

EDITORIAL NOTE ON DIFFERENCES IN DESCRIPTIVE STYLE AND TERMINOLOGY IN PAPERS ON THE WOOD ANATOMY OF THE MELASTOMATACEAE

In spite of the close collaboration between the authors of the papers on the wood anatomy of the Neotropical and Palaeotropical Melastomataceae, some differences in descriptive style and classification of anatomical characters remain which might render a comparison of the data on Neotropical and Palaeotropical representatives of the family more difficult than necessary. Therefore these differences, some of which are of very minor significance, whilst others reflect more fundamental differences of approach, are listed here.

	Ter Welle & Koek-Noorman	Van Vliet
Vessels	Absolute size and shape of vessel—ray and vessel—parenchyma pits are given. Lateral wall pitting classified into three types.	Only relative size of vessel—ray and vessel—parenchyma pits are given. Three types are not recognized because of intermediates.
	Vestures in pits not classified because of intermediates.	Vestures classified into two types.
	End wall angle given.	End wall angle not given because of huge variation within and between specimens.
Fibres	Diameter and wall thickness given in microns.	Only relative wall thickness indicated in defined categories.
	Simple pit size (mostly aperture size) given.	Pit size only given for chambers of bordered pits.
	Fibre dimorphism described under 'Pseudoparenchyma'.	Fibre dimorphism described under 'Fibres'.
Parenchyma	Apotracheal parenchyma mostly treated under 'Pseudoparenchyma'.	Apotracheal parenchyma described under 'Parenchyma'.
	Strand length also given in microns.	Strand length only given in number of cells.
Rays	Ray height given in number of cells and microns.	Ray height only given in number of cells.