**TAXA OF LIFE**

# Steles of Vascular Plants

**Bold et al. (1987)**

**The way in which vascular tissue is organized in the stem is called a stele. A key to the diagram below is: black = xylem; white = phloem; stippled = pith or cortex. Haplosteles have no pith. Siphonosteles have a pith that does communicate or connect to the cortex on the outside of the stele. A dictyostele is a broken siphonostele (it is broken because of leaf gaps). The eustele is the type characteristic of most of the seed-bearing plants. The atactostele is characteristic of the monocot flowing plants.**

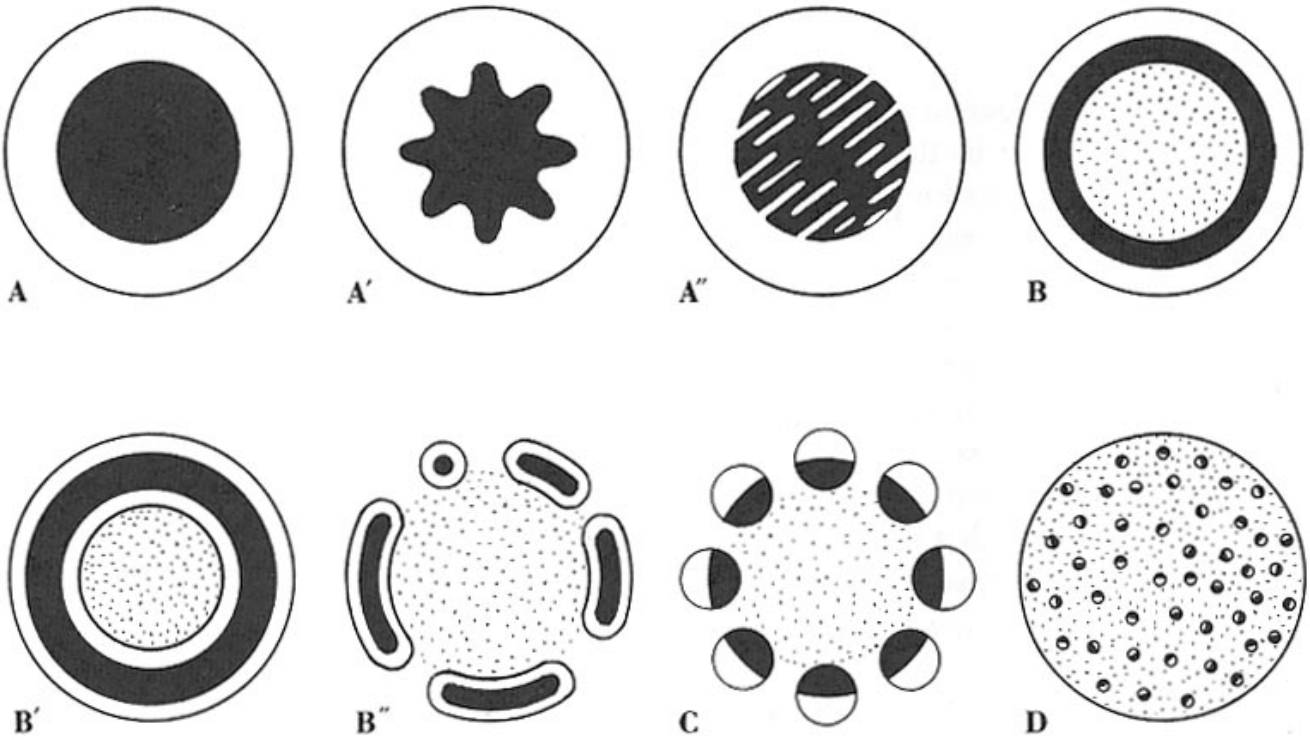


FIGURE 13-6
Types of stele, diagrammatic transections. A–A″. Protosteles. A. Haplostele. A′. Actinostele. A″. Plectostele. B. Ectophloic siphonostele. B′. Amphiphloic siphonostele or solenostele. B″. Dictyostele. C. Eustele. D. Atactostele. Xylem, black; phloem, white; pith, stippled.

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