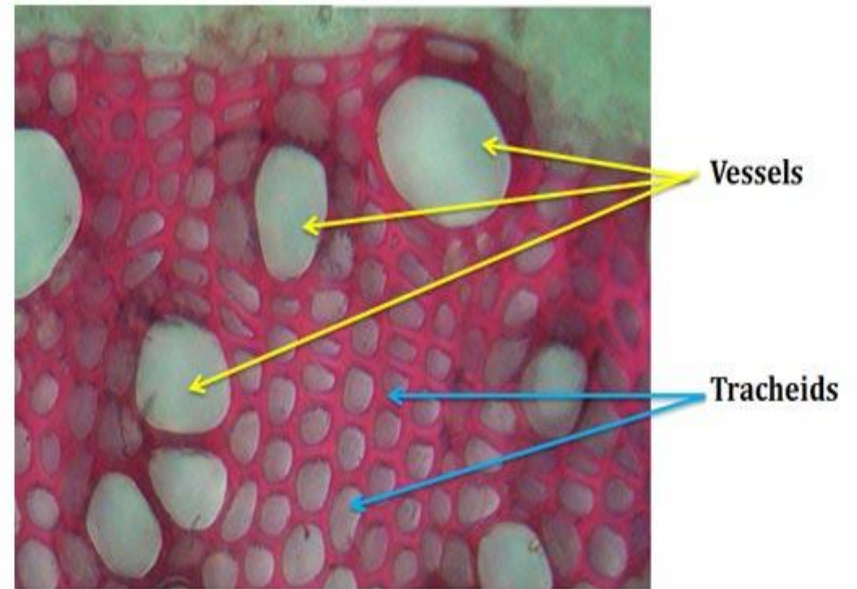
Large and less abundant pits

No perforated plates

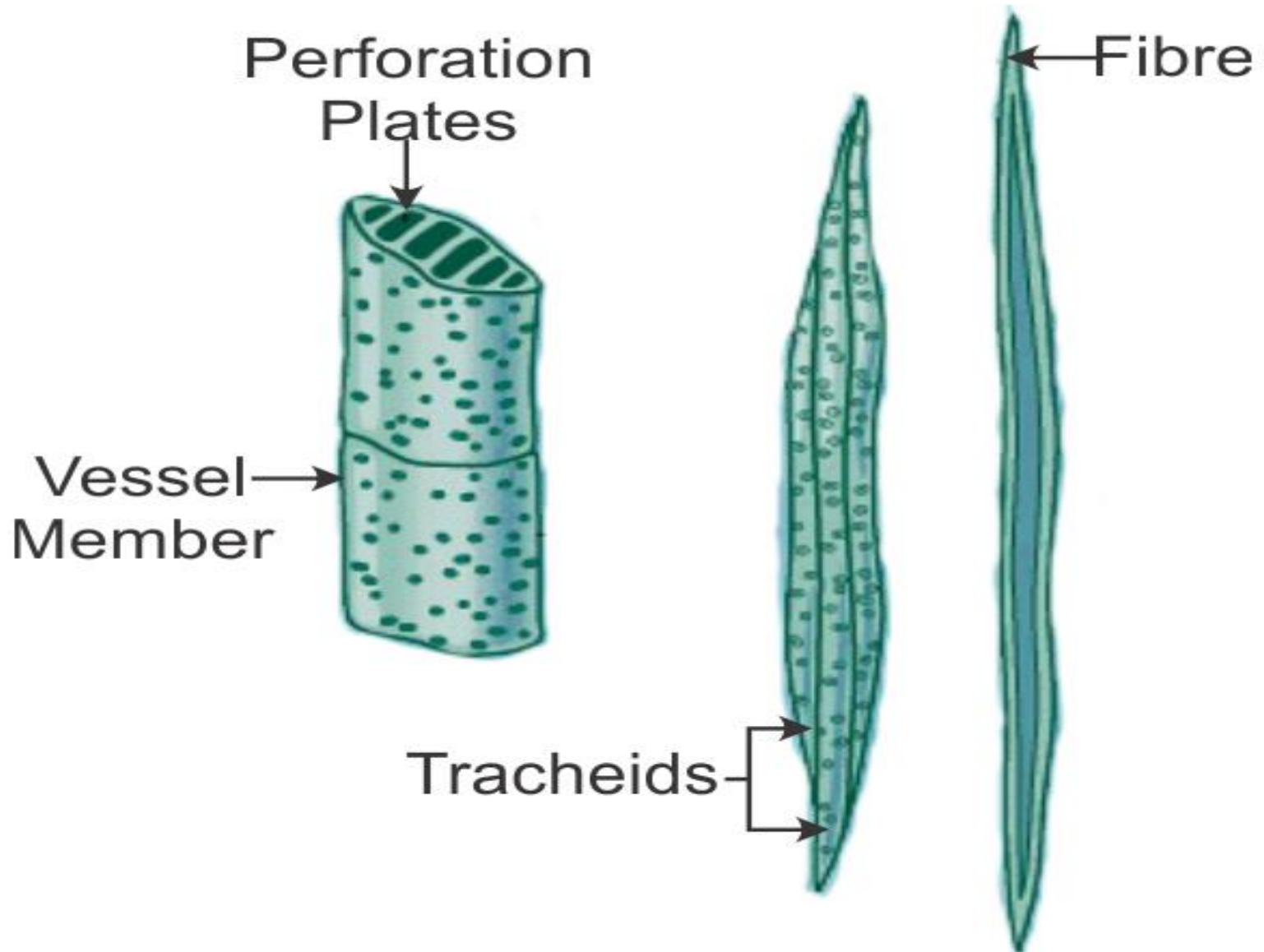
Lower efficiency in water conduction

<b>Tracheids</b>	<b>Vessels</b>
<b>Presence</b>	
In all vascular plants	In angiosperms
<b>Type of cells</b>	
Imperforated	Perforated
<b>Cell wall</b>	
Thin	Thick
<b>Connection</b>	
Lateral	End to end
<b>Cross section</b>	
Polygonal	Circular
<b>Water conduction</b>	
Inefficient	Very efficient





CS of Dicot Stem showing Vessels & Tracheids



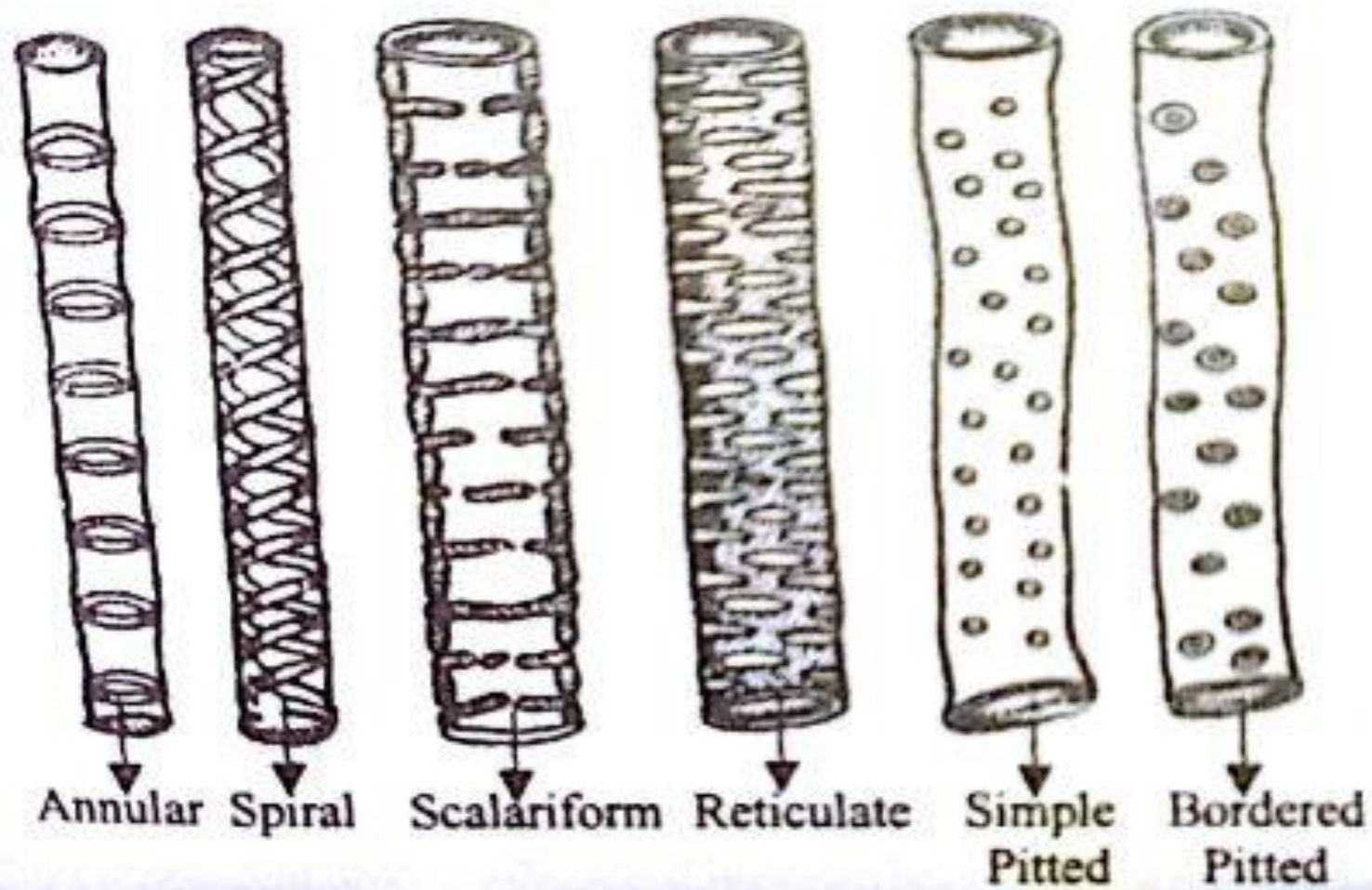
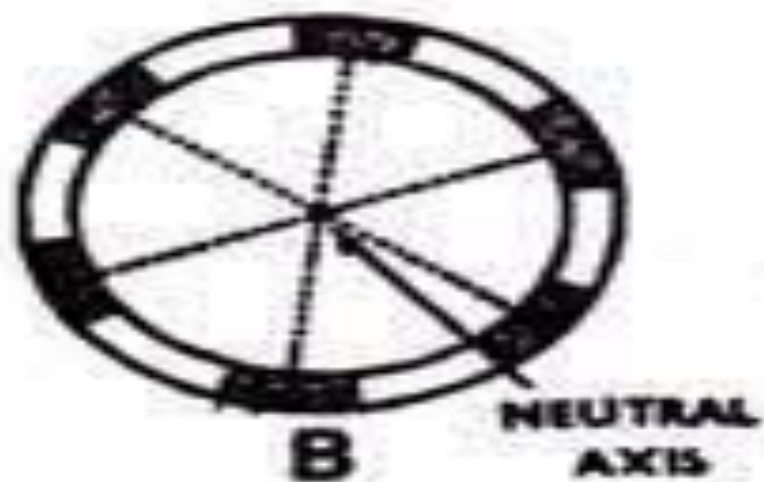


Fig: Vessel cells of different thickness

# Principles involved in distribution of Mechanical Tissue

- **1.Inflexibility**- the aerial cylindrical stem is subjected to bending forces of wind.The capacity of cylindrical stem to with stand or face bending stress is called inflexibility.
- The mechanical tissues are distributed in the form of ‘I’ **shape girder**.The principle of ‘ I ’ girder is also used in constrution of buldings.
- ‘I’ girder is a beam with two upper & lower **flanges** or straps & are connected to plate called **Web**.
- Upper flange is loaded in middle, so it is **compressed**,it is subjected to curveture.Lower flange is subjected to **tension**.so it is become convex.



**FIG. 551. I-girders (diagrammatic). A. Single girder. B. A system of girders.**



**Fig.** The mechanical tissue - Girder - The wide portions at the top and bottoms are the flanges; the narrow connection is the web.



# 'I' Girder Inflexibility

- Two flanges are made up of dead tissues like sclerenchyma , xylem or living collenchyma .
- Since these are the region of greater strength
- Web is made up of Non-strengthening tissue like soft parenchyma , chlorenchyma i.e. cortex & pith tissue

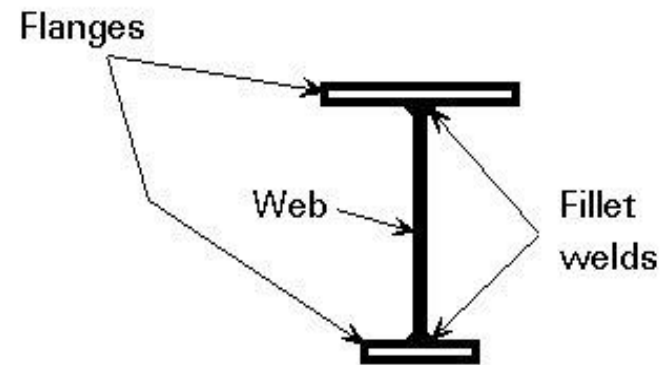
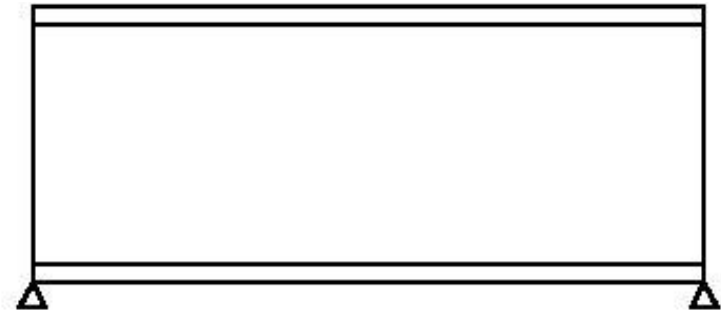


Figure 1 Plate girder composed of three plates

# Incompressibility

- Ability of stem to withstand or bear **head load or weight** of branches , leaves ,fruits is called as incompressibility.
- In dicot stem secondary tissue i.e. secondary xylem is formed due to activity of cambium.so sec.xylem **i.e. sec. vessels , sec. trachea, medullary rays.**
- become bear **head/canopy load** therefore incompressibility.
- Monocot stem are short heighted plant .in monocot stem vascular bundles provides support.

# Inextensibility in root

- Ability of organ to face longitudinal tension is known as inextensibility
- Roots are subjected to pulling action due to heavy wind blowing , tornados i.e. longitudinal tension.
- In order to protect uprooting action ,root requires special distribution pattern of mechanical tissue .It is called rope requirement.
- Mechanical tissue in mature root is secondary xylem i.e. sec. vessels ,trachea, medullary rays.

Dark black colour in the section indicate mechanical tissues

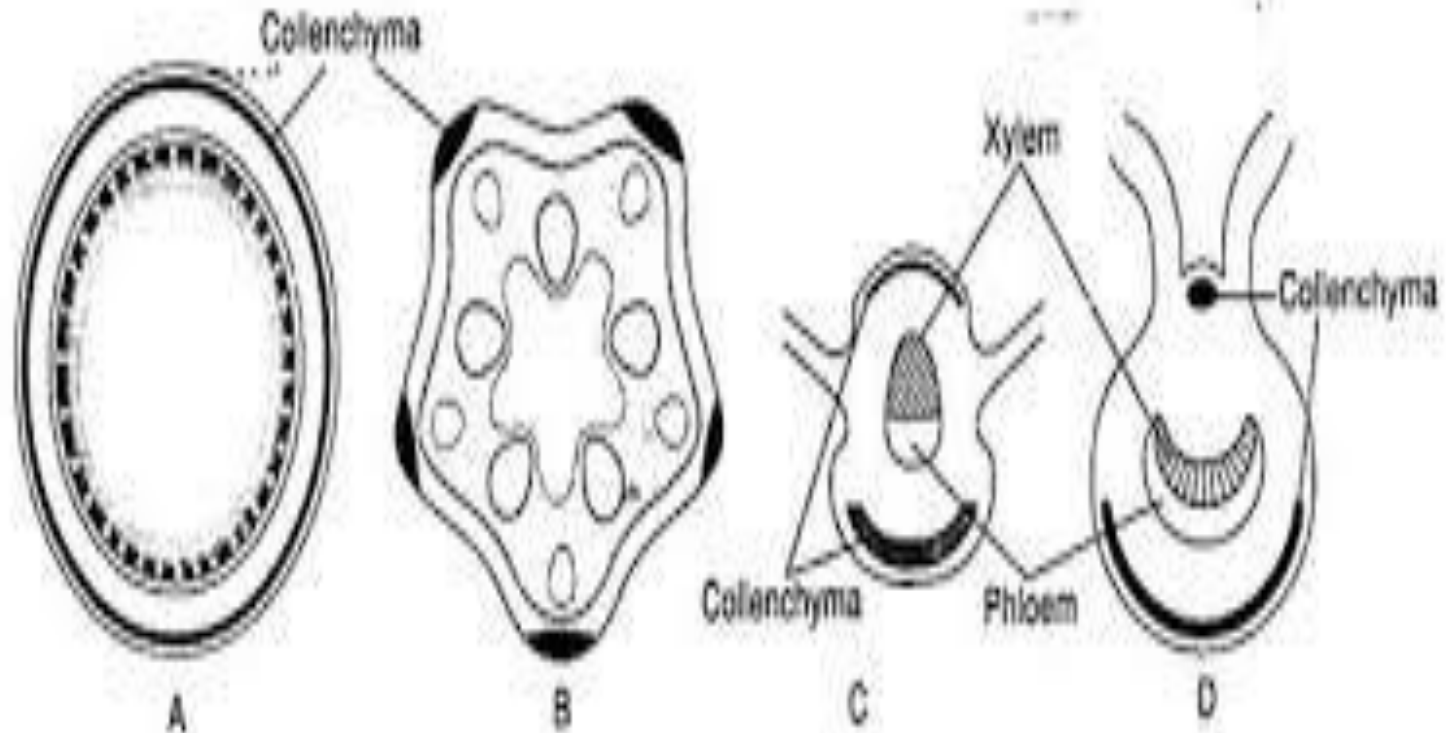


Fig. 5.67 : Diagrammatic representation of the distribution of collenchyma in t.s. of stems and leaves : A. *Sambucus* stem, B. *Cucurbita* stem. C and D. Mid veins of leaves

# Shearing stress in leaf

- Ability to face wind action , to face torned off action.
- Margins of leaves get tear or break due to heavy wind .so to protect it **vascular bundles of veins** are arranged in parallel way ( monocot leaf) or network like ( dicot leaf)
- In Jamun plant leaf posses intra-marginal veins
- In eucalyptus arrow headed or sagittate patch of collenchyma tissue is present to protect from breaking
- The best example of finest architecture of leaf vennation is ***Victoria amazonica* –giant water lily.**



➤ In monocot leaves, parallel 'I' girder formed by **fibrovascular** bundles.

sagitate or arrow shape patch of sclerenchyma at the tip of leaf for protection

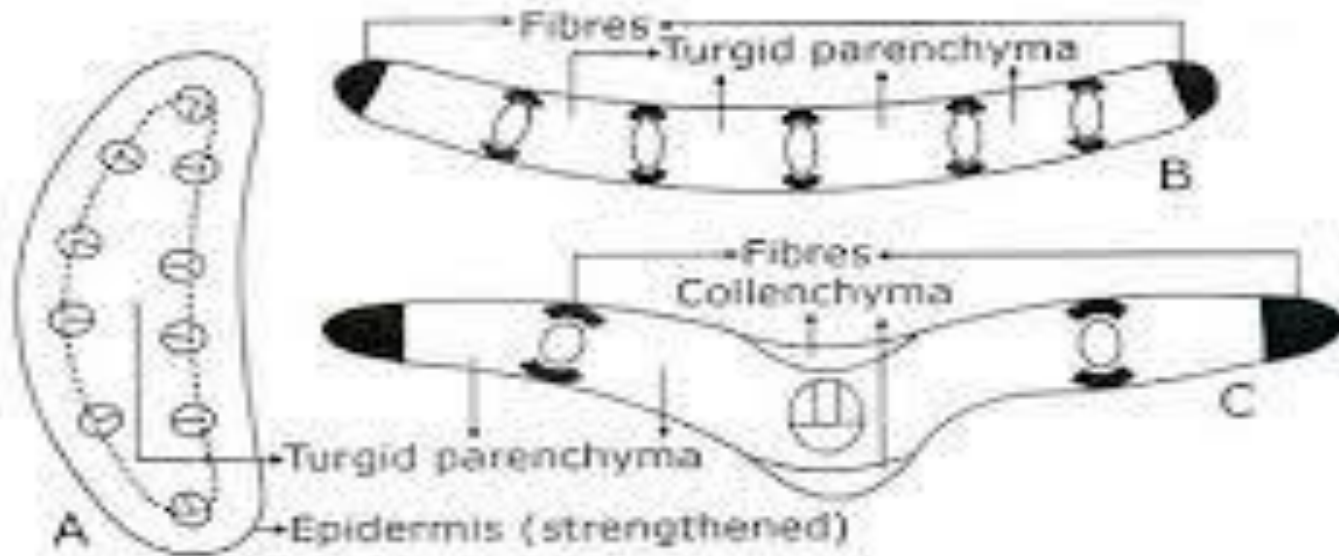


Figure 13.5

Diagrammatic representation of distribution of mechanical cells (fibres, collenchyma and turgid parenchyma) in A. succulent leaf of *Gasteria* (Liliaceae), B. monocotyledonous leaf and C. in a dicotyledonous leaf.

*Victoria amazonica* –giant water lily.





