

# Analysis and Treatment of an Ipu Heke



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# Structure of Gourd



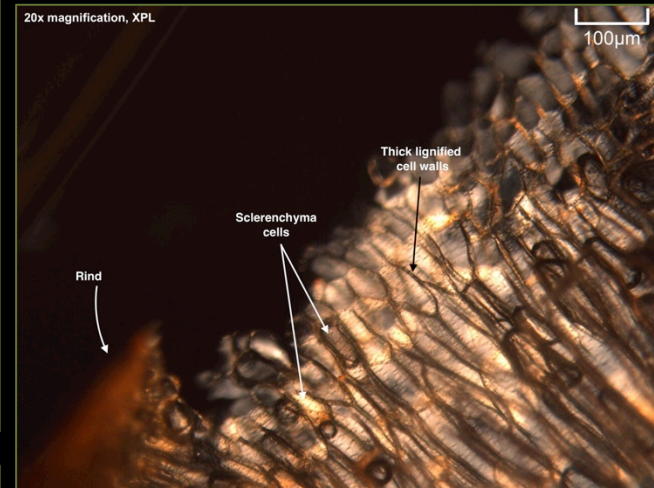
*Lagenaria siceraria*,  
or bottle gourd



Exocarp:

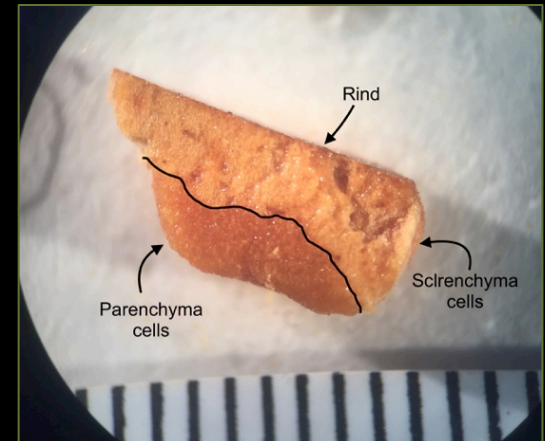
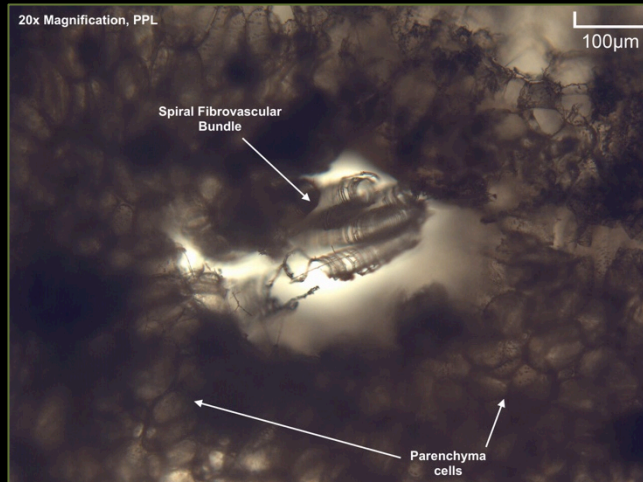
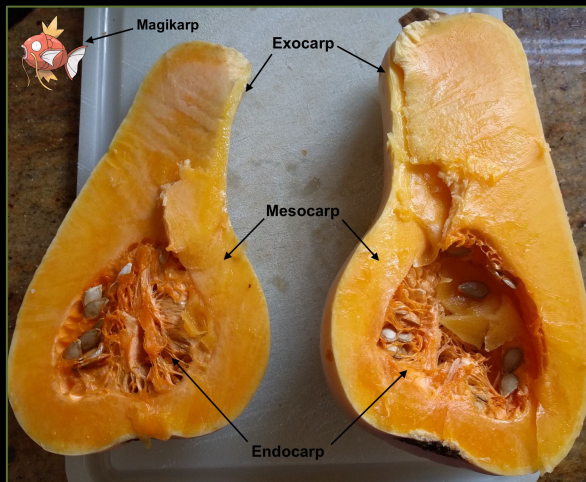
- parenchyma cells
- sclerenchyma cells
- spiral fibrovascular bundles

- Parenchyma store nutrients
- Sclerenchyma provide support
- Fibrovascular bundles transport nutrients



Exocarp, Mesocarp, and Endocarp

- Mesocarp is scraped out and removed



# Treatment

- Treatment goals:
  - Remove repair adhesive
  - Realign
  - Mend breaks
  - Create suitable housing
- Steps:
  - Solubility test of adhesive, gourd substrate, exterior coating and decoration
  - Remove adhesive
  - Realign breaks with humidity chamber
  - Reintroduce adhesive (3:1 wheat starch paste: methylcellulose)
  - Housing



Before Treatment



Solubility Test



Removing the Adhesive



Humidification



After Treatment



Housing



Introduction of New Adhesive