

Table 4. Mean diameter and length (μm) of cells of different types in plant parts of eight forage species, means of 2 years and of early and later harvesting

Plant part and species	Diameter			Length		
	Thick-walled cells	Thin-walled cells	Epidermal cells	Thick-walled cells	Thin-walled cells	Epidermal cells
Leaflets or leaf blades						
<i>Trifolium repens</i> *	9.8	15.8	25.4	24.2	19.9	28.7
<i>Medicago sativa</i>	12.5	23.0	26.7	70.7	20.9	25.4
<i>Desmodium intortum</i> *	15.3	24.6	14.5	33.2	19.7	19.3
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	8.0	31.3	17.6	43.0	66.1	119.4
<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	15.1	45.9	28.9	50.8	78.7	158.2
<i>Chloris gayana</i>	18.4	28.6	27.5	20.2	26.7	81.6
<i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i>	15.8	56.6	41.0	25.1	39.1	98.4
<i>Zea mays</i> *	14.0	22.3	31.9	43.2	22.2	100.5
S.E. (15 D.F.)	0.94	1.63	1.14	2.39	2.31	5.66
Mean	13.6	31.0	26.7	38.8	36.7	78.9
Leaf midribs						
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	14.7	28.0	17.6	113.8	47.8	101.0
<i>Desmodium intortum</i>	16.2	19.9	19.3	89.2	95.9	36.3
<i>Zea mays</i>	14.7	97.3	23.4	132.1	117.8	149.2
S.E. (5 D.F.)	0.51	1.56	0.95	4.50	2.93	2.65
Mean	15.2	48.4	20.1	111.7	87.2	95.5
Petioles						
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	20.2	77.4	17.5	155.0	183.8	83.2
<i>Desmodium intortum</i>	22.9	77.7	12.5	89.5	66.3	33.3
S.E. (3 D.F.)	1.39	5.08	0.75	5.41	2.42	3.64
Mean	21.6	77.6	15.0	122.3	125.1	58.3
Leaf sheaths						
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	9.5	32.8	19.8	37.1	63.6	144.9
<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	14.3	44.6	23.7	61.7	125.0	158.5
<i>Chloris gayana</i>	13.2	69.1	15.3	30.3	145.9	81.9
<i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i>	12.3	54.3	24.8	43.9	88.8	110.0
<i>Zea mays</i>	17.1	86.2	41.6	72.5	86.1	92.9
S.E. (9 D.F.)	0.82	3.25	1.16	2.75	6.44	6.33
Mean	13.3	57.4	25.0	49.1	101.9	117.6
Stems						
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	23.4	66.1	17.0	149.8	120.2	56.7
<i>Medicago sativa</i>	18.0	60.6	36.4	120.4	127.1	58.1
<i>Desmodium intortum</i>	18.5	83.5	12.6	133.3	84.9	26.3
<i>Chloris gayana</i>	12.3	64.4	14.2	45.7	168.3	73.9
<i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i>	13.4	58.4	12.9	40.3	149.4	97.2
<i>Zea mays</i>	12.3	94.6	14.4	92.1	152.2	129.6
S.E. (11 D.F.)	1.09	3.84	0.68	5.23	5.71	2.90
Mean	16.3	71.3	17.9	96.9	133.7	73.6

* Excluding midribs.