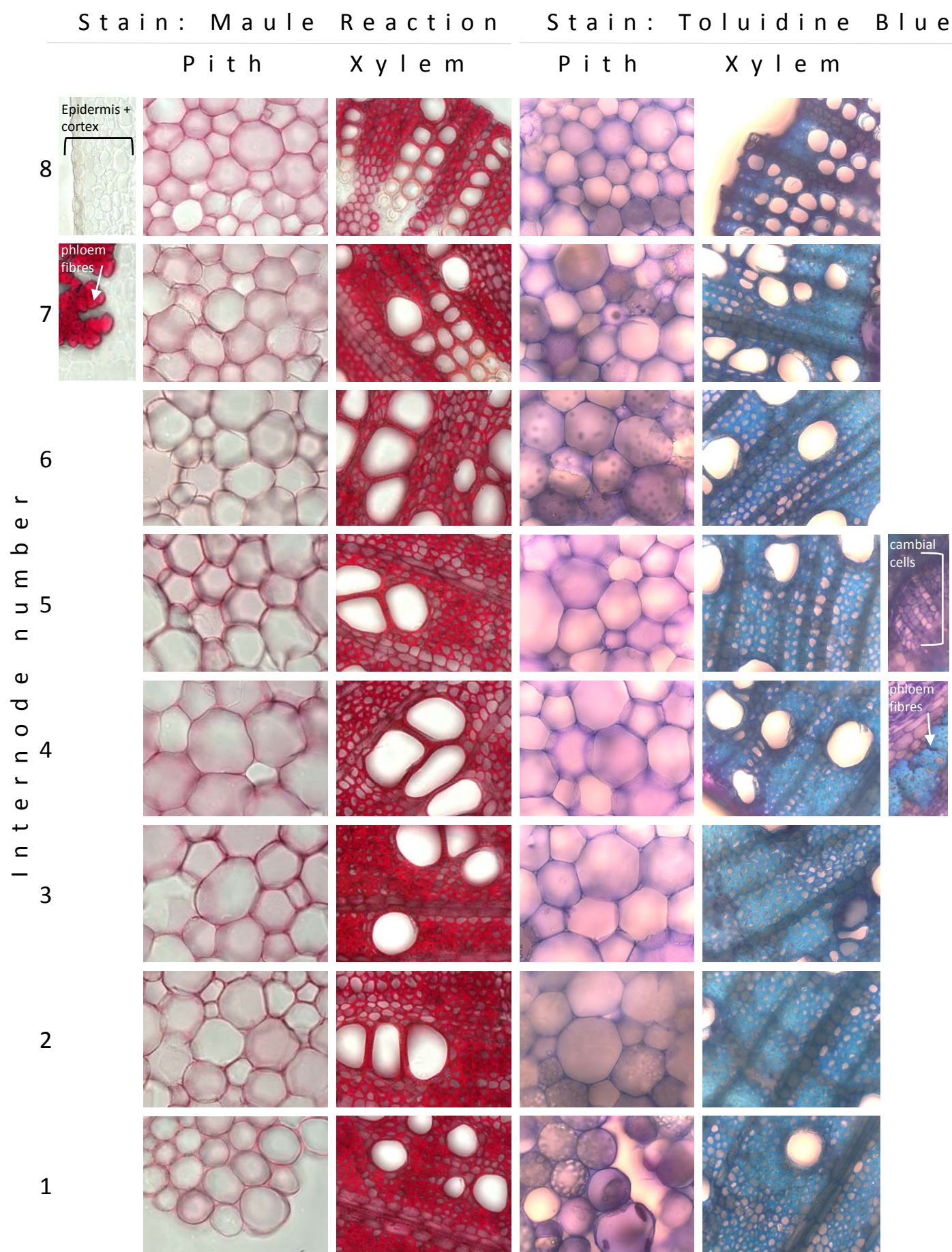




Additional file 5. Cotton stem cell cross-sections. Individual internodes were fixed in 70% ethanol (v/v) before sectioning to ~ 100 micron thickness. Cross sections were stained via Maule reaction for lignin - indicated by red / brown, or toluidine blue for cell walls where generally primary cell walls stain pink/purple and secondary walls with cellulose and polyphenolics stain blue/green. Internode number starts from stem-base of a ~ 16-week old Coker315-11 cotton plant. Bar = 50 microns.