

B.Sc. ZBC-104

BOTANY PRACTICAL



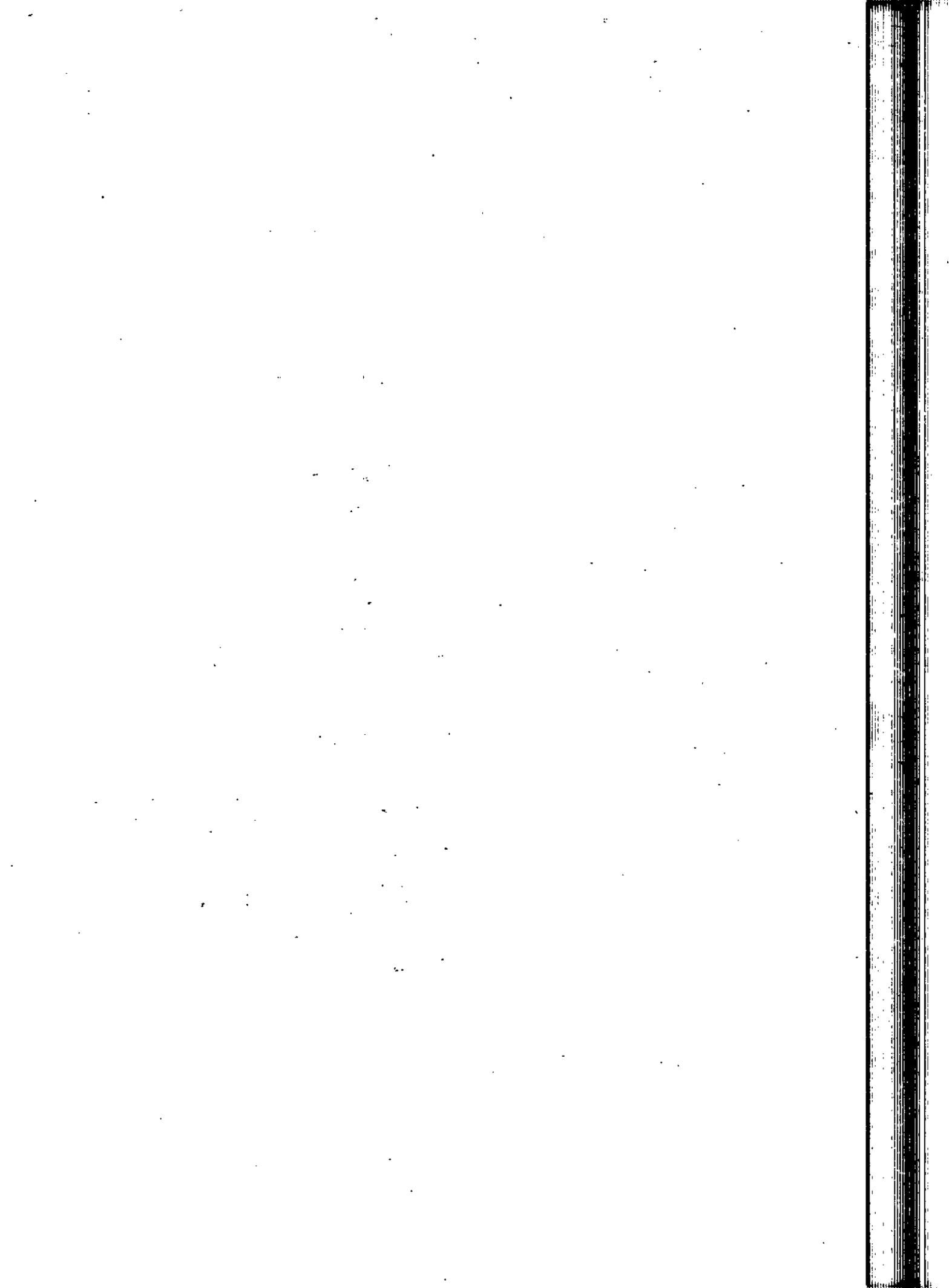
DIRECTORATE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

SWAMI VIVEKANAND

SUBHARTI UNIVERSITY

Meerut (National Capital Region Delhi)





BOTANY PRACTICAL

B.Sc. ZBC-104

Self Learning Material



Directorate of Distance Education

**SWAMI VIVEKANAND SUBHARTI UNIVERSITY
MEERUT-250 005
UTTAR PRADESH**

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Syllabus

First Year : First Semester
Biodiversity (Microbes, Algae, Fungi and Archegoniate)
Course Code : B.Sc. ZBC-104

Objectives: To generate interest in the students about the different types of lower plants, which are economically very important.

List of Practicals:

1. Models of viruses, Types of Bacteria from temporary/permanent slides/photographs; EM bacterium; Binary Fission; Conjugation; Structure of root nodule, Gram staining.
2. Study of vegetative and reproductive structures of Nostoc, Chlamydomonas (electron micrographs), Oedogonium, Vaucheria, Fucuse and Polysiphonia through temporary preparations and permanent slides. (« Fucus Specimen and permanent slides).
3. Asexual stage from temporary mounts and sexual structures through permanent slides, Specimens/photographs and tease mounts: Alternaria, Rhizopus, Penicillium, Agaricus.
4. Puccinia: Herbarium specimens of Black Stem Rust of Wheat and infected Barberry leaves; section/tease mounts of spores on Wheat and permanent slides of both the hosts.
5. Lichens: Study of growth forms of lichens (crustose, foliose and fruticose), Mycorrhiza: ectomycorrhiza and endomycorrhiza (Photographs).
6. Marchantiamorphology of thallus, rhizoids and scales, v.s. thallus through gemma cup, w.m. gemmae (all temporary slides), V.S. antheridiophore, archegoniophore, L.S. sporophyte (all permanent slides). Funariamorphology, leaf, rhizoids, operculum, peristome, annulus, spores (temporary slides); permanent slides showing antheridial and archegonial heads, L.S. capsule and protonema.
7. Equisetum, Selaginella and Pteris morphology, leaf with ligule, T.S. stem, W.M. strobilus, W.M. microsporophyll and megasporophyll (temporary slides), L.S. strobilus (permanent slide).
8. Cycas- morphology (coralloid roots, bulbil, leaf), T.S. coralloid root, T.S. rachis, V.S. leaflet, V.S. microsporophyll, W.M. spores (temporary slides), L.S. ovule, T.S. root (permanent slide). Pinus morphology (long and dwarf shoots, W.M. dwarf shoot, male and female), W.M. dwarf shoot, T.S. needle, T.S. stem, L.S./T.S. male cone, W.M. microsporophyll, W.M. microspores (temporary slides), L.S. female cone, T.L.S. & R.L.S. stem (permanent slide).

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2. Virus and Bacteria

3. Algae

4. Fungi

5. Pteridophyta

6. Gymnosperms

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LABORATORY REQUIREMENTS

- Instructions
- Instruments
- Instruments for Field Collection
- Dissecting Microscope
- Compound Microscope
- Preparation of Some Fixatives, Stains and Reagents
- Study of Plant Material
- Method of Section Cutting
- Staining
- Some Double Staining Methods
- Some Methods of Permanent Slide Preparation
- Mounting
- Micrometry

INSTRUCTIONS

Observe the following when you are in the laboratory :

1. See that your seat is clean, contains all the apparatuses, chemicals and reagents required for today's practical, and all the chemicals and reagent bottles are well-labelled.
2. **Work :**
 - (i) Independently;
 - (ii) Strictly according to the instructions of your teacher and;
 - (iii) Systematically, *i.e.*, first external morphology, then internal study and then the reproductive structures. (It is generally observed that students, just after getting the material, start the section cutting without going through its external study and then they think of the latter, which is now not possible because now they do not have the required material or those stages of material which are very much required for external study).
3. Also note strictly that you are not only required to do practical work (like section cutting or setting the experiment etc.), but equally important work is to :
 - (i) Observe the details of your experiment;
 - (ii) Note the observations and final results of the experiment;
 - (iii) See whether all the informations, given to you in the instructions by your teacher, are present in your material or not, and;
 - (iv) Draw the diagrams of different stages present in your material with the unaided eye or with the help of a magnifying lens, dissecting microscope, binocular microscope or compound microscope (Figs. 1, 3), there itself in the laboratory.

4. **Keep**

- (i) Every thing clean;
- (ii) Your desk and table in order;
- (iii) Your hands clean and dry at the time of mounting the ribbons on slide in the process of microtomy;
- (iv) Slightly corked the containers filled with anhydrous solutions ;
- (v) Every record and data up-to-date, and;
- (vi) The bottle of Canada-balsam away from the light.

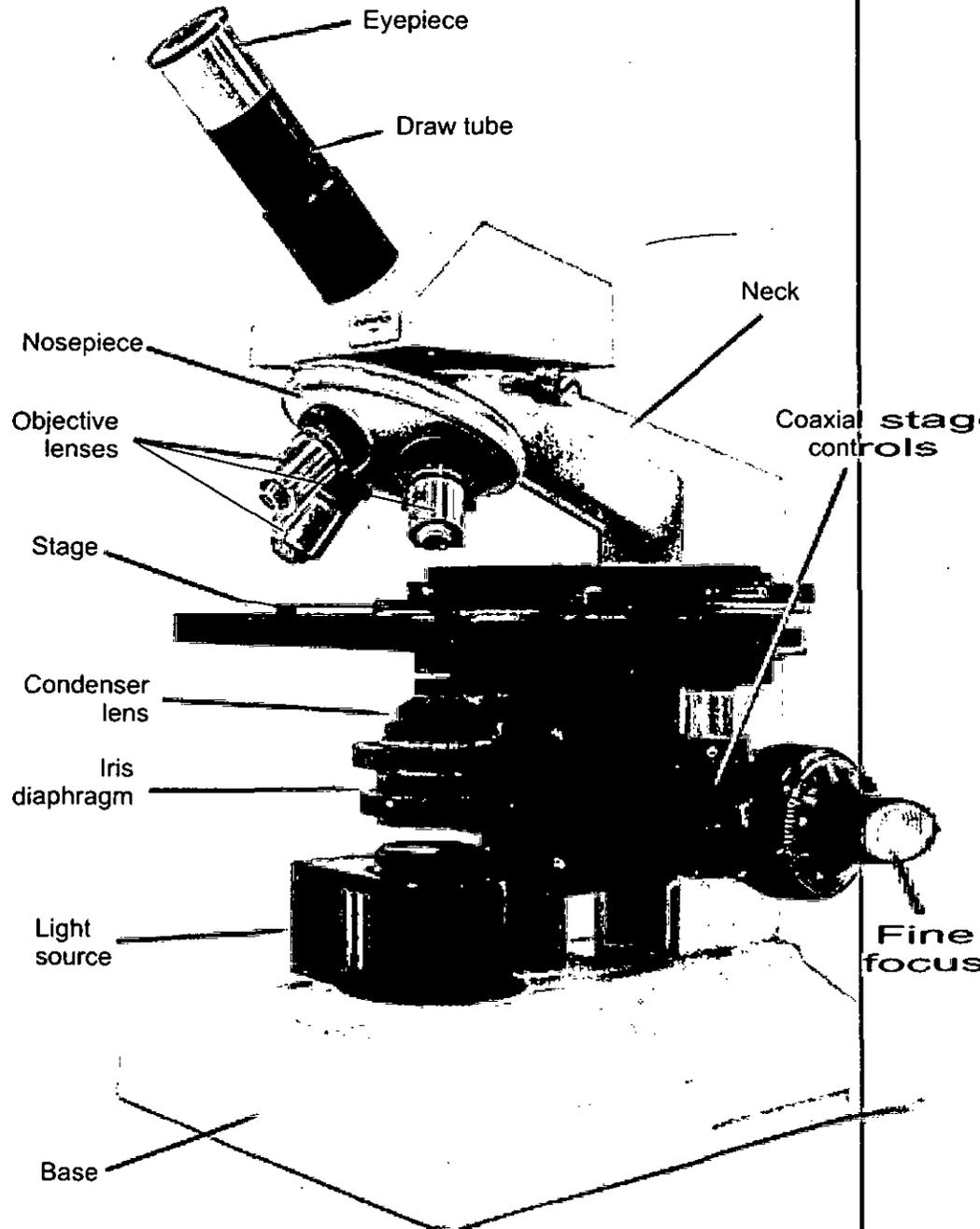


Fig. 1. A modern compound microscope.

5. You will be provided by your teacher with a daily schedule, and you should check your work for the day against the schedule to make sure that measurement or preparations have been overlooked.

6. Science students should have a note-book to record what they do day-by-day in the laboratory. Every thing pertaining to the given problem should be recorded in the note-book. *It should be kept up-to-date.* One cannot work efficiently in the laboratory periods unless the work of the preceding period is finished.
7. Read carefully the laboratory instructions before you report to the laboratory. A crowd of work may be there in the laboratory periods, and so you must arrive knowing what you are expected to do.
8. You will have to perform new experiments daily in the laboratory, and so a need to learn and use new technical words will arise. From *glossary*, you should see and note all these words.
9. You must do your best when you are performing an experiment with a team. In scientific investigations, both team-work and individual-work are very important.
10. *An extremely important part of a team-work experiment is the discussion.* Note the following at the time of discussion :
 - (i) Treat the discussion time as the period of the practical class.
 - (ii) Review the questions asked, procedures followed and results obtained from your investigations.
 - (iii) Discuss clearly and frankly what you do not understand about the experiment you have performed.
 - (iv) Try to suggest your own ideas in which the given experiment could be performed in a better way than the instructions given in the laboratory.
 - (v) Try to develop the "*etch of curiosity*" about the ways and methods for the given experiment.

• INSTRUMENTS

Keep with you the following instruments while you are in the laboratory :

1. Razor	1
2. Forceps	2
3. Needles	4
4. Scissors	1
5. Brushes	2
6. Scalpel	1
7. Blades	2
8. Dropper	1
9. Pencils (one each of HB, 2H and 4H)	3
10. Rubber	1
11. Scale	1
12. Practical record note-book (one file with drawing and ruled papers)	

Following instruments, apparatuses, chemicals and stains will be provided to the students from the laboratory :

1. Compound microscope	1
2. Dissecting microscope	1
3. Binocular microscope—one in between two students	
4. Watch glasses	6
5. Petri dishes	4
6. Microscopic slides (3" × 1")	12

7. Coverslips (0.17 mm thickness)
8. Piece of soft cloth
9. Enamel tray
10. Polythene washing bottle
11. Spirit lamp
12. Glass-marking pencil
13. Ringing table
14. Microtome—one rocking and one rotary for entire class.
15. Dropping bottles for reagents
16. Staining bottles
17. A hone and a razor strip of leather for entire class
18. Necessary chemicals and stains.

Some laboratory instruments of common use are shown in Fig. 2.

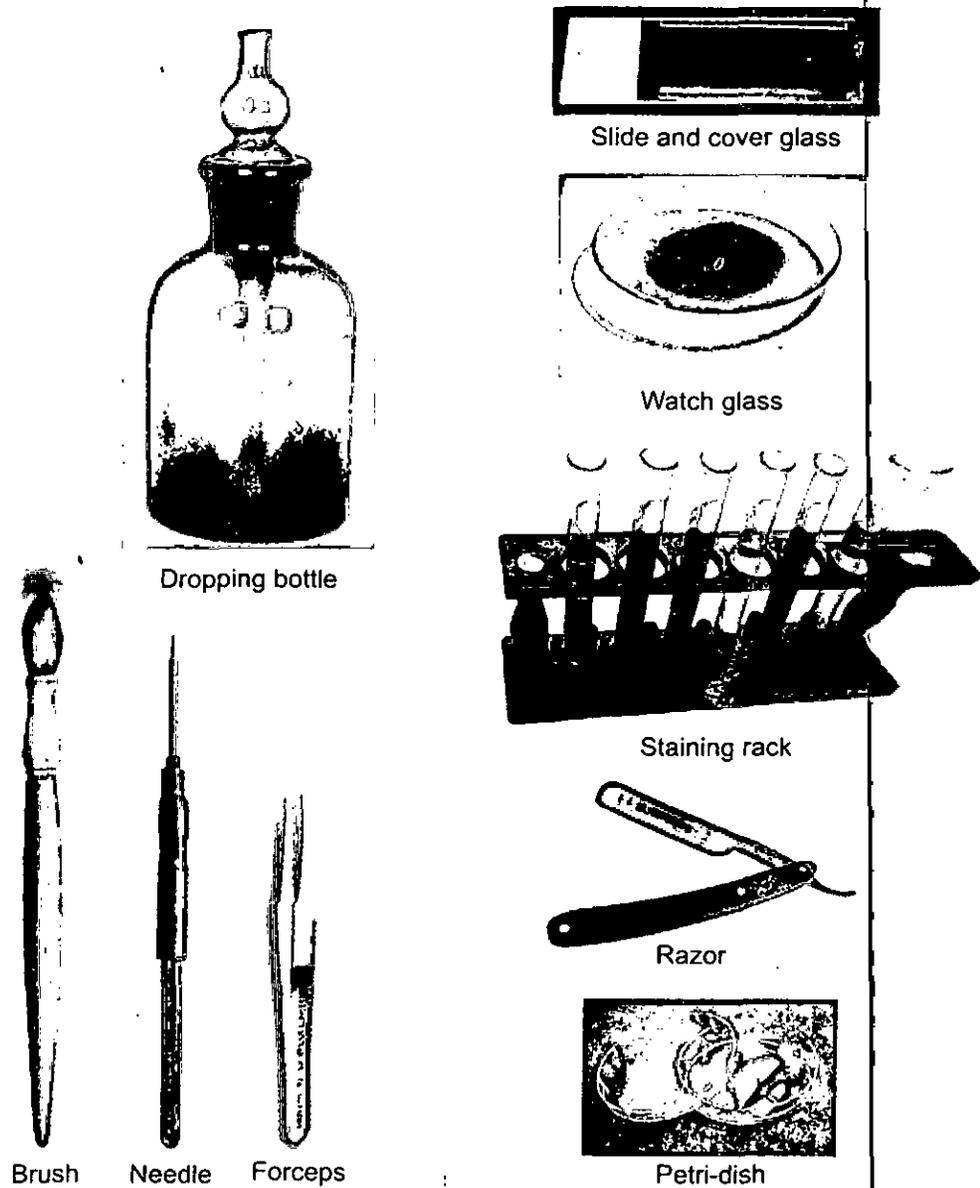


Fig. 2. Some laboratory instruments.

• INSTRUMENTS FOR FIELD COLLECTION

While you are on field collection trip, you should have the following instruments with you :

1. One pocket lens
2. One good fixative (F.A.A.)
3. Collection bottles (three dozen)
4. Full-size blotting papers (three dozen)
5. Newspaper pieces (two dozen)
6. Polythene bags (four dozen)
7. Rubber bands (four dozen)
8. Plant press, made up of two flat plywood sheets and a thick, strong cord
9. Glass-marking pencil
10. Departmental labels.

• DISSECTING MICROSCOPE

It is actually a simple microscope that consists of only one lens unit. This lens unit may even be an ordinary magnifying glass. Dissecting microscope is used either for dissecting the material or for less magnifications, *i.e.*, only 6X, 12X or rarely 20X. It is mainly used for embryo separation, taxonomic studies, etc.

A dissecting microscope (Fig. 3) consists of a basal foot and a limb. The 'stage', made up of a simple glass plate, is attached to the limb. For the light adjustment purposes, a mirror is attached to the limb under the stage. Mirror can be moved vertically with the help of an adjustment screw. At the tip of the limb is present a folded arm, on which a lens of definite magnification (6X, 12X, etc.) is fitted. Folded arm is moved to keep the lens in the desired position on the stage.

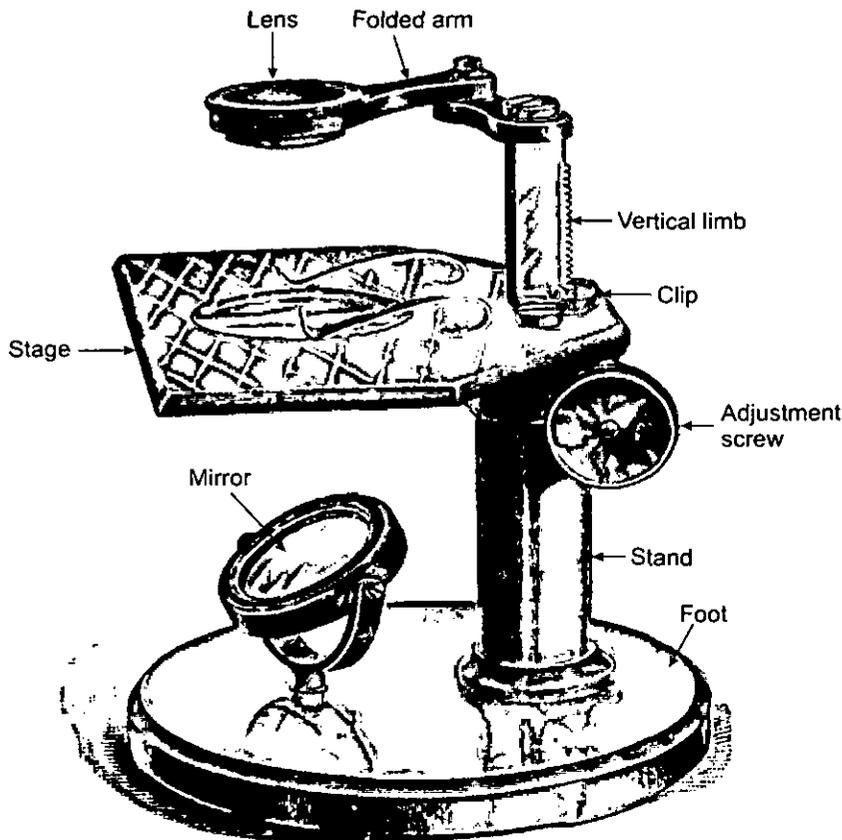


Fig. 3. Dissecting microscope.

The material, to be viewed or dissected, is placed on the stage. The eye is placed close to the lens. Folded arm is tilted to bring the lens over the material. Light is adjusted by the movement of the mirror. Focussing is done with the help of the adjustment screw.

• COMPOUND MICROSCOPE

1. The instrument is so named because it consists of two or more lenses (Figs. 1, 4).
2. At the top is present the *ocular lens*. It can be turned around or removed. At the top of ocular lens is written 5X or 10X signifying the 5 times or 10 times magnification, respectively.
3. Just below the ocular is a *body tube*, the bottom end of which contains a piece called *nose piece*. It contains three lenses called *objective lenses*. The nose piece can be rotated to change the position of objectives.

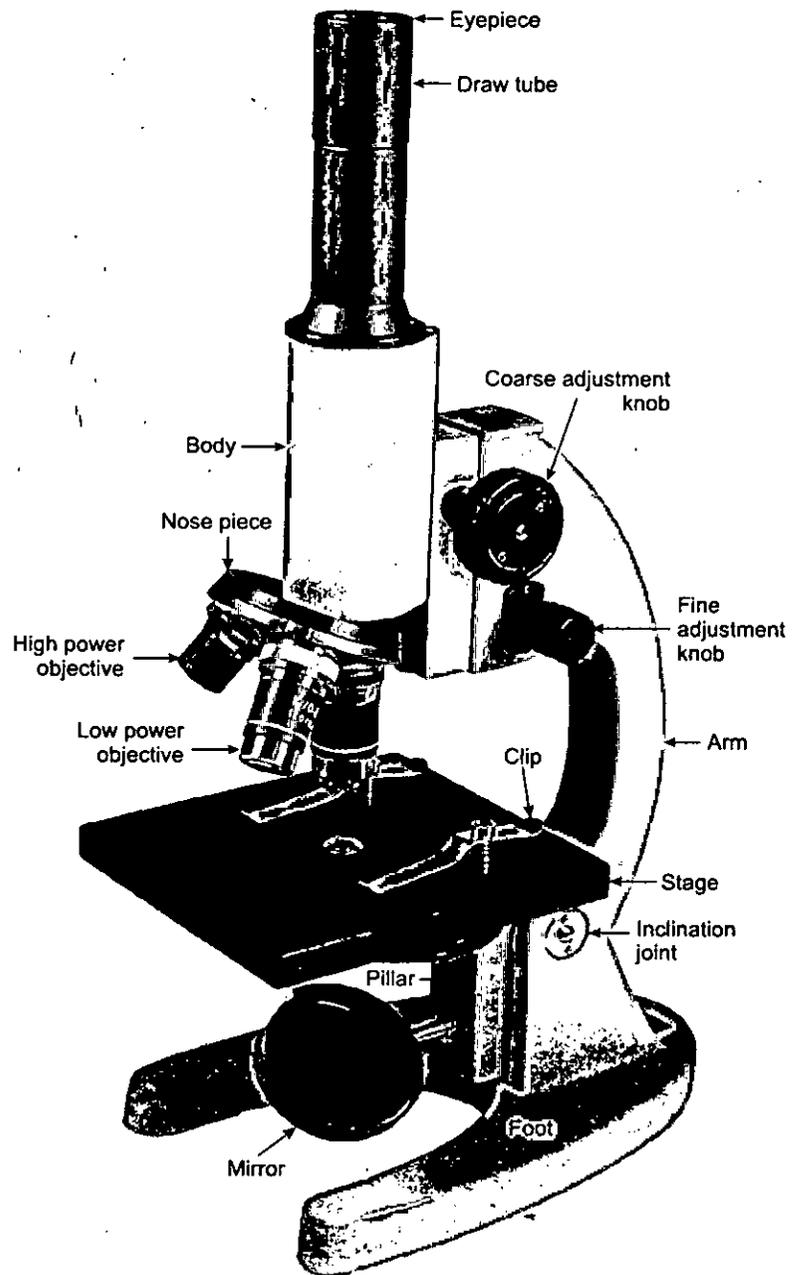


Fig. 4. Compound microscope.

4. The flat platform present below the objectives is called *stage*.
5. On the arm of the microscope are present two knobs called *coarse adjustment knob* and *fine adjustment knob*.
6. Out of the three objectives, the shortest is the *low power objective*. It has the largest lens but its magnifying power is least of the objective lenses. On the objective may also be written 10X similar to ocular lens. It means if a 10X ocular lens is used the magnification is

$$10 \times 10 = 100 \text{ times.}$$
7. The other objective is *high power objective*. Its magnification is equal to the number written on it multiplied by the power of ocular, i.e., 5X or 10X (i.e., objective \times ocular).
8. The third objective is called *oil immersion objective*. Generally, it contains a black band around the lower end. Use a drop of oil on the slide at the time of studying with the oil immersion objective. Its magnification can be estimated as ocular \times objective. The use of oil (e.g., cedarwood oil) is essential in order to keep the light rays properly aligned with the small objective.
9. Just below the stage is the *condenser*. Its function is to gather light from the mirror and to direct it to the objective lens. Condenser may be lowered or raised by a knob present on one side of the microscope beneath the stage.
10. Condenser contains a shutter called *Iris diaphragm*.
11. Just below the condenser is present a *mirror* having its one surface flat and other concave. Use the concave surface in the day light. Flat surface of the mirror is used when electric lamp is used.

Precautions

1. Clean the ocular and objective lens with lens paper, and do not remove them.
2. While studying an object, learn to keep one hand on the fine focus knob, and focus continuously up and down.
3. While studying any kind of preparation, do not tilt the microscope.
4. Leave the low power objective in place after finishing all the observations.
5. To examine an object, always first use the low power and then the other objectives.
6. Never allow an objective lens to strike either the stage or a slide while focussing.
7. Use always the fine adjustment with high power objective.
8. All wet-mount preparations should be precovered by a cover slip.
9. Avoid the habit to remove the parts of the microscope.
10. Do not use oil immersion objective without oil.
11. Diaphragm should be wide open while using oil immersion objective.

• PREPARATION OF SOME FIXATIVES, STAINS AND REAGENTS

1. *Formalin-Aceto-Alcohol* (F.A.A.)

50% or 70% ethyl alcohol	90 c.c.
Glacial acetic acid	5 c.c.
Formalin	5 c.c.

It is the most commonly used preservative and is commonly called '*standard preservative*'.

2.	<i>Safranin</i>	
	Safranin stain	1 gm
	Water (or 50% alcohol or 70% alcohol)	100 c.c.
3.	<i>Fast green</i>	
	Fast green stain	1 gm
	90% alcohol	100 c.c.
4.	<i>Cotton blue</i>	
	Cotton blue stain	1 gm
	Lactophenol	100 c.c.
5.	<i>Acid alcohol</i>	
	HC	10 to 20 drops
	Alcohol	100 c.c.
6.	<i>Acid water</i>	
	HCl	10 to 20 drops
	Water	100 c.c.
7.	<i>Lactophenol</i>	
	Phenol	100 gm
	Lactic acid, glycerine and water	100 c.c. each
8.	<i>Glycerine</i>	
	Glycerine	10 to 15 c.c.
	Water	100 c.c.
	Formalin	one drop.

• STUDY OF PLANT MATERIAL

Take the fresh or preserved material and first study its external morphology with unaided eye or with the help of a magnifying lens or dissecting microscope. If the material is microscopic, stain it with a suitable stain, mount in glycerine and then study under the low and high power of a compound microscope.

For observing the anatomical details, cut the sections of your material in various planes like transverse section (T.S.), longitudinal sections (L.S.) like radial longitudinal section (R.L.S.) or tangential longitudinal section (T.L.S.) as under

Transverse Section (T.S.) : It is cut by passing the edge of the razor at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the cylindrical organs, such as roots, stems, etc.

However, in case of the dorsiventral organs (e.g., leaf, thallus of bryophyte etc.), the transverse section is cut in vertical plane and hence it is called vertical transverse section or V.T.S.

Longitudinal Section (L.S.) : It is cut by passing the edge of the razor at right angles to the transverse axis of the cylindrical organs, such as roots, stems, etc.

If the longitudinal section is cut along one of the radii, it is called radial longitudinal section or R.L.S.

But if the L.S. is cut along the tangent, it is called tangential longitudinal section or T.L.S. (Fig. 5).

• METHOD OF SECTION CUTTING

A good quality razor should be used for section cutting. Before section cutting the razor should be sharpened on a hone (fine grit-stone). Sharpening is done by

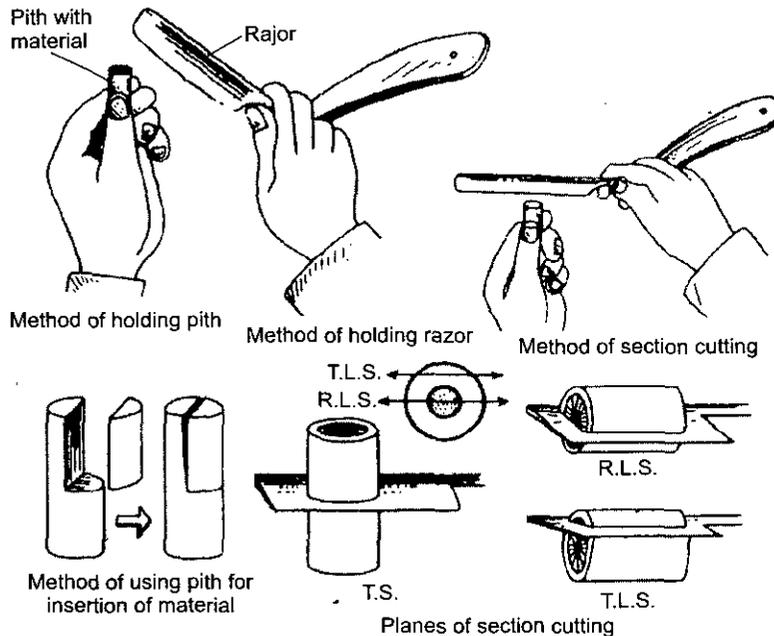


Fig. 5. Methods and planes of section cutting.

sliding the razor obliquely and uniformly over the wet hone. This process is called *honing*.

After the honing process, the razor is further sharpened by moving for some time over a leather strap. This process is called *strapping*. The leather strap should be first oiled before being used.

Pith (*i.e.*, pieces of carrot, potato, radish, etc.) is used for cutting sections of soft and delicate materials. At the time of using the pith, cut it longitudinally upto half of the length, and then remove the splitted piece by cutting one strip transversely. Insert the material in the centre and replace the piece of pith over it, as shown in Fig. 5.

For cutting the section, hold the pith (along with the material) in your left hand between the thumb and the fingers. Keep the forefinger in somewhat horizontal position and thumb at a little lower height. Hold the razor in your right hand in such a way in a horizontal position that its blade and handle form a right angle. Move the razor quickly over the pith (containing material), and complete the stroke in one action. Make 10 to 15 uniform strokes of the razor one after the other. You will get a few complete and thin sections. Immerse the sections in a watch glass containing water with the help of a fine brush. The material in pith and the razor blade should be kept flooded with water during the entire process.

Select thin and complete sections for staining. Thin sections usually keep on floating over the water surface. Only uniformly cut, very thin and complete sections should be stained.

• STAINING

Next step is *staining*. It is essential because different tissues and other structures can be easily differentiated by staining. The plant materials, in which there is no differentiation of tissues such as members of algae, fungi and bryophyta, are stained by a *single staining process*. But members of pteridophyta, gymnosperms and angiosperms are stained by the *double staining method* due to the presence of differentiation of tissues. Members of different groups can be stained in general as follows :

Algae : Algal members are generally stained with a few drops of *safranin* for a few minutes (time is variable for different members) and mounting is done in glycerine. Aniline blue, fast-green, acetocarmine and haematoxylin are some of the other stains used for algal preparations.

Fungi : *Cotton blue* is supposed to be one of the good fungal stains. After staining with cotton blue, mount the material in lactophenol if the form is prepared in the lactophenol. Cotton blue serves as a staining as well as a mounting medium if prepared in lactophenol. Aniline blue or haematoxylin also give satisfactory staining results in certain cases.

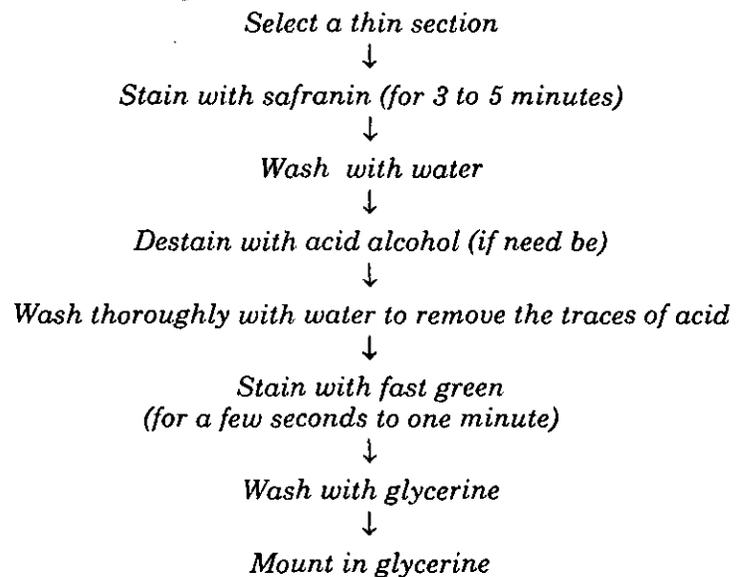
Bryophyta : Members are stained usually with safranin and mounted in glycerine. Other good stains, to be used for members of bryophyta, are Delafie's haematoxylin and fast-green.

Pteridophyta, Gymnosperms and angiosperms : Representatives of these groups are stained by a double staining method. Undermentioned are some of the commonly used methods of double staining.

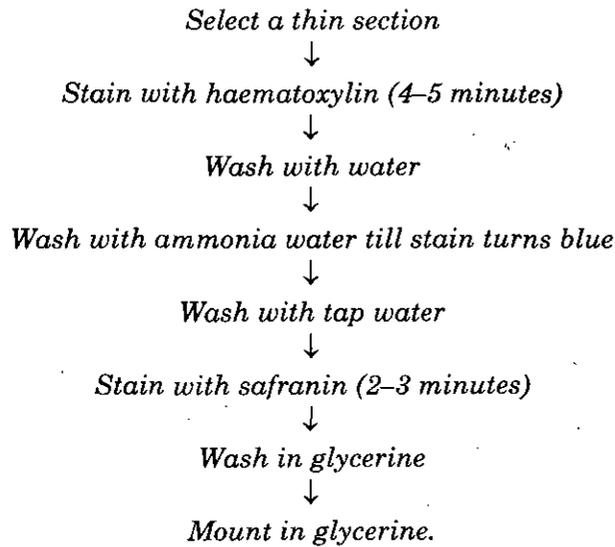
• SOME DOUBLE STAINING METHODS

1. **Safranin-Fast Green Method :** Keep the material, to be stained, in safranin for three to five minutes and then wash it with water. See under the microscope that only thick-walled cells are stained. Excess of stain is destained by alcohol. Again wash the material very thoroughly with water so that even traces of acid are removed. Now stain the material with few drops of fast green for few seconds. Time for keeping the material in fast green varies from few seconds to one minute for different materials. Wash the material with glycerine and mount in a drop of glycerine.

With this method, all thick-walled cells get red stain and all thin-walled cells take the green stain. Entire process can be tabulated as follows :

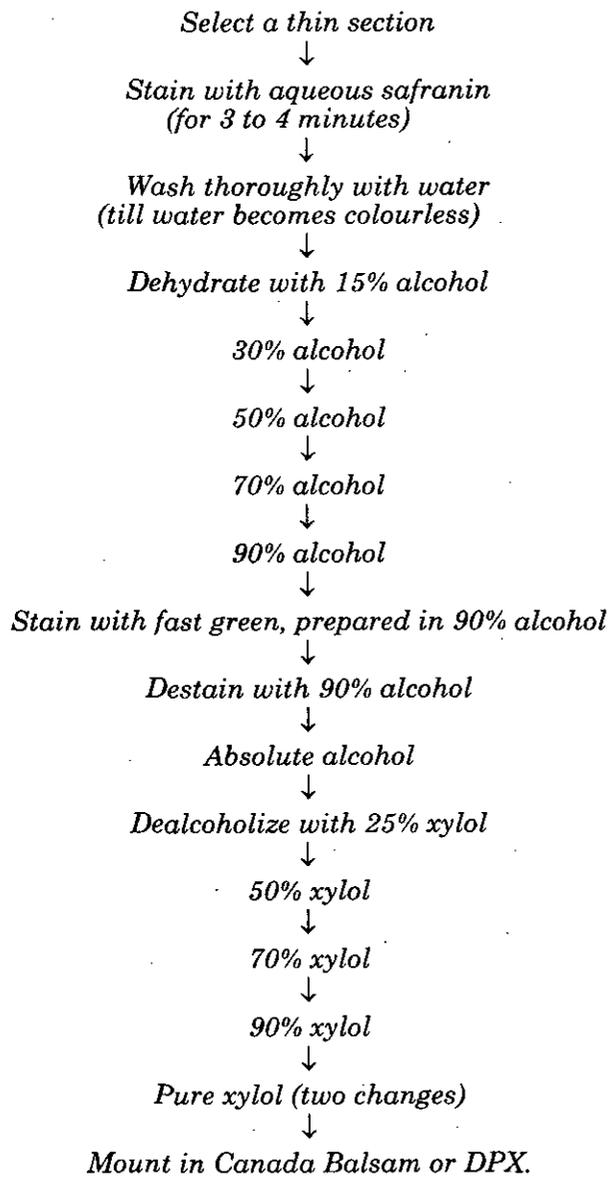


2. **Safranin-Aniline Blue Method :** Follow exactly the same procedure mentioned above except that in place of fast green use aniline blue.
3. **Haematoxylin-Safranin Method :** Keep the sections in Delafie's haematoxylin for four to five minutes and remove the excess of stain with water. Wash with ammonia. Wash the material very thoroughly with water. Now stain with safranin for few minutes. Wash the sections with glycerine removing excess of stain and mount in glycerine. The entire method can be tabulated as follows :



• SOME METHODS OF PERMANENT SLIDE PREPARATION

1. Safranin-Fast Green Combination



2. Crystal Violet-Erythrosin Combination

Use aqueous crystal violet stain in place of safranin and erythrosin in place of fast green in the method discussed above. Other details are same as in safranin-fast green combination mentioned above.

3. Haematoxylin-Safranin Combination

It is also similar with above-mentioned safranin-fast green combination except for the following differences :

- (i) Use *haematoxylin* in place of safranin.
- (ii) Wash with ammonia water and then thoroughly wash with tap water.
- (iii) Use safranin stain after 70% alcohol and destain with 70% alcohol then use 90% alcohol and absolute alcohol.

Other details are same as in safranin- fast green combination mentioned above.

• MOUNTING

Stained material is to be mounted on a slide in a suitable mounting medium like glycerine, canada balsam, etc. It is then covered with a thin, round or square piece of glass or plastic usually called a *cover glass* or *cover slip*. Hold clean microscope slide and cover glass always by their edges. Put a drop of mounting medium on the material placed just in the centre of the slide. A medicine dropper may be used for this purpose. Fix one edge of the cover glass on one side of the mounting medium and hold the cover glass approximately at an angle of 45° to the slide. Gently lower the cover slip with the help of dissecting needle, as shown in Figure 6. Under the cover glass, there should be no air bubble.

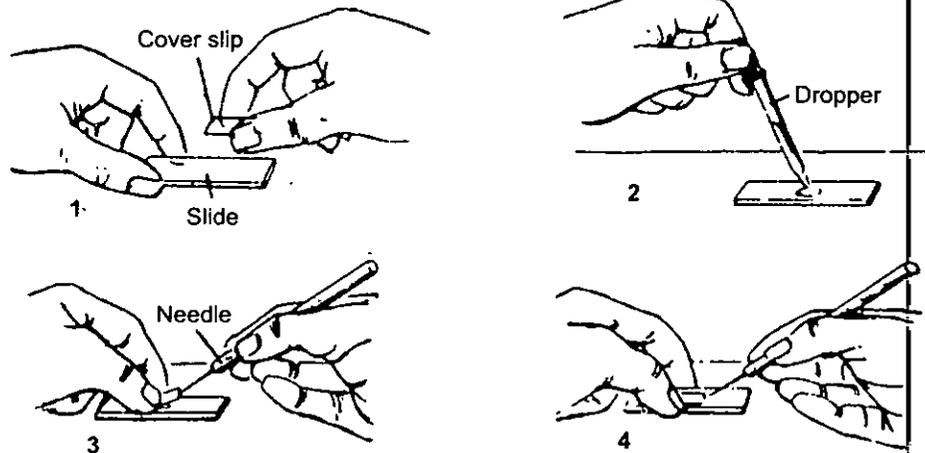


Fig. 6. Mounting of slide.

• MICROMETRY

Micrometry is the science in which we have some measurement of dimensions of an object being observed under the microscope. The method employs some special types of measuring devices which are so oriented that these can be attached to or put into the microscope and observed. The object to be measured is calibrated against these scales.

Once we are observing an object under a microscope by the objective 10X and eye piece 10X we say that the image that we are able to perceive is 100 times of object. We get the magnified view no doubt and also that it is perfect coordination of the dimensions, but to find out the absolute size of the object will need precision.

that is achieved through the application of micrometers. There are usually two types of micrometers, i.e., stage micrometer and ocular meter (Figs. 7, 8).

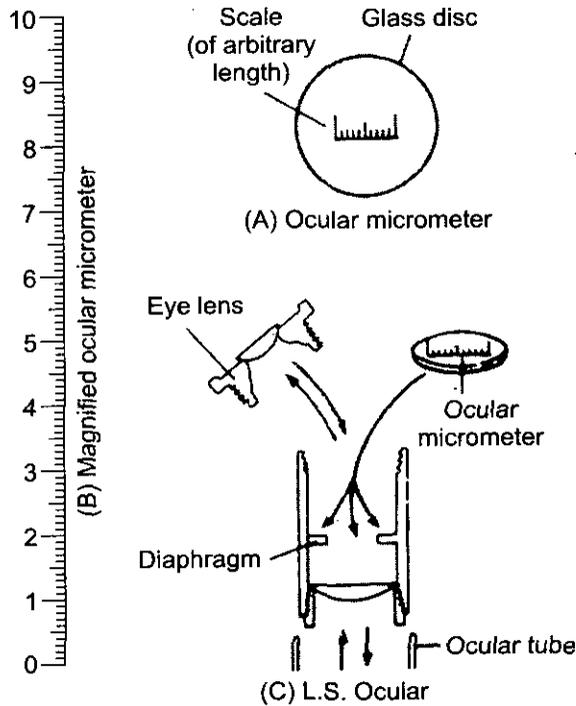


Fig. 7. A, An ocular micrometer; B, A magnified ocular micrometer scale; C, L.S. of ocular to show position of ocular micrometer in it.

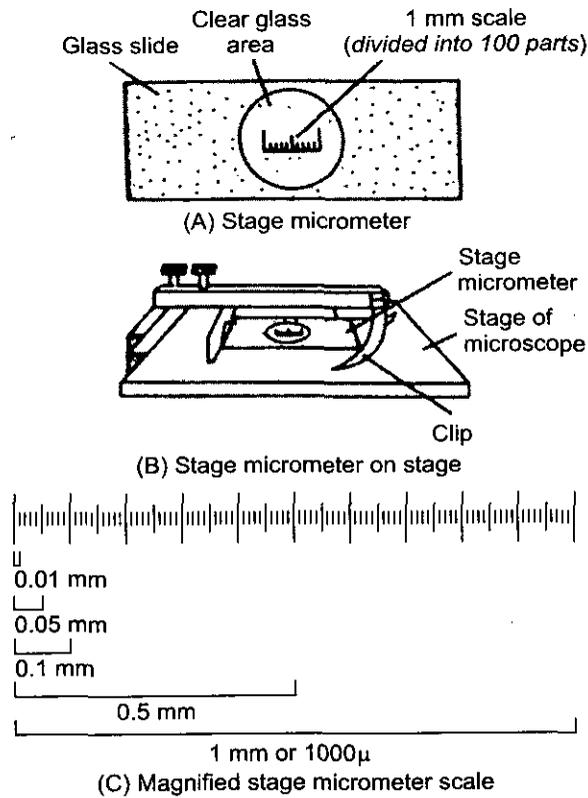


Fig. 8 A-C. A, A stage micrometer; B, Stage micrometer fixed on scale; C, Magnified stage micrometer scale.

Stage Micrometer

As the name indicates it is for the measurement on the stage of the microscope where an object is to be kept. This micrometer is of slide's size and has a very finely graduated scale (Fig. 8A). The scale measures only 1 millimetre at a least count of 0.01 mm, i.e., 1 mm region is divided into 100 divisions. As 1 mm = 1000 μ , so one division of stage micrometer will be equivalent to 10 μ .

Ocular Meter

This is a micrometer which is used inside the eye piece. The upper eye lens is unscrewed and the ocular meter is put into the tube of eye piece, and the upper eye lens is again replaced. There are usually 50 or 100 divisions in the ocular meter which are engraved on the glass.

An Exercise of Micrometry

Exercise : To measure the dimensions of common microorganisms, calibration and standardization of microscope with the help of stage and ocular micrometers.

Requirements : Microscope, stage micrometer, ocular meter, slides, and microorganisms (e.g., bacteria or fungus) to be measured.

Procedure : To work out the measurements per ocular divisions, the stage micrometer is kept under low power of the microscope and is observed through the eye piece having ocular meter. Suppose, we have 10X objective and 5X eye piece of the microscope with a tube of 170 mm length. At this magnification the number of ocular divisions coinciding the stage micrometer are observed and hence calculated for microns per ocular divisions, e.g., let us take that 6 ocular divisions coincide with 8 divisions of stage micrometer (Fig. 9).

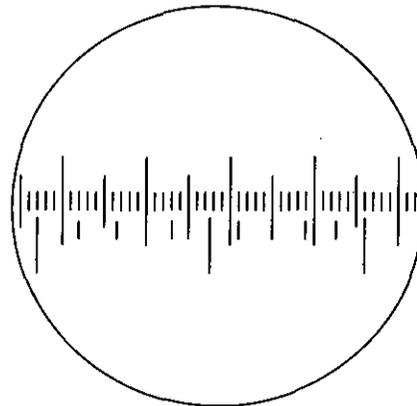


Fig. 9. Scales of stage and ocular meter, superimposed.

Therefore, 6 ocular divisions = 8 stage micrometer divisions, or 6 ocular divisions = 0.08 mm (since 1 division = 0.01mm).

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ ocular division} &= \frac{0.08}{6} \text{ mm} \\ &= \frac{0.08 \times 1000}{6} \mu \\ &= \frac{80}{6} \mu = 13.3\mu \end{aligned}$$

Or, it can also be calculated by following formula :

$$\text{One division of ocular} = \frac{\text{Number of stage micrometer divisions}}{\text{Number of ocular meter divisions}} \times 10$$

In the case mentioned above it will be :

$$= \frac{8 \times 10}{6} \mu = 13.3\mu$$

Thus, the microscope is calibrated for different combinations of eye pieces and objective lenses and is kept for record. It is to note hence that this calibration will be just only of the tried lenses on a particular microscope.

In this way take three readings, and the mean value of these readings will be the actual value of one part of ocular meter. Record your data as in the following table :

Observations :

S. No.	Number of divisions of stage micrometer	Number of divisions of ocular meter	Value of one division of ocular meter = $\frac{\text{Stage}}{\text{Ocular}} \times 10\mu$	Mean/Result
1.	8	6	$= \frac{8}{6} \times 10\mu = 13.3\mu$	
2.				
3.				

Result : The mean value (..... μ) of all the three readings of the above table is the actual value or calibrated value of one part of the ocular meter under this microscope.

Measurement of Spore or Any Other Object

Requirements : Microscope, calibrated ocular meter, permanent slide of spore/bacteria/or of any other object to be measured.

Procedure : Insert the ocular meter in the eye piece of your calibrated microscope by unscrewing its upper eye lens. Now replace the eye lens again in its original position. Keep the spore or bacterial slide (or any other object), to be measured, on the stage of the microscope, and observe through the eye piece containing ocular meter. The object is measured in the particular magnification by ocular divisions and then is changed into microns by multiplying ocular divisions with calibrated value of one ocular division in that particular magnification.

Suppose, the width of the spore (or the object to be measured) is observed to be equal to 5 divisions of ocular meter (Fig. 10), so the width of this spore (or the object to be measured) in microns will be :

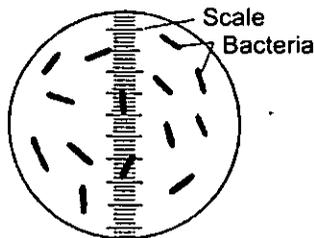


Fig. 10. Diagram showing an ocular micrometer used for measuring the dimensions of bacterial cells.

$$5 \times 13.3\mu \text{ (or any other calibrated value of one part of the ocular meter)} = 66.5\mu.$$

Take at least four readings in this manner, and tabulate your observations in the form of following table :

S. No.	Number of divisions of ocular meter covering the spore/or any other object to be measured	Calibrated value of one division of ocular meter (in μ)	Measurement of the spore/or any other object to be measured (in μ)	Mean/Result (in μ)
1.	5	13.3	$5 \times 13.3 = 66.5 \mu$	
2.		13.3		
3.		13.3		
4.		13.3		

Result : The mean value (..... μ) is the actual measurement of the length (width or diameter) of the given spore (or the object).

VIRUSES AND BACTERIA

• WHAT ARE VIRUSES ?

Viruses may be generalized to define as such very small sized etiological agents of disease that are capable of passing through filters that retain even bacteria, increase only in the presence of living cells, and give rise to new strains by mutation.

Bowden (1964) defined *viruses* as 'submicroscopic, infective entities that multiply only intracellularly and are potentially pathogenic.'

Luria and Darnell (1968) defined viruses as "entities, whole genome of which are element of nucleic acid that replicate inside the living cells using the cellular synthetic machinery and causing the synthesis of specialized elements that can transfer the viral genome to other cell."

Gibbs and Harrison (1976) defined viruses as "a transmissible parasite whose nucleic acid genome is less than 3×10^8 Dalton in weight and that need ribosomes and other components of their host cells for multiplication."

Mathews (1981) defined virus as "a set of one or more nucleic acid template molecules, normally encased in a protective coat or coats of protein or lipoprotein, which is able to organise its own replication only within suitable host cells."

Some define viruses as 'infectious nucleoproteins.'

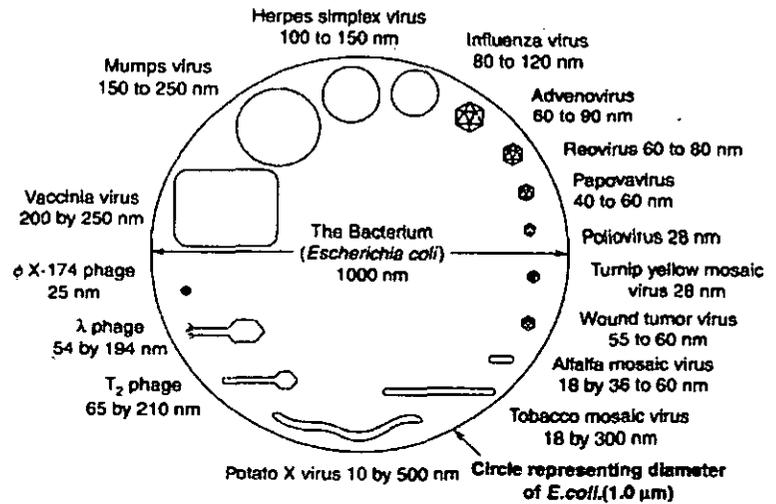
The word '*virus*' is derived from the Latin language and means 'a poisonous liquid' or 'poison'.

• DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF VIRUSES

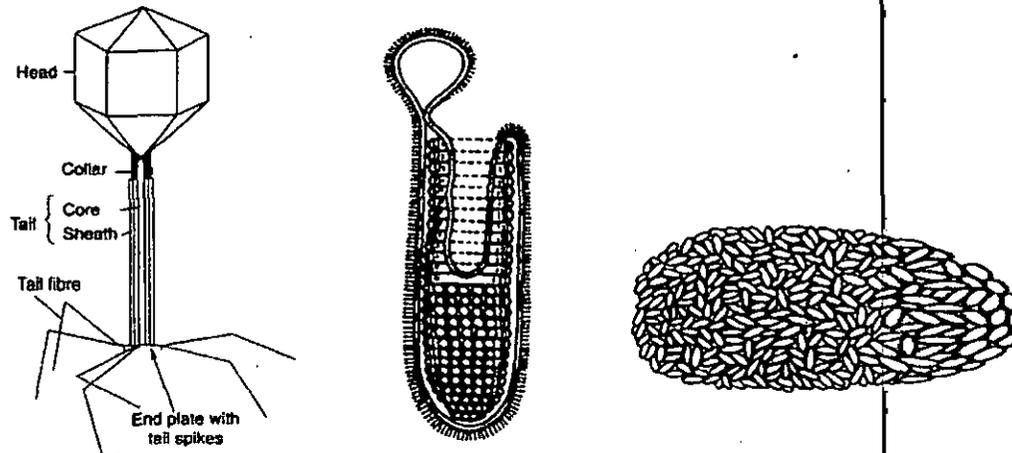
1. Viruses do not fall into the category of unicellular microorganisms (bacteria, mycoplasmas etc.) because they do not possess a cellular organization.
2. Viruses contain only one type of nucleic acid, either DNA or RNA, but never both. However, all other microorganisms (bacteria, fungi, mycoplasmas etc.) contain both DNA as well as RNA.
3. They are obligate intracellular parasites and show their extreme dependence upon living cells for their existence and multiplication.
4. Viruses lack the enzymes necessary for protein and nucleic acid synthesis. For replication, they depend on the synthetic machinery of host cells.
5. The structural unit of a virus particle is called *virion*.
6. In size they range between 10 nm (foot-and-mouth-disease viruses) to 250 nm (poxviruses). They are, therefore, submicroscopic and can be seen only with the help of an electron microscope.
7. Viruses do not multiply by binary fission.
8. Antimicrobial antibiotics do not show any effect on viruses.
9. Viruses can be crystallized, like chemicals (Stanley, 1935).
10. Viruses consist of high molecular weight nucleoproteins.

PRACTICAL No. 1

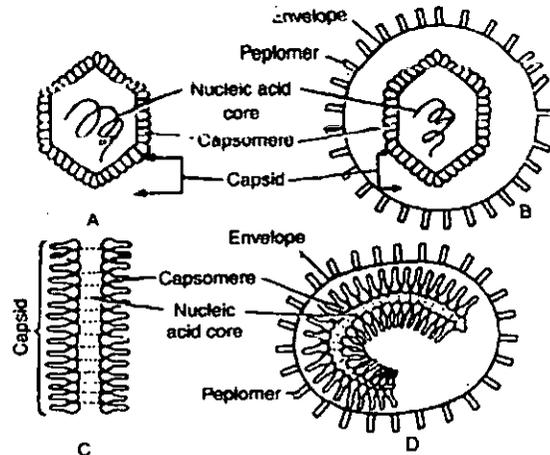
• (A) MODELS OF VIRUS



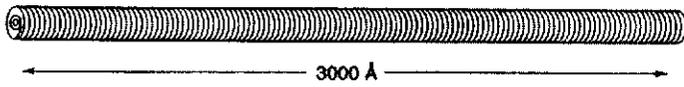
Model 1. Diagrammatic comparison of the sizes of some viruses. The largest circle enclosing the viruses represents *Escherichia coli* (a bacterium attaining a diameter of about 1.0 µm).



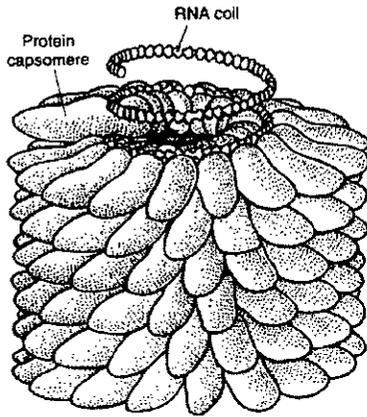
Model 2. Bacteriophage T4, **Model 3.** Rabies of Rhabdovirus, **Model 4.** Poxvirus, a complex virus. a bullet-shaped virus. a brick shaped virus.



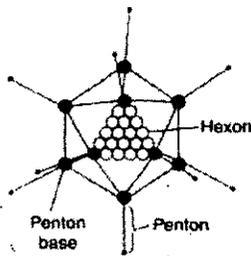
Model 5. Diagrammatic representation of the arrangement of different components forming a virion. A. Naked icosahedron; B. Enveloped icosahedron; C. Naked helical; D. Enveloped helical.



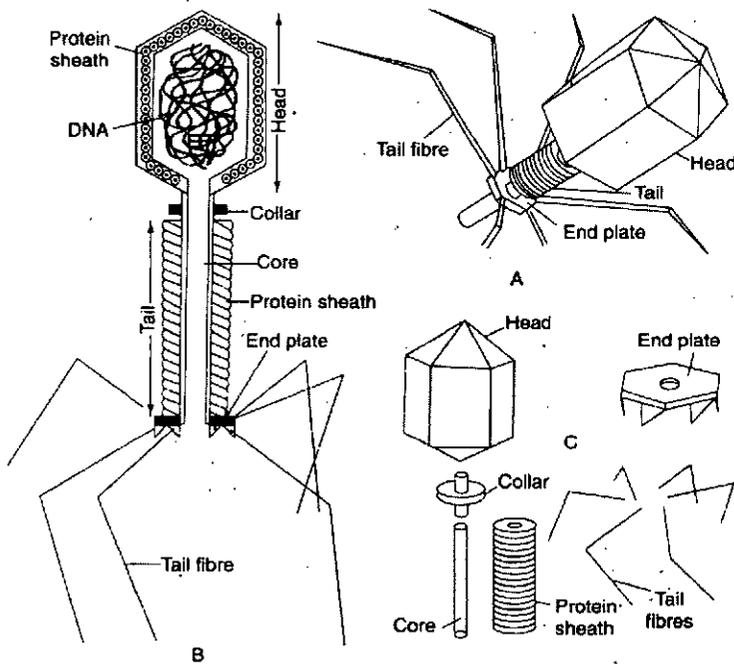
Model 6. A rod of Tobacco mosaic virus, showing arrangement of spirals forming the protein sheath.



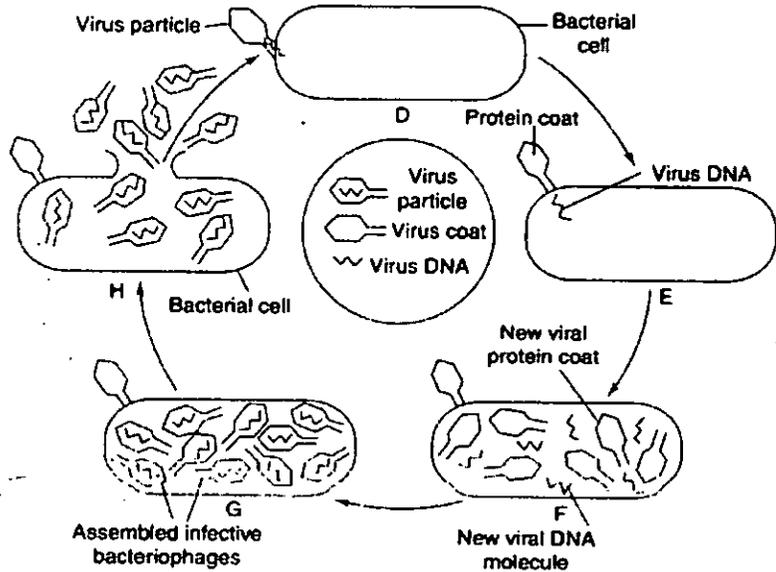
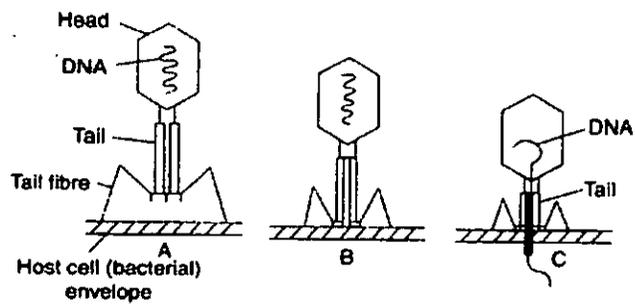
Model 7. Morphology of Tobacco mosaic virus-1 (TMV), a helical virus.



Model 8. Morphology of Adenovirus, a polyhedral virus.



Model 9. Morphology of T-even bacteriophage virus. A, External morphology; B, Diagrammatic representation of L.S. of a bacteriophage; C, Various components of a bacteriophage.



Model 10. Attachment, adsorption and penetration (A-C) of a bacterial host cell by a T-phage. D-H, Stages of the cycle of infection of bacterial cells by bacteriophages.

• (B) TYPES OF BACTERIA FROM SLIDES/PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Azotobacter

Classification

Kingdom	:	Protista
Sub-kingdom	:	Prokaryota
Phylum	:	Schizophyta
Order	:	Eubacteriales
Family	:	Azotobacteraceae
Genus	:	Azotobacter
Species	:	Chroococcum

Character :

1. Widely distributed in the soil where they carry on nonsymbiotic nitrogen fixation.
2. Large rod-shaped bacteria, sometimes coccoidal and yeast like.
3. They are motile and bear over 5 dozen flagella.
4. They are Gram negative.
5. They are obligate aerobes.
6. They are nonsymbiotic nitrogen fixing bacteria.

2. *Bacillus subtilis*

Classification :

<i>Kingdom</i>	:	Protista
<i>Sub-kingdom</i>	:	Prokaryota
<i>Phylum</i>	:	Schizophyta
<i>Order</i>	:	Eubacteriales
<i>Family</i>	:	Bacillaceae
<i>Genus and Species</i>	:	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>



Fig. 1. *Bacillus subtilis*.

Characters :

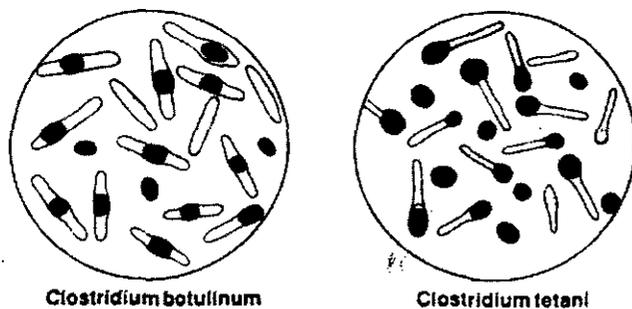
1. It is rod shaped bacterium commonly known as bay bacillus.
2. Endospore formation is very common.
3. It is commonly found in decomposing organic matters.
4. It produces as antibiotic called subtilin.
5. It is non-motile and Gram-positive.
6. It produces large quantity of extracellular hydrolytic enzyme "amylase".
7. Bacterial amylase is used for the production of dextrans from starch.
8. Cell organization is prokaryotic type.

3. *Clostridium*

Classification : Same as of *Bacillus*.

Characters :

1. The members are gram positive and rod shaped.
2. They form endospores, and the spores are more resistant to unfavourable conditions than vegetative cells.
3. Majority of the *Clostridium* species are nonpathogenic. However, *C. perfringens* causes fatal gas gangrene of wounds.



Clostridium botulinum

Clostridium tetani

Fig. 2. *Clostridium botulinum* and *C. tetani*.

4. *C botulinum*, growing saprophytically in the absence of air, produces poisonous toxin of botulinal poisoning.

5. Tetanus is caused by *C. tetani* (Fig. 2).

6. Due to the presence of endospores, the cells are usually swollen.

4. Escherichia coli

Classification :

<i>Kingdom</i>	:	Protista
<i>Sub-kingdom</i>	:	Prokaryota
<i>Phylum</i>	:	Schizophyta
<i>Order</i>	:	Eubacteriales
<i>Family</i>	:	Enterobacteriaceae
<i>Genus and Species</i>	:	<i>Escherichia coli</i> .

Characters :

1. It is a common inhabitant of the intestine of man and many warm-blooded animals.

2. It is also found in the faecal materials of human being, and may be pathogenic producing enteritis and peritonitis.

3. Its rods are short. It is Gram negative.

4. The rods may be motile or non-motile, and are non-spore forming.

5. It ferments glucose and lactose, and its colonies produce a faecal odour.

6. It is of considerable significance in the sanitation of food, milk and water.

5. Lactobacillus

Classification :

<i>Kingdom</i>	:	Protista
<i>Sub-kingdom</i>	:	Prokaryota
<i>Phylum</i>	:	Schizophyta
<i>Order</i>	:	Eubacteriales
<i>Family</i>	:	Lactobacillaceae
<i>Genus</i>	:	<i>Lactobacillus</i>

Characters :

1. It is widely distributed in dairy products, silage or stored green cattle food, and manure.

2. *Lactobacillus casei* rod are generally long and slender (Fig. 3).

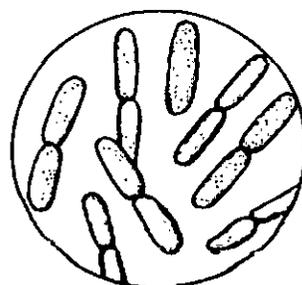


Fig. 3. *Lactobacillus lactis*.

3. These are non-motile and Gram positive bacteria.
4. They are generally anaerobic and ferment carbohydrates to lactic acid.
5. They bacteria are non-spore producing, and divide by binary fission.
6. They are very important in cheese ripening.
7. *L. acidophilus* is useful in making acidophilus buttermilk. It has been associated with dental caries.

6. Rhizobium

Classification :

<i>Kingdom</i>	:	Protista
<i>Sub-kingdom</i>	:	Prokaryota
<i>Phylum</i>	:	Schizophyta
<i>Order</i>	:	Eubacteriales
<i>Family</i>	:	Rhizobiaceae
<i>Genus and Species</i>	:	<i>Rhizobium leguminosarum</i>

Characters :

1. It is found in the root nodules of clover, alfalfa, lentils, beans, peas, soybeans and several other leguminous plants.
2. It is capable of fixing the atmospheric nitrogen.
3. It actually causes the formation of nodules on the roots of legumes where it lives symbiotically.
4. Its rods are small.
5. It is motile when young (Fig. 1 on P. 28 D).
6. It is aerobic and Gram negative.
7. Its cells utilize glucose and sometimes other sugars with little or no production of organic acids.
8. Its cells are non-spore producing.

7. Streptococcus

(Gr. *streptos-twisted*; *kokkus-a seed*, i.e., a twisting chain of spherical cells).

Classification :

<i>Kingdom</i>	:	Protista
<i>Sub-kingdom</i>	:	Prokaryota
<i>Phylum</i>	:	Schizophyta
<i>Order</i>	:	Eubacteriales
<i>Family</i>	:	Lactobacillaceae
<i>Genus</i>	:	<i>Streptococcus</i>

Characters :

1. It is a chain shaped bacterium.
2. The cocci are round in shape.
3. These are non-motile and Gram+ve bacteria.
4. The cellular organization is prokaryotic type.

5. Species are saprophytic and pathogenic.

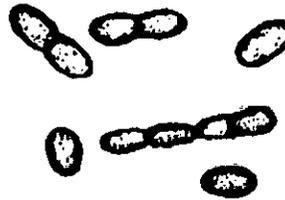


Fig. 4. *Streptococcus lactis*.

6. It is important in souring of milk (*S. lactis*).

7. *S. salivaris* is common in the mouth and nose of human beings.

8. *S. pyogenes* is pathogenic, causing wound infections, childbed fever, scarlet fever etc.

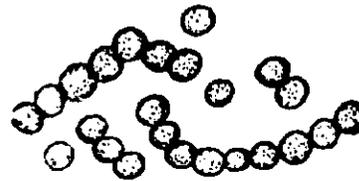


Fig. 5. *Streptococcus pyogenes*.

9. *S. agalactae* causes chronic mastitis in approximately 20% of the milk cows.

10. *S. cremoris* develops aroma and flavour in the creams.

11. *S. faecalis* occurs in human intestine and helps in food poisoning.

8. Staphylococcus

(Gr. *staphyla*, bunch of grapes; *kokkus*, a grain or seed).

Classification :

<i>Kingdom</i>	:	Protista
<i>Sub-kingdom</i>	:	Prokaryota
<i>Phylum</i>	:	Schizophyta
<i>Order</i>	:	Eubacteriales
<i>Family</i>	:	Micrococcaceae
<i>Genus</i>	:	<i>Staphylococcus</i>

Characters :

1. Cells are arranged in plates or irregular masses.
2. *S. aureus* is a common inhabitant of human skin, mucous membrane, throat and postnasal discharges of persons recovering from cold.
3. It causes the food poisoning in man and may also be the cause of pimples, abscesses and infection of wound.
4. It is also the cause of *bovine mastitis*, which is an inflammatory disease of the udder.
5. The symptoms which are typical of *Staphylococcus* infection include nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, acute prostration and abnormal cramps.
6. It also occurs commonly in bakeries and kitchen products, if they are not immediately refrigerated at a temperature of 4°C to 10°C.

9. Spirillum

Classification :

<i>Kingdom</i>	:	Protista
<i>Sub-kingdom</i>	:	Prokaryota
<i>Phylum</i>	:	Schizophyta
<i>Order</i>	:	Eubacteriales
<i>Family</i>	:	Thiorhodaceae
<i>Genus</i>	:	<i>Spirillum</i>

Characters :

1. These are the spiral shaped bacteria commonly called spirilli.
2. These are coiled and found in the soil and water.
3. They contain bacteriopurpurin and sulphur granules.

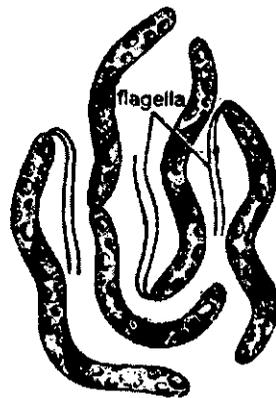


Fig. 6. Sulphur spirilla.

4. They are motile and move with their flagella.
5. Prokaryotic type of cell organization is present.

10. Treponema

(Gr. *trepein* - turn; *nema* - thread)

Classification :

<i>Kingdom</i>	:	Protista
<i>Sub-kingdom</i>	:	Prokaryota
<i>Phylum</i>	:	Schizophyta
<i>Order</i>	:	Eubacteriales
<i>Family</i>	:	Treponemataceae
<i>Genus</i>	:	<i>Treponema</i>

Characters :

1. It is spiral shaped bacterium.
2. With the help of electron microscope flagella have been observed on two ends of the organism.
3. *T. pallidum* is the cause of venereal disease, syphilis.
4. It is transmitted from person to person usually through sexual contacts, although indirect transmission through contaminated objects may sometimes occurs.

5. Some species of *Treponema* occur in the human mouth and other animals.

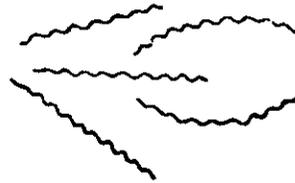


Fig. 7. *Treponema*.

• (C) ELECTRON MICROGRAPH OF A BACTERIAL CELL

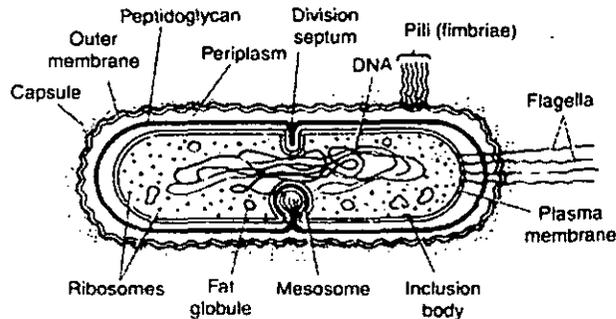


Fig. 1. A typical bacterial cell under electron microscope (diagrammatic)

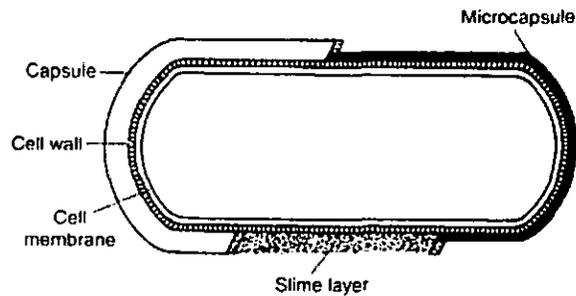


Fig. 2. Relative position of capsule, microcapsule and slime layer in a bacterial cell under electron microscope.

• (D) BINARY FISSION OR CELL DIVISION

The three aspects that complete the cell division process in bacteria are 'DNA duplication', 'DNA partitioning' and 'cross-wall formation'. All these three processes are, however, equivalent to the mitosis of the eukaryotic organisms, but there is no spindle formation and resolution of the chromatin material into chromosomes in bacteria.

Electron microscopy has revealed following details of cell division :

The first step (*DNA duplication*) occurs by the separation of two strands of DNA (nuclear body). Each separated DNA strand then replicates a new complementary strand.

The second step (*DNA partitioning*) involves the partitioning of the double DNA between the two daughter cells. It is a problematic aspect for the bacterial cell, mainly because of the enormous length of DNA. How it actually happens is still not clear. It is thought that DNA molecule is attached at some point to the plasma membrane (Kleppe *et al.*, 1979), and after first step (*DNA duplication*) each one of the double strands swings towards one of the cell halves, keeping itself in the same attached position. Both the cell halves later on receive one double strand of DNA each.

The third step (cross-wall formation) starts immediately after the separation of daughter genomes into two separate cell halves. It starts by the inward growth of the cell wall, mid-way between the daughter genomes. The cell wall materials are deposited between the membranes and the cell is divided into two. There is evidence to indicate that mesosome plays some role in the synthesis of the cross-wall in bacterial cell. According to Peberdy (1980) the separation of daughter cells is brought about by the action of hydrolases in *Bacillus subtilis* and *Streptococcus faecalis*. In *Escherichia coli* the septation is brought about by the invagination of the cytoplasmic membrane and the peptidoglycan layer of the cell wall (Torti and Park, 1976).

The above-mentioned method of cell division is also called 'binary fission'. It is followed by almost all bacteria.

• (E) CONJUGATION INCLUDING GENETIC RECOMBINATION (SEXUAL REPRODUCTION)

During *recombination* in bacteria, usually a piece of donor DNA (called *exogenote*) must enter the recipient cell and become a stable part of the genome of the recipient cell and *indogenote*. In this way, the recombination in bacteria is a "one-way gene transfer from donor to recipient, whereas recombination in eukaryotes tends to be reciprocal."

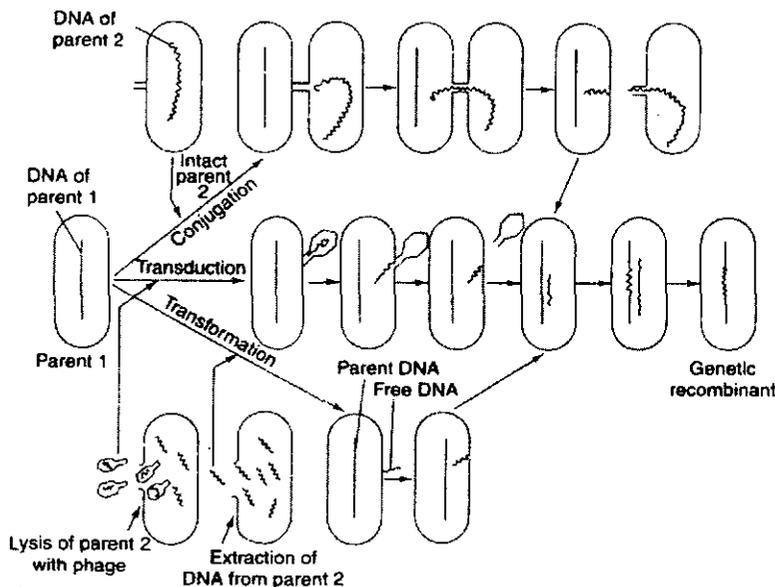


Fig. 1. Processes of transformation, transduction and conjugation (diagrammatic) in bacteria.

• (F) STRUCTURE OF ROOT NODULE

A large number of blue-green algae, specially the filamentous and heterocystous forms (e.g., *Anabaena*, *Nostoc*, *Tolypothrix* and *Aulosira*), have the ability to fix the atmospheric nitrogen. Several of such nitrogen-fixing organisms remain in symbiotic association with other organisms and are called *symbiotic nitrogen fixers*. These symbiotic nitrogen fixers are either blue-green algae or bacteria. They remain in association with several other organisms such as (i) blue-green algae in association with fungi to form lichens (e.g., *Peltigera*), (ii) blue-green algae (e.g., *Nostoc*, *Anabaena*) in association with bryophytes (e.g., *Anthoceros*), (iii) blue-green algae (*Anabaena* and *Nostoc*) in association with coralloid roots of *Cycas*, and (iv) bacteria (e.g., *Rhizobium*) in association with the roots of leguminous plants to form root nodules.

Rhizobium species have the ability to penetrate the tips of the root cells that grow into the roots. These infection threads swell, burst and release bacteria within the root hair cells of legumes. These free bacteria within the root hair cells assume a specific shape and called a *bacteroid*. The bacteroids may be T-shaped, Y-shaped, club-shaped or pear-shaped. Due to the presence of bacteria, the root cells are stimulated and multiply several times, resulting in the development of a nodule.

The plant juices provide nourishment to bacteria, and plant gains nitrogen compounds by the bacteria which take nitrogen directly from the atmosphere in a symbiotic relationship, therefore, exists, and the end result is that the atmospheric nitrogen, which cannot be utilized directly by the plant, is converted by bacteria into nitrogen compounds that remain in the soil for plant use.

Object : To show the presence of bacteria in the root nodules of leguminous plants.

Requirements : Roots of pea (or of other nodulated legumes such as beans, soybeans, clover and alfalfa), razor, microscope with oil immersion lens, needles, slide, burner, nigrosin negative stain.

Method :

1. Take roots of any of the nodulated legumes such as pea, beans, soybeans, clover, alfalfa, etc. and wash them thoroughly with water. Several nodules are clearly visible on the roots.
2. Remove a large nodule with the help of blade, cut a thin transverse section of the nodule with a razor and examine under low power of the microscope. Observe the structure of the nodule and bacteroidal tissue in the cortex (Fig. 1 A, B).

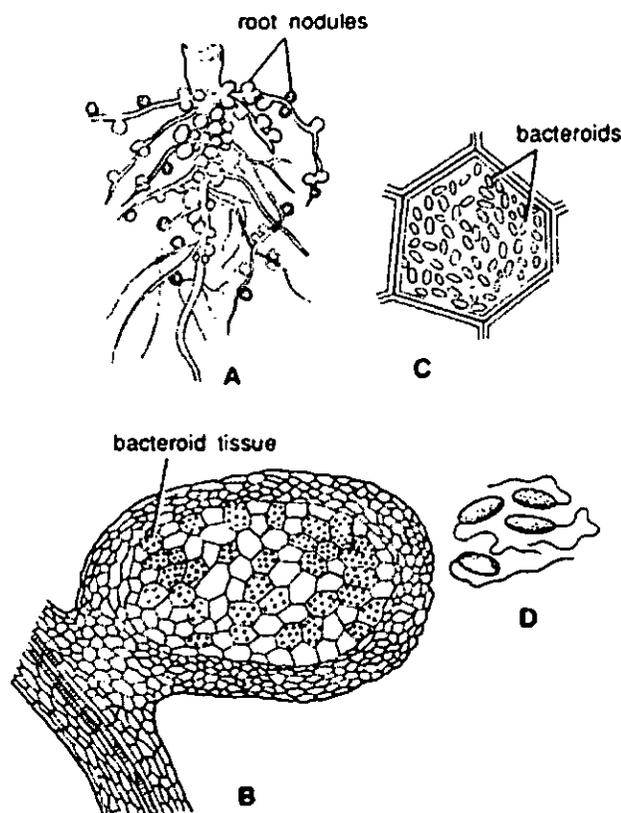


Fig. 1. A, Root nodules of a leguminous plant; B, T.S. of a nodule showing bacteroid tissue; C, Bacteroids; D, *Rhizobium leguminosarum*.

3. **Preparation of Nigrosin Stain :** Add 10 gm water soluble nigrosin to 100 mL water in a beaker and mark the top level of the contents with a glass-marking pencil. Put the beaker in a boiling water bath for about 30 minutes. The stain will be dissolved. Remove the beaker and add distilled water to regain the original volume up to the pencil mark. Add a few drops of formalin, filter the stain at least two times through a filter paper, and use it.

4. Put a small nodule on a glass slide, add a drop of water over it and crush it with the help of needles.

5. Prepare a heat-fixed smear by taking the slide very gently to the burner's flame for 3 or 4 times. But the slide should not be overheated. (*To avoid the slide to be overheated, always hold it several inches above the flame*).

6. Stain with nigrosin stain, and examine the bacteroids (Fig. 21) under oil immersion lens.

Observations and Result : Small, rod shaped, Gram negative bacteria which are motile, when young, are visible. These belong to *Rhizobium leguminosarum* (order Rhizobiales).

• (G) GRAM STAINING

It is a universally used bacterial stain. It is important because bacteria are separated by this stain into two individual groups, i.e., *Gram positive* and *Gram negative*. It is a differential stain because Gram positive bacteria stain blue by this method while Gram negative bacteria take red stain.

Most of the species of cocci are Gram positive while most of the rod shaped bacteria are Gram negative. There are, however, exceptions of this statement.

Object : To prepare a bacterial slide using Gram stain.

Requirements : Slides, linen cloth, coloured pencil, spirit lamp, loop bacterial culture, gentian violet or crystal violet, Gram's iodine, alcohol, acetone, safranin, oil immersion lens, microscope.

Method : There are three parts of the Gram staining process, viz. cleaning of the slides, making of the smear, staining.

(i) **Cleaning of the slides :** To about half a dozen of microscopic slides take to the sink and wash thoroughly in some cleaning preparation and rinse well in warm water. Dry the slides with a thin linen cloth. Do not put your fingers on the cleaned slides. Do not use soap for cleaning the slide.

(ii) **Making of the Smear :** 1. Make a specific mark by the coloured pencil, say 'X', on one end of each slide to have an idea of the top of the slide.

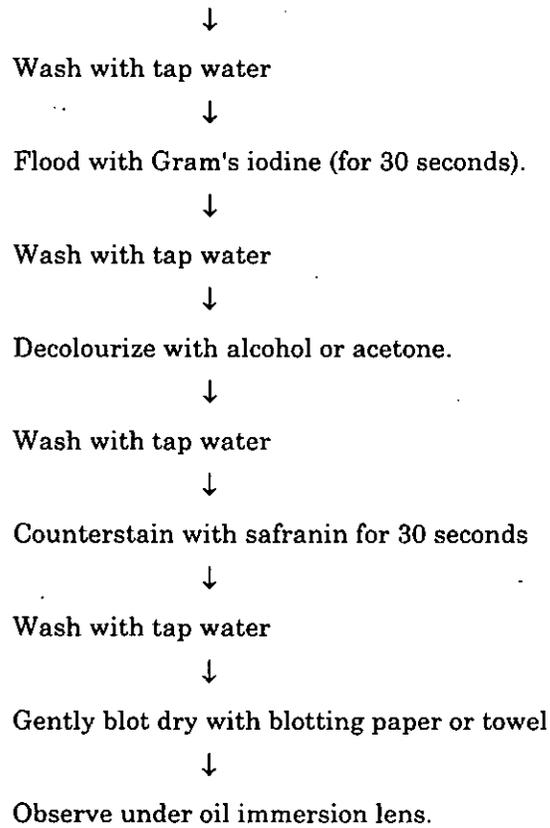
2. Flame the looped needle. Remove cotton plug from one of the slant cultures and take a small amount of growth with the help of loop and place it on the slide. Repeat the process once or twice. Now the smear is ready.

The loop should be flamed each time after using.

3. Dry the smear by taking the slides very gently to the burner's flame for 3-4 times. But the slide should not be overheated.

(iii) *Staining* : Following is the procedure of Gram's staining :

Stain with gentian violet or crystal violet or methyl violet (all basic dyes) for 30 seconds.



Record the results in the following Table :

S.No.	Name of the microorganism	Morphology	Gram stain
1.	A		
2.	B		
3.	C		
4.	D		

ALGAE

• GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

1. The world *algae* means 'sea weeds'. The science that deals with their study is called '*algology*'. The Greek word for algae is '*phykos*', and, therefore, their study is also called *phycology* (Gr. *phykos*, sea weeds; *logos*, study or discourse).

2. Algae may be defined as "an assemblage of chlorophyll-bearing autotrophic Thallophytes, bounded by a cell wall, made up of pure or mixed carbohydrates".

3. Out of a world total of 2475 genera and 28,505 species of algae, 666 genera and 5136 species are represented in India. This amounts to a proportion of 28.3% of global generic representation and 18.1% of world species.

4. Algae are of universal occurrence because of their presence in nearly all types of habitats. They are found in freshwater (e.g. *Spirogyra*, *Oedogonium*), sea water (marine algae, e.g. *Sargassum*, *Laminaria*), on soil (terrestrial algae, e.g. *Fritschiella*, *Vaucheria*), on rocks and stones (lithophytic algae, e.g. *Batrachospermum*, *Enteromorpha*), in highly concentrated salty water (halophytic algae, e.g. *Dunaliella*), on sand (psammophytic algae, e.g. *Phormidium*, *Vaucheria*), in very hot waters (thermal algae, e.g. *Onconema*, *Synechococcus*), on ice or snow (cryophytic algae, e.g. *Chlamydomonas nivalis*, *Raphidonema*), on other plants (epiphytic algae, e.g. *Oedogonium*, *Bulbochaete*), inside other plants (endophytic algae, e.g. *Nostoc* inside the thallus of *Anthoceros*, *Anabaena* in the coralloid roots of *Cycas*), on animals (epizoic algae, e.g. *Cladophora crispata* on the shells of molluscs), inside the animals (endozoic algae, e.g. *Stigeoclonium* in the nose of fishes), as parasites (e.g. *Cephaleuros* on leaves of tea plants) and also in combination with fungi in the form of lichens.

5. *Thallus organization in algae* also varies greatly and shows a clear range. They may be motile colonial (e.g. *Volvox*), palmelloid (e.g. *Tetraspora*), dendroid or tree-like (e.g. *Eckballoctystis*), coccoid or non-motile (e.g. *Chlorella*), filamentous (e.g. *Oedogonium*, *Cladophora*), heterotrichous (e.g. *Ectocarpus*), siphon-like or siphonaceous (e.g. *Vaucheria*), uniaxial (e.g. *Batrachospermum*), multiaxial (e.g. *Polysiphonid*) or even parenchymatous (e.g. *Sargassum*).

6. The size of algal members is also highly variable. It varies between 0.5 μ (e.g. *Dunaliella*, *Chlamydomonas*) to as much as 30 metres or more (e.g. *Macrocystis*). There is an "unsubstantiated record of a plant of *Macrocystis pyrifera* reaching up to 700 feet (i.e. 213 metres) the longest plant in the world".

7. The *cell wall* is mostly made of cellulose but in some genera it also contains some other substances such as pectin, chitin, algin and fucoidin.

8. *Cytoplasm* contains structures such as contractile vacuoles, mitochondria, eyespot, chloroplast, pyrenoids, Golgi bodies, pigments and nucleus. However, in

7. Each cell is somewhat cylindrical or spherical in shape.
8. In filaments there are present some large, spherical or cylindrical, empty cells called *heterocysts*.
9. Heterocysts are generally intercalary but in the young condition, they may be terminal.
10. Two polar nodules are present in each heterocyst (Fig. 4).

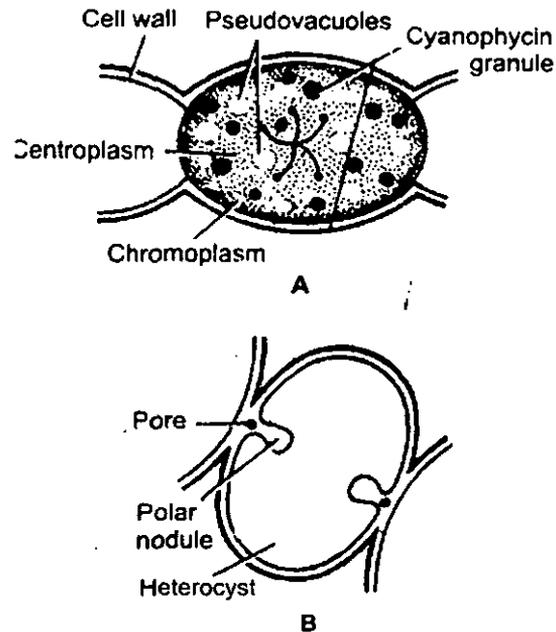


Fig. 4. Nostoc. A, A single vegetative cell;
B, A heterocyst.

11. Some cells of the filament become enlarged and filled with the food material. These thick-walled cells are called *akinetes*. Akinetes are generally present in the chain.

A. Single Cell

1. Each cell is surrounded by a cellulose cell wall (Fig. 4).
2. Protoplast shows typical Myxophyceean structure, i.e., inner colourless *centroplasm* and outer pigmented *chromoplasm*. In the chromoplasm are present cyanophycin pigments, proteinaceous cyanophycin granules and cyanophycin starch granules, while in the centroplasm is present the incipient nucleus.

Reproductive Structure :

1. Sexual reproduction is totally absent. Plant reproduces only by vegetative means, i.e., by hormogones and akinetes.
2. *Hormogones* are the small segments of trichome which separate generally at the place of heterocyst.
3. On separation, hormogones develop into new trichomes.
4. *Akinetes* are thick-walled large cells, filled with reserve food material. All cells between two heterocysts generally change into akinetes.
5. In some species, e.g., *Nostoc commune*, heterocyst becomes functional and germinates to form new trichome.

Identification :

- (a) (i) *Simple thallus*
(ii) *Cell wall consists of cellulose.*
(iii) *Presence of chlorophyll Algae*
- (b) (i) *Protoplast divisible into centroplasm and chromoplasm.*
(ii) *Pigments diffuse and blue-green in colour.*
(iii) *Presence of incipient nucleus.*
(iv) *Sexual reproduction is absent.*
(v) *Hormogones present Myxophyceae*
- (c) (i) *Thallus with trichomes.*
(ii) *Trichomes are unbranched Nostocales*
- (d) (i) *No differentiation of base or apex in trichomes.*
(ii) *Filaments are surrounded by gelatinous matrix.*
(iii) *Presence of heterocyst.*
(iv) *Akinetes present Nostocaceae*
- (e) (i) *Colony is in the form of bluish green balls.*
(ii) *Reproduction by hormogones and akinetes.*
(iii) *Intercalary heterocysts present Nostoc.*

2. Chlamydomonas

(*Chlamydo = Cloak; monos = single*)

Common Indian Species : *Chlamydomonas grandistigma, C. eugametos, C. ehrenbergii.*

Systematic Position :

Sub-division	:	Algae
Class	:	Chlorophyceae
Order	:	Volvocales
Family	:	Chlamydomonadaceae
Genus	:	<i>Chlamydomonas</i>

Common Occurrence : Most of the species are fresh-water, found in ponds, ditches, pools, lakes and rain water. On the surface of water, it mostly forms a green scum.

Work to be done

To study (i) *External morphology*, (ii) *Neuromotor apparatus*, (iii) *Electron micrograph*, (iv) *Palmella stage*, and (v) *To identify giving reasons.*

External Morphology

Study the slide under oil-immersion lens :

1. The organism is an unicellular alga (Fig. 5).
2. The thallus is spherical to oblong in shape but some species are pyriform or ovoid.

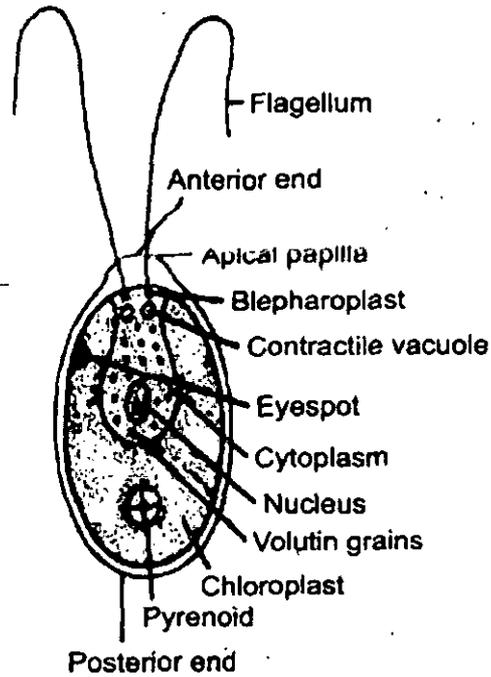


Fig. 5. *Chlamydomonas*. A vegetative cell.

3. The cell is somewhat pointed towards the anterior side and comparatively broader towards the posterior side.
4. The cell is surrounded by a cellulose cell wall* which encloses the protoplasm.
5. The protoplasm consists of cytoplasm and a centrally located nucleus.
6. Anterior pointed end consists of an apical papilla.
7. Two flagella are present on the anterior side of the cell. Both are of whiplash type.
8. At the base of each flagellum is present a basal granule or blepharoplast.
9. Both the flagella are equal in size and bigger than the size of the cell.
10. Below the basal granules are present two contractile vacuoles which are excretory in function.
11. Chloroplast is generally a cup-shaped structure in most of the species.
12. Each chloroplast encloses a single pyrenoid, which is the body of starch formation.
13. More than one pyrenoids are present in some species.
14. Many volutin granules are present in the cytoplasm.
15. An orange-coloured eyespot or stigma is situated in the protoplasm at the anterior end of the cell.
16. The eyespot is supposed to be photo receptive in function.

Neuromotor Apparatus

1. It is also known as *flagellar apparatus*.
2. It consists of following :
 - (i) Two *blepharoplasts* connected by a fibre called *paradesmose* (Fig. 6).

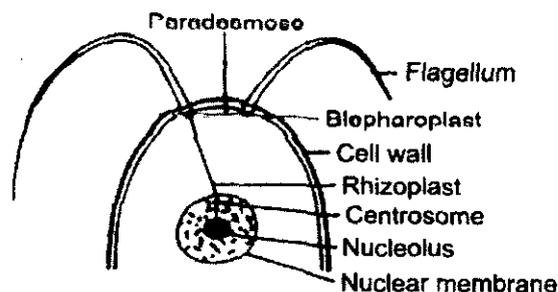


Fig. 6. *Chlamydomonas*. Neuromotor apparatus.

(ii) One of the blepharoplasts remains connected to the centrosome of the nucleus by a descending thread called *rhizoplast**;

(iii) Intranuclear or extranuclear centrosome is also connected with the nucleolus by a fibril.

Electron Micrograph :

Study the microphotography or its line diagram from the book :

1. This is the electron micrograph of *Chlamydomonas* (Fig. 7).

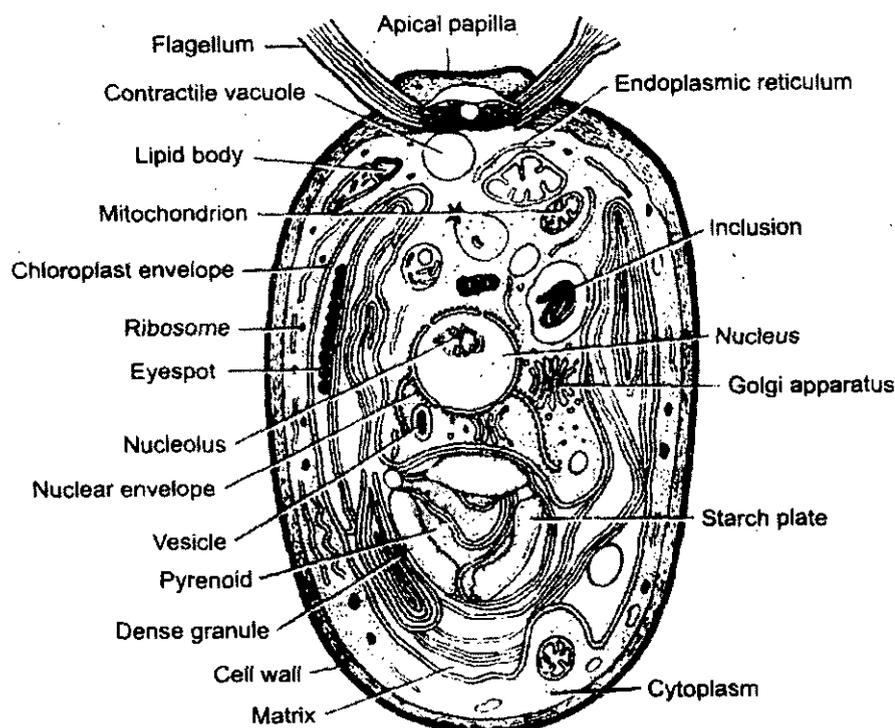


Fig. 7. Electron micrograph (diagrammatic) of *Chlamydomonas*.

2. The cytoplasm is bounded by a cytoplasmic membrane.

3. Cytoplasmic membrane consists of two electron opaque layers.

4. A few strands of granular endoplasmic reticulum, free ribosomes and mitochondria and visible near the periphery in the cytoplasm.

5. The chloroplast is cup-shaped. Inside the chloroplast lie the volutin granules, some strands of the granular reticulum tubules, Golgi bodies, free ribosomes, etc.

6. Plate-like cristae are present in the mitochondria.

7. Single nucleus contains a large nucleolus.
8. Nuclear membrane is two-layered.
9. Granular matrix of the cup-shaped chloroplast remains enclosed by a double-membraned envelope.
10. In the granular matrix or stroma are present many tube-like thylakoids.
11. Synthesized starch plates are present around the edge of the pyrenoid.
12. Pyrenoid lacks ribosomes.
13. Eyespot consists of 2-3 rows of globules, which are arranged concentrically near the anterior end of the cell inside the chloroplast.
14. Two contractile vacuoles are present.
15. Two long, whiplash type of flagella are present.

Palmella-stage

1. It is a temporary phase in the life-cycle resembling to the alga *Palmella* (Fig. 8).

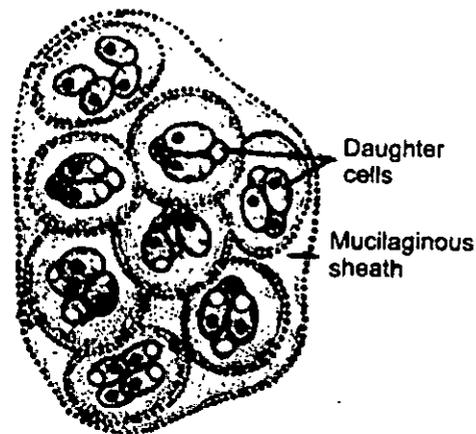


Fig. 8. *Chlamydomonas*. Palmella-stage.

2. Under unfavourable conditions, the cells become non-motile by losing their flagella.
3. Divided parts of the protoplast of each cell remain surrounded by a common mucilaginous matrix formed by the gelatinization of the cell walls.
4. Many such cells come together in the form of a colony surrounded by a common mucilaginous sheath, and the whole structure resembles the alga *Palmella*.

Identification :

- (a) (i) *Thallus simple.*
- (ii) *Cell wall consists of cellulose.*
- (iii) *Chlorophyll present in the plastids.*
- (iii) *Autotrophic mode of nutrition Algae*
- (b) (i) *Photosynthetic pigments present in chromatophores.*
- (ii) *Presence of pyrenoids.*
- (iii) *Starch is the reserve food material.*

- (iv) Reproductive units are motile.
- (v) Flagella of equal length **Chlorophyceae.**
- (c) (i) Motile vegetative cells.
- (ii) Simple and unspecialized structure of thallus.
- (iii) Contractile vacuoles present **Volvocales**
- (d) (i) Flagella are of equal length.
- (ii) Unicellular plant body.
- (iii) Presence of Plamella stage. **Chlamydomonadaceae**
- (e) (i) Presence of eyespot.
- (ii) Presence of contractile vacuole and cup-shaped chloroplast.
..... **Chlamydomonas.**

3. Oedogonium

(Oedos, swelling; gonas = fruit)

Common Indian Species : *Oedogonium sociale*, *O. intermedium*, *O. vaucheruii*, *O. perfectum*.

Systematic Position

Sub-division	:	Algae
Class	:	Chlorophyceae
Order	:	Oedogoniales
Family	:	Oedogoniaceae
Genus	:	<i>Oedogonium</i>

Common Occurrence : This fresh water alga occurs generally as epiphyte on many hydrophytic plants. It is not commonly found in running water. Generally, young filaments are attached and the mature filaments are free-floating.

Work to be done

Study external features of filaments, detailed structure of a young and a mature cell, antheridia, oogonia, dwarf male and zygote.

External Morphology

1. Plant body consists of green narrow, unbranched (fig. 9) and multicellular filaments.
2. Cells are cylindrical and arranged end to end in each filament.
3. All the cells of the filaments are similar in shape except lowermost holdfast and uppermost apical cell.
4. Uppermost apical cell is somewhat broad and round at its apex and green in colour.
5. Lowermost basal cell is generally colourless but may contain ill-developed chloroplast. It produces certain outgrowths, which help in attachment of the filament to the substratum. It is known as *holdfast*.
6. Other cells of the filament are similar in structure and green in colour.

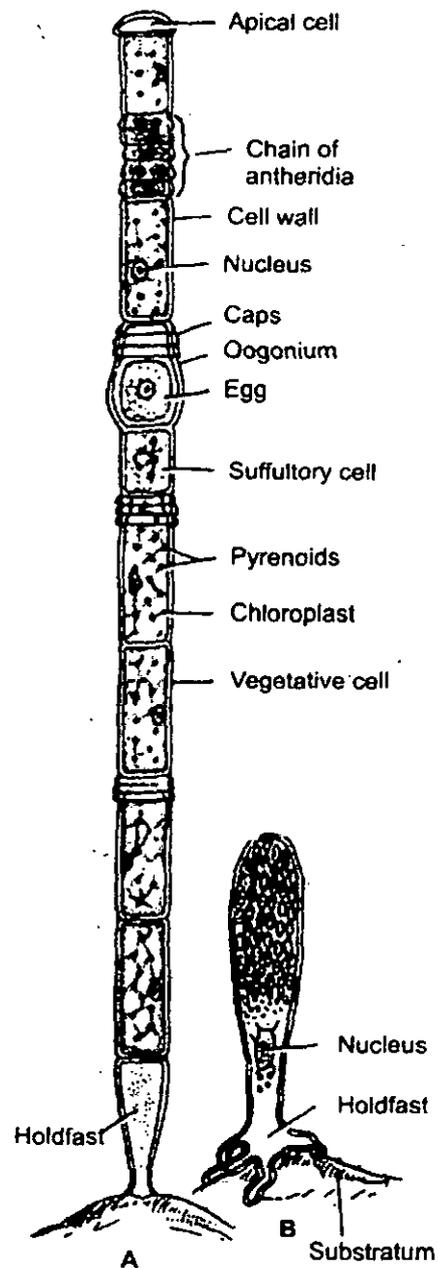


Fig. 9. Oedogonium. A, A filament of a monoecious species; B, A germinating zoospore showing formation of holdfast.

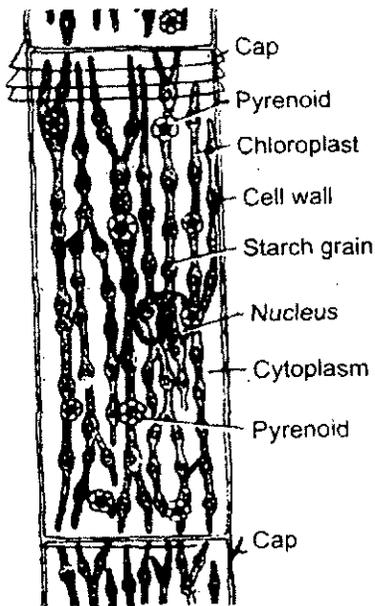
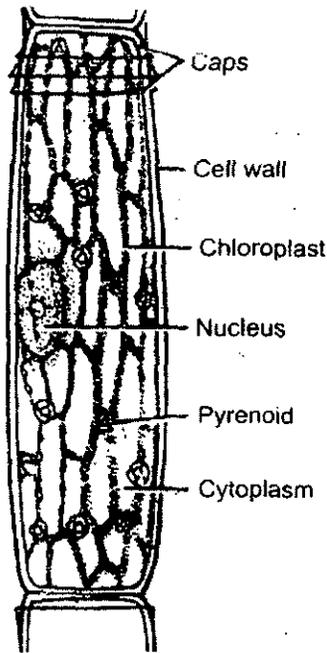
7. Some cells of the filaments contain ring-like structures at their upper end. These are known as caps.

8. The number of caps on a cell indicates the number of times the cell has divided.

9. Each cell (fig. 10) is surrounded by a wall made up of three layers, the outermost of which consists of chitin, middle of pectose and innermost of cellulose.

10. Cells are uninucleate, and the nucleus is generally present in the middle of the cell but sometimes it is eccentric.

11. A single large reticulate chloroplast is present in each cell. It contains many pyrenoids (Fig. 10).

Fig. 10. *Oedogonium*. A young single cell.Fig. 11. *Oedogonium*. A mature single cell.

12. Each cell contains a large central vacuole, which is filled up by cell sap.

Asexual Reproduction

1. Zoospores and akinetes are the common means of asexual reproduction in *Oedogonium*.

2. Zoospores are formed in the cap cells singly, when the cell starts to function as zoosporangium.

3. In each zoosporangium develops a single, spherical to ovoid, uninucleate and multiflagellate zoospore.

4. Zoospore comes out in the membranous vesicle formed by rupturing of the outer cell wall.

5. On coming out of vesicle, zoospore settles on some substratum through its flagellar end. Its flagella withdraw and it germinates into new plant.

6. *Akinetes* are also formed in chain in some species of *Oedogonium*. These are the centres of reserve food.

Sexual Reproduction

1. It is of oogamous type.

2. Some species are monoecious or homothallic while others are dioecious or heterothallic.

3. Dioecious species are again of two types :

(a) In some, the male and female filaments are of normal size. These are known as *macrandrous species*.

(b) In others, the male filament is smaller in size, i.e., *dwarf male* or *nannandrium*. These are known as *nannandrous species*.

Antheridia

1. *Antheridia* may develop in any cell possessing caps.
2. The cell divides into many small segments or chambers and each segment is known as antheridium (Fig. 12A).

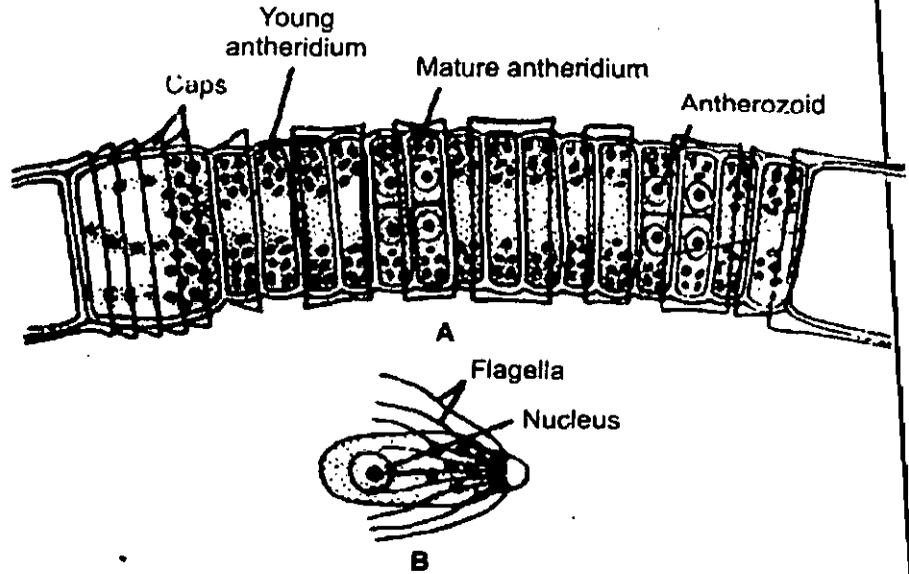


Fig. 12. Oedogonium. A, Chain of antheridia; B, A multiflagellate antherozoid.

3. In each antheridium, two small, uninucleate and multiflagellate structures are formed. These are known as *antherozoids* (Fig. 12 B).

Oogonium :

1. *Oogonium* also develops in cap cells.
2. A single filament may contain many oogonia.
3. An oogonium is a spherical, uninucleate structure, which contains and eggs (Fig. 13).

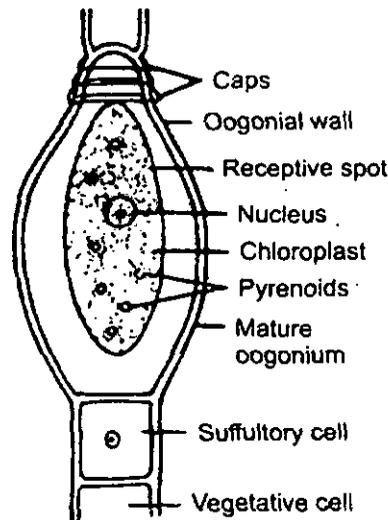


Fig. 13. Oedogonium. A mature oogonium with suffultory cell.

4. Below each oogonium, a slightly elongated or cylindrical cell is present. It is known as supporting cell or suffultory cell.

5. At the time of fertilization a hyaline spot develops on the side of one egg. It is called *receptive spot*.

6. At the place of receptive spot, wall of the oogonium breaks up, antherozoids get in and perform the process of fertilization.

7. A thickwalled, reddish zygote develops after fertilization.

Dwarf male

1. Male cells in non-nandrous species are called *androsporangia*.

2. Androsporangia are formed in the same way as antheridia in case of macrandrous species, *i.e.*, by the division of a cap cell into many segments.

3. In each segment only one uninucleate and multiflagellate structure is present. It is known as *androspre*.

4. Species are known as *gynandrosporous*, if androspore and oogonium develop on the same filament.

5. If the androspore and oogonium develop on different filaments, the species is known as *idioandrosporous*.

6. Androspores develop into male filaments, which are smaller in size and are known as *dwarf males* (fig. 6) or *nannandria*.

7. Androspore settles either on the oogonium or on the supporting cell or suffultory cell (fig. 14).

8. At the tip of the androspore develops antheridia, each having two antherozoids.

9. Antherozoids are uninucleate, multiflagellate and very small structures.

Points of Interest in the Genus Oedogonium :

(i) Two types of male filaments are present, *i.e.*, normal and dwarf.

(ii) Unbranched thallus contains caps.

(iii) In case of nannandrous species, antherozoids do not develop in the main filament but in the androspore or dwarf male.

(iv) Egg contains a receptive spot.

Identification :

(a) (i) *Thallus simple*.

(ii) *Cell wall is made up of cellulose*.

(iii) *Presence of chlorophyll Algae*

(b) (i) *Reserve food material is starch*.

(ii) *Pyrenoids are present*.

(iii) *Chromatophores are green in colour*.

(iv) *Motile bodies flagellate Chlorophyceae*

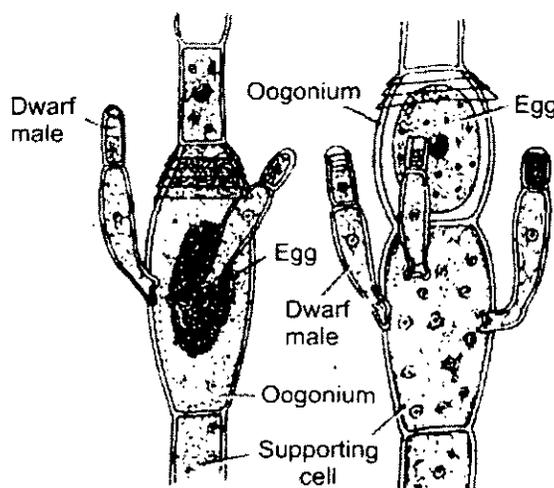


Fig. 14. Oedogonium. Oogonia with dwarf males.

- (c) (i) *Reticulate chloroplast.*
- (ii) *Multiflagellate zoospores, androspores and antherozoids are present.*
- (iii) *Sexual reproduction is by a process of advance type of oogamy.*
- (iv) *Caps are formed during cell division*

..... *Oedogoniales and Oedogoniace*

- (d) (i) *Presence of caps.*
- (ii) *Presence of holdfast.*
- (iii) *Filamentous plant body is unbranched.*
- (iv) *Dwarf male present Oedogonium.*

4. Vaucheria

(Named after J.P. Vaucher)

Common Indian Species : *Vaucheria geminata, V. sessilis, V. uncinata, terrestris and V. walzi.*

Systematic position :

Sub-division :	Algae
Class :	Xanthophyceae
Order :	Heterosiphonales
Family :	Vaucheriaceae
Genus :	<i>Vaucheria.</i>

Common Occurrence : It occurs in fresh water, on soil (terrestrial) and also in sea water. During winters it occurs as green matty structure on damp soil.

Work to be done

Study the external morphology of the thallus from the given material and also the zoospores, aplanospores, Gongrosira-stage and sex organs (antheridia and oogonia) using fresh material and/or permanent slides.

External Morphology :

Stain the thallus in safranin, mount in glycerine and study :

1. Plant body is tubular or cylindrical and irregularly branched (Fig. 15).
2. Terrestrial species are attached to the substratum by rhizoids.
3. Plant body is aseptate and multinucleate (*coenocytic*). However, some **septa** formation is observed at the base of reproductive organs.
4. Wall of the filament is thin, elastic and consists of an outer layer of **pectose** and an inner layer of cellulose.
5. In the cytoplasm are present many chloroplasts and nuclei.
6. Chloroplasts are oval or discoid in shape and present in the form of a **layer**.
7. Next to the chloroplasts is a layer of nuclei.
8. Pyrenoids are absent.
9. Large number of oil droplets make the reserve food material of the thallus.
10. A large central **vacuole** is present in the centre of the thallus, which is **the** characteristics feature of the order.

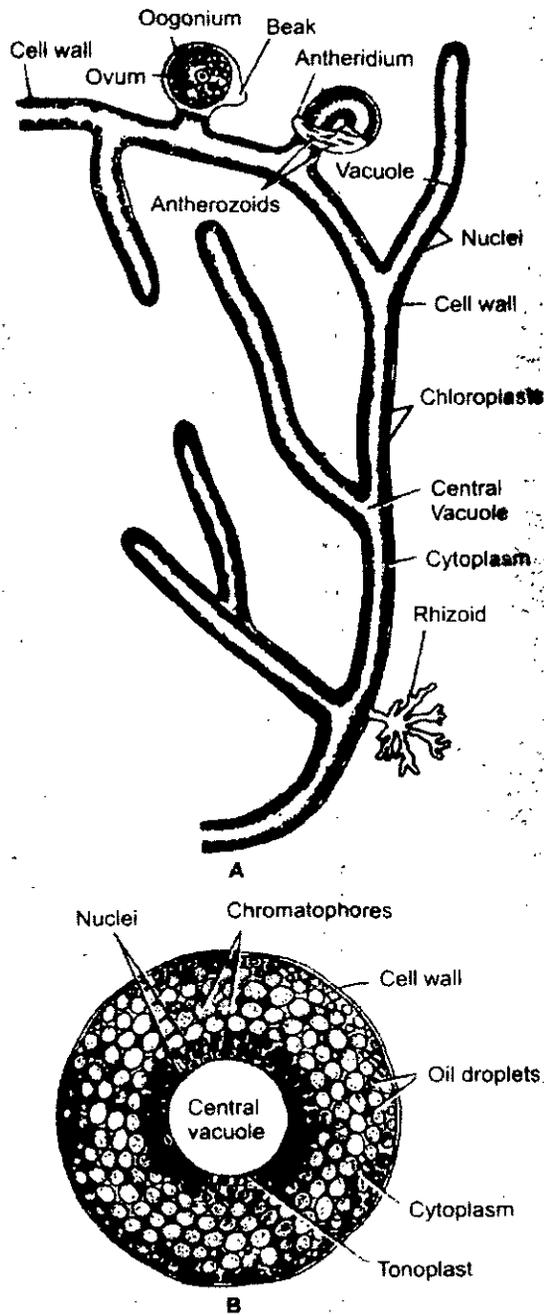


Fig. 15. Vaucheria. A, Thallus of a monoecious species; B, T.S. vegetative thallus (diagrammatic).

Reproductive Structures :

Various means of asexual reproduction are :

- (a) Zoospores,
- (b) Aplanospores
- (b) Hyphospores,
- (c) Cyst formation.

Zoospore

1. Zoospore is formed singly in the zoosporangium, formed in the terminal part of the thallus (Fig. 16).

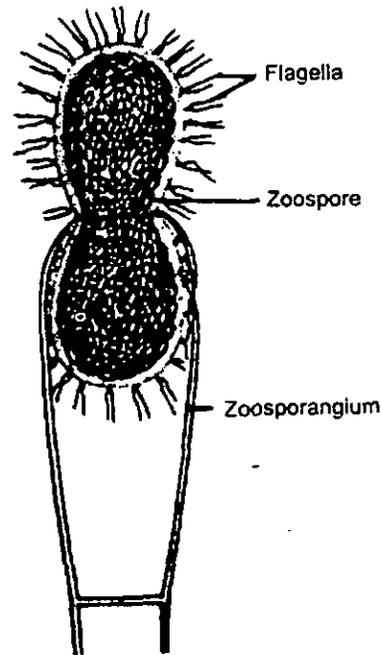


Fig. 16. *Vaucheria*. A zoosporangium with a multiflagellate zoospore.

2. Zoosporangium is a club-shaped swollen structure separated from rest of thallus by a septum.

3. The protoplasm of the zoosporangium is accumulated, the nuclei collect towards outer side of the chloroplasts and the central vacuole disappears. The complete structure becomes rounded. Two flagella are formed opposite to each other.

4. This multinucleate and multiflagellated structure is known as compound zoospore or synzoospore.

5. On liberation, these synzoospores lose their flagella and germinate.

Aplanospores

1. Aplanospores are produced at the ends of the terminal branches known as aplanosporangia (Fig. 17).

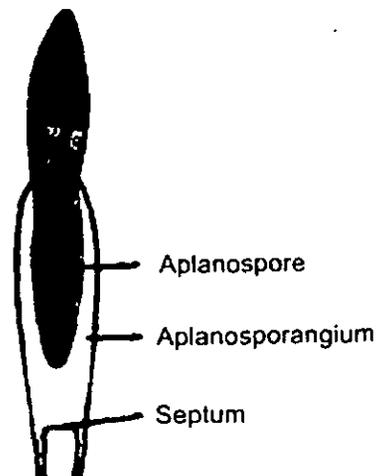


Fig. 17. *Vaucheria*. Aplanosporangium with an aplanospore.

2. Aplanospores are normally produced in the terrestrial species.
3. These are non-motile and thin-walled spores.
4. They may be rounded or elongated in shape.
5. A single aplanospore is formed in each aplanosporangium.

Gongrosira Stage*

1. *Hypnospores* are formed in the filament by its division into many compartments or chambers.
2. These are thick-walled spores.
3. A large amount of food material is present in these spores. Each of them germinates into new plant.
4. In some species hypnospores divide into many small structures known as *cysts* (Fig. 18).

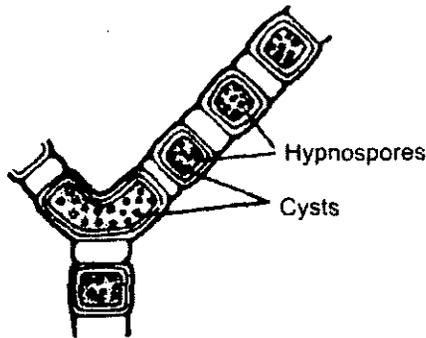


Fig. 18. *Vaucheria*. *Gongrosira*-stage.

5. At this stage, when hypnospores in the filament of *Vaucheria* have divided into cysts, the filament resembles to another algae *Gongrosira*, and so this stage has been termed as *Gongrosira* stage.
6. On liberation, these cysts germinate into new filaments.

Sexual Reproduction

1. It is of oogamous type.
2. Most of the species are monoecious but a few are dioecious.
3. In homothallic species, antheridia and oogonia develop side by side. More than one oogonia may also develop alongwith an antheridium (Fig. 19).

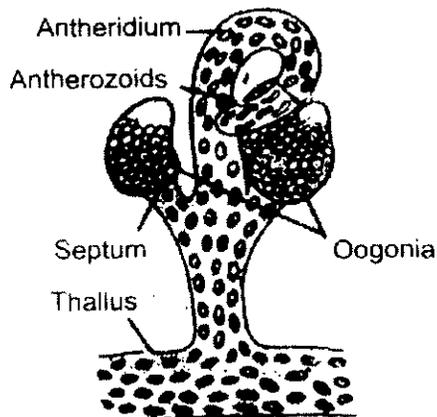


Fig. 19. *Vaucheria*. An antheridium with two oogonia.

Antheridium

1. It is aubular, straight or curved and hook-like structure (Fig. 20 AD).

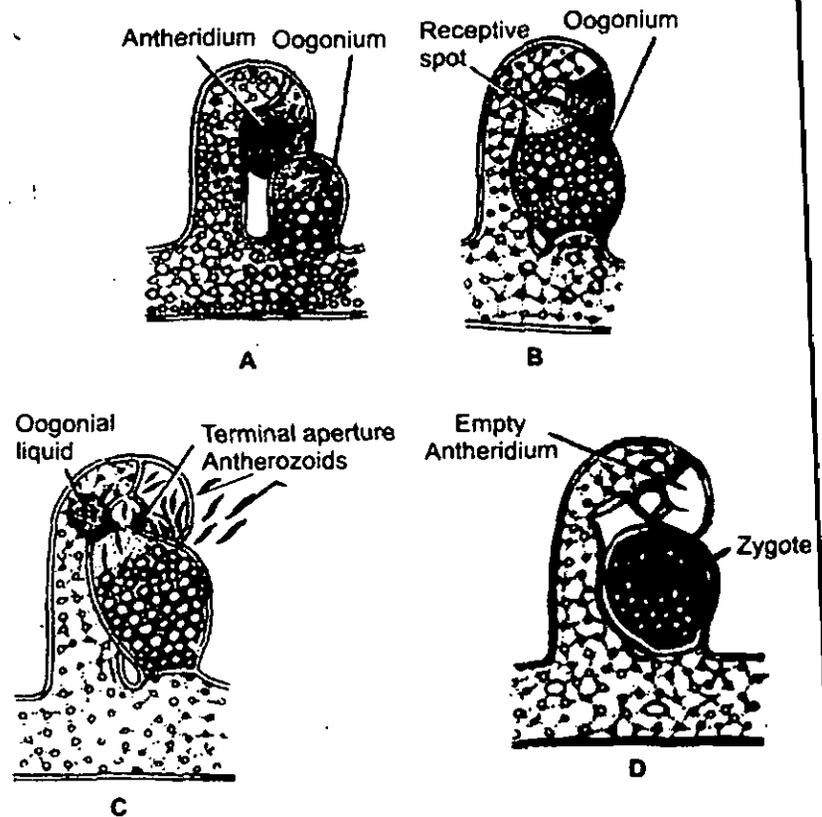


Fig. 20. Vaucheria. A, Young sex organs;
B-D, Mature sex organs.

2. It may be green or a colourless structure.
3. At maturity it is separated from rest of the thallus by a septum (Fig. 20 C).
4. Many nuclei and chloroplasts are present in the antheridium when young, but at maturity it is filled up with many antherozoids.
5. Uninucleate and biflagellate antherozoids are liberated through an opening formed at the tip of antheridium.

Oogonium

1. It is ovoid or spherical (Fig. 20 AD) and sessile structure.
2. It is a uninucleate body with many chloroplasts. Oil is the reserve food material.
3. At maturity it is also separated from rest of the portion of the thallus by septum.
4. All the contents of oogonium become rounded and form a single uninucleate egg.
5. Mature oogonium contains a short, rounded beak, through which it receives antherozoids.
6. On fertilization, zygote is formed. It is a multilayered structure.
7. Zygote germinates by forming many tubular branches.

Points of interest in the Genus Vavcheria

1. Coenocytic thallus.
2. Thallus contains a large central siphon-like vacuole.
3. Instead of starch, oil is the food material.
4. Synzoospores are found.

Identification :

- (a) (i) *Thallus simple.*
 (ii) *Cell wall consists of cellulose.*
 (iii) *Presence of chlorophyll.* **Algae**
- (b) (i) *Reserve food material is oil.*
 (ii) *Motile bodies contain unequal flagella.*
 (iii) *Chromatophores are yellowish-green.* **Xanthophyceae**
- (c) (i) *Coenocytic plant body.*
 (ii) *Central siphon-like vacuole present.* **Heterosiphonales**
- (d) (i) *Absence of pyrenoids.*
 (ii) *Absence of siphonein and siphonoxanthin.*
 (iii) *Tubular, irregularly branched thallus.*
 (iv) *Multiflagellate zoospores.* **Vaucheriaceae**
- (e) (i) *Coenocytic thallus.*
 (ii) *Thallus is irregularly branched.*
 (iii) *Sex organs are septate* **Vaucheria**

5. Fucus (Phykos-a sea weed)

Common Species : *Fucus serratus, F. vesiculosus, F. identatus.*

Systematic Position

Sub-division	:	Algae
Class	:	Phaeophyceae
Order	:	Fucales
Family	:	Fucaceae
Genus	:	<i>Fucus</i>

Common Occurrence : This marine alga is common in water of cold sea in intertidal zones. it is found attached to rocks.

What is to be done ?

To study (i) *External morphology of plant,* (ii) *Anatomy of frond,* (iii) *Male conceptacle,* and (iv) *Female conceptacle,* with the help of fresh or preserved material and permanent slides.

External Morphology :

It is branched, ribbon-like, leathery and dark brown thallus reaching up to 30 cm in length.

2. Plant body (Fig. 21) consists of a holdfast, stipe and frond.

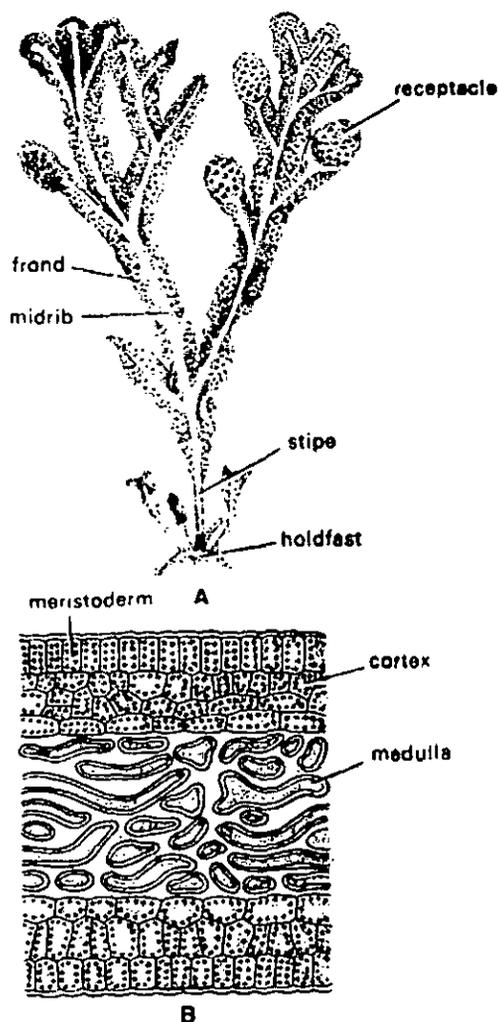


Fig. 21. *Fucus*. A, A mature plant; B, T.S. thallus.

3. *Holdfast* (Fig. 21 A) is a broad, disc-shaped structure, and functions as an organ of attachment.

4. From the holdfast arises a short stem-like stipe which continues as midrib in the upper portion.

5. Leafy and flattened portion above the stipe, which constitutes the main part of the thallus, is known as *frond* (Fig. 21 A).

6. Frond is dichotomously branched, leathery structure which is slippery in touch.

7. Frond is traversed by a clear midrib.

8. The margin of a frond may be smooth, serrate or entire.

9. Each branch of frond is bifurcated at the tip, and in the groove of this bifurcation is present an apical cell.

10. Many spherical, swollen and hollow structures are present in the upper part of the frond. These are known as air bladders.

11. Air bladders are filled with the air and help in oxygen supply and floatation to the plant.

12. Many cavities are present on the frond bearing sterile hairs. These are known as *cryptoblasts*, *cryptostomata* or *sterile conceptacles*.

13. At the time of reproduction, the ends of the branches become swollen and contain fertile conceptacles bearing sex organs. These are flask-shaped cavities which lack midrib. These swollen ends are termed as receptacles.

Anatomy of Frond

Cut T.S. of the frond by putting it in pith, stain in safranin, mount in glycerine and study:

1. The outermost layer is made up of closely-packed small rectangular cells which are meristematic in nature and represent *meristoderm* (Fig. 21 B).

2. Cells of the meristoderm are filled with chromatophores, and remain surrounded by a layer of cuticle.

3. Below the meristoderm is the cortex, which is made up of thin-walled, packed and comparatively large cells. Cells of the cortex are parenchymatous in nature and contain less number of chromatophores.

4. Cortex is sometimes differentiated into outer and inner cortex (Fig. 22D).

5. In the centre of frond is present the *medulla*. Cells of this region are long and filament like, and leave large mucilage-filled spaces. The function of medulla is conduction.

Sexual Reproduction

1. It is of oogamous type. Species are monoecious as well as dioecious.

2. Sex organs develop in the fertile conceptacles which are limited only in the region of receptacle.

Male Conceptacle

1. Conceptacles containing antheridia are known as male conceptacles and those with oogonia as female conceptacles. But in monoecious species, both the sex organs are borne in the same conceptacle (fig. 22 D).

2. *A mature conceptacle is a flask - shaped structure having a basal layer of fertile cells. It opens by an opening or ostiole. Many sterile hairs or paraphyses are present in a conceptacle. Paraphyses are multicellular and branched or unbranched.*

3. Male conceptacle bears many antheridia (Fig. 22A).

4. Antheridia are stalked structures and develop either on the fertile layer of conceptacle or at the base of paraphyses.

5. *A mature antheridium is surrounded by an outer exochite and an inner endochite. It bears many haploid antherozoids formed by the meiotic division of its diploid nucleus.*

6. Each antherozoid is a pear-shaped, uninucleate structure with two laterally attached unequal flagella.

Female Conceptacle

1. Female conceptacle is filled with many oogonia

2. Each oogonium is spherical and stalked structure.

3. Oogonium is surrounded by an outer exochite, middle mesochite and endochite layer.

4. Female conceptacle is a flask-shaped structure opening outside by an ostiole. Inside the cavity are present many unbranched, multicellular paraphyses.

5. Each oogonium contains eight eggs (Fig. 22 C).

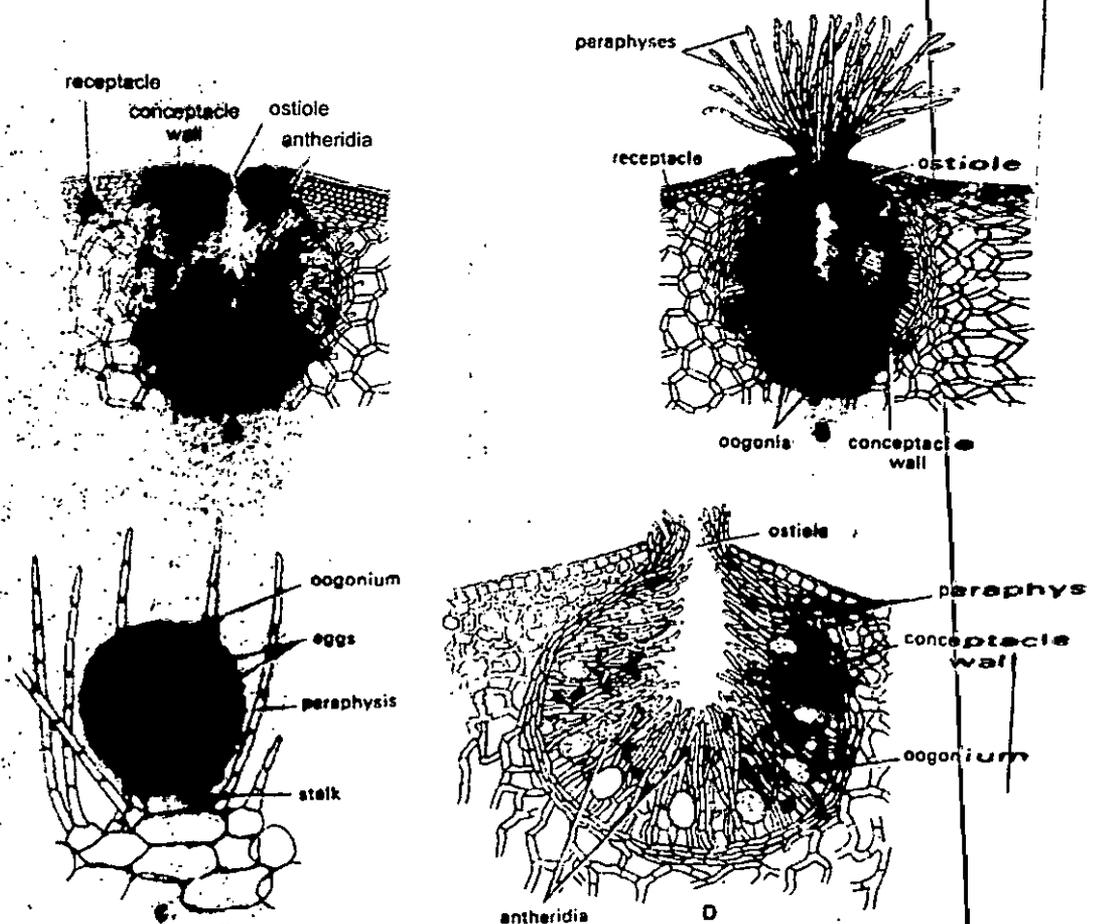


Fig. 22. Fucus. A, A male conceptacle; B, A female conceptacle; C, An oogonium bearing eight eggs; D, A monoecious conceptacle.

Identification

- (a) (i) Simple thallus.
 (ii) Cell wall is made up of cellulose.
 (iii) Presence of chlorophyll. *Algae*
- (b) (i) Brown-coloured chromatophores.
 (ii) Reserve food materials are mannitol and laminarin.
 (iii) Flagella unequal and laterally attached. *Phaeophyceae*
- (c) (i) Plant body parenchymatous.
 (ii) Antheridia and oogonia in conceptacles.
 (iii) Eggs are eight in number.
 (iv) Asexual reproduction absent. *Fucales*
- (d) (i) Plant body flat and ribbon-like.

(ii) Asexual reproduction is absent.

(iii) Oogonium with 8 eggs.

..... **Fucaceae**

(e) (i) Fronds are dichotomously branched.

(ii) A clear midrib is present.

..... **Fucus**

6. Polysiphonia (Poly = many; Siphonia = siphons)

Common Indian Species : *Polysiphonia platycarpa*, *P. variegata*, *P. sertularioides* and *P. unguiformis*.

Systematic Position

Sub-division	:	Algae
Class	:	Rhodophyceae
Sub-class	:	Florideae
Order	:	Ceramiales
Family	:	Rhodomelaceae
Genus	:	<i>Polysiphonia</i>

Common Occurrence : It occurs in the sublittoral as well as in tidal marshes, brackish estuaries and tidal pools.

Work to be done

To study (i) External features, (ii) T.S. of a branch, (iii) Spermatangia, (iv) Carpogonia, (v) Carposporophyte, and (vi) Tetrasporophyte, with the help of provided material and permanent slides.

External Morphology

1. **Plant** body is bush-like (Figs. 23, 24) and red or dark blue-coloured.

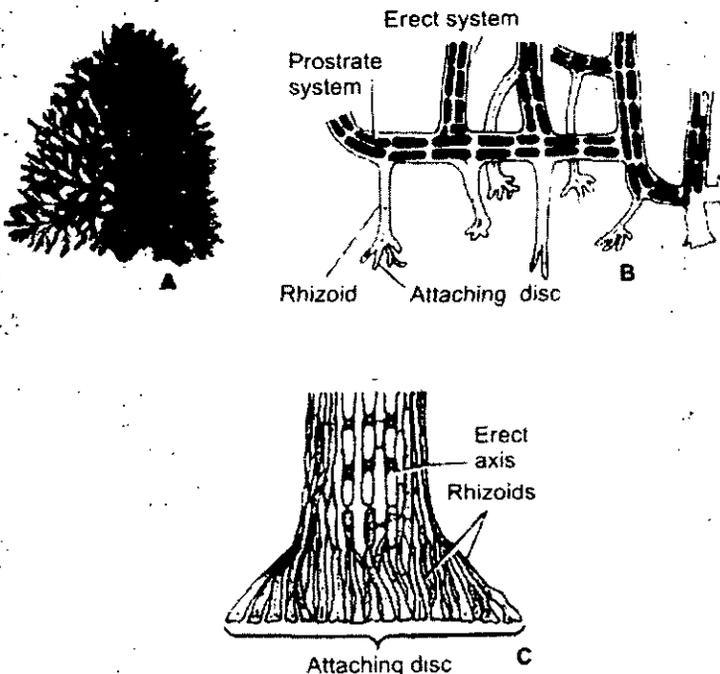


Fig. 23. *Polysiphonia*. A, Thallus showing habit; B, Part of a prostrate system bearing rhizoids, attachment discs and erect branches; C, Attachment system.

2. It is multiaxial in habit and few centimeters to several inches in length.

3. Prostrate part of the thallus is attached to the substratum with the help of many elongated and aseptate rhizoids. These rhizoids sometimes form an attachment disc (Fig. 24).

4. Upright filaments are laterally or dichotomously branched.

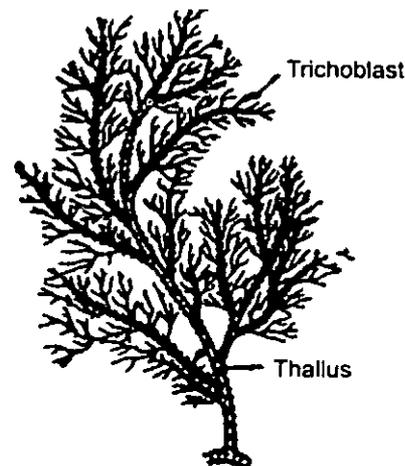


Fig. 24. Polysiphonia. External features.

5. Upright or erect system consists of a main axis having long and short branches.

6. Plant body is made up of many siphons.

7. Each long branch and main axis consists of a central siphon made up of many elongated cells arranged one upon the other.

8. Central siphon is surrounded by many (4 to 20) pericentral siphons (fig. 25).

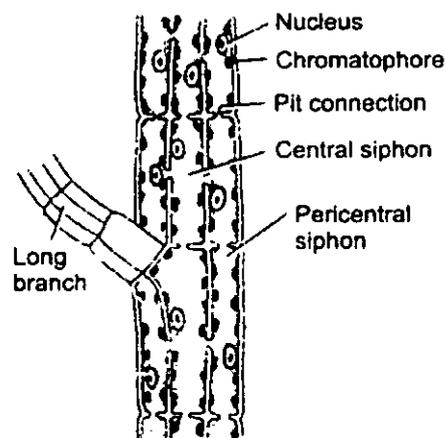


Fig. 25. Polysiphonia. V.S. main axis showing central and pericentral siphons and some details of cell structure.

9. Cells of the central and pericentral siphons are connected with each other by cytoplasmic connections of pit connections.

10. Short branches consist of cells arranged in a single row and so are unisiphonous. These are called trichoblasts.

11. Trichoblasts are present on main axis and long branches, and are dichotomously branched.

12. Each cell is uninucleate with many discoid chromatophores arranged peripherally in the cytoplasm. Cell wall is thick and each cell contains a large central vacuole. Cells lack pyrenoids (Fig. 26).

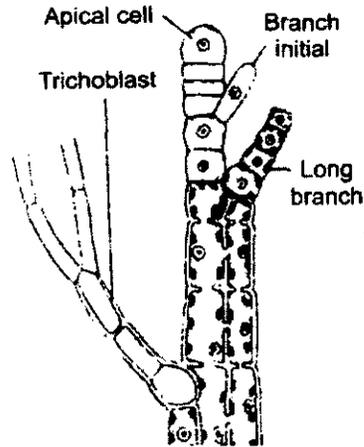


Fig. 26. *Polysiphonia*. Surface view of a growing apex.

T.S. of a Branch

1. In the centre is present the central siphon.
2. Central siphon is surrounded by many pericentral siphons (Fig. 27).

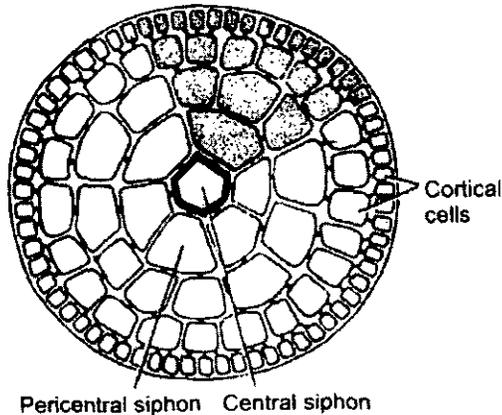


Fig. 27. *Polysiphonia* T.S. of a branch.

3. From the pericentral siphons arise many cortical cells.
4. All the cells are connected with each other by the cytoplasmic connections.

Reproduction

1. Following three kinds of plants complete the life-cycle :

(i) *Gametophyte* : Male and female plants. Both these plants are haploid and independent.

(ii) *Carposporophyte* : It is diploid and dependent on gametophyte.

(iii) *Tetrasporophyte* : It is diploid but independent and produces haploid tetraspores, which germinate into male and female gametophytes.

2. Sex organs are spermatangia and carpogonia.

Antheridia or Spermatangia

1. Branched, filamentous and red-coloured plant body bears many club-shaped clusters of antheridia or spermatangia.

2. A spermatangium is present on a branch of dichotomously branched trichoblast (Fig. 28).

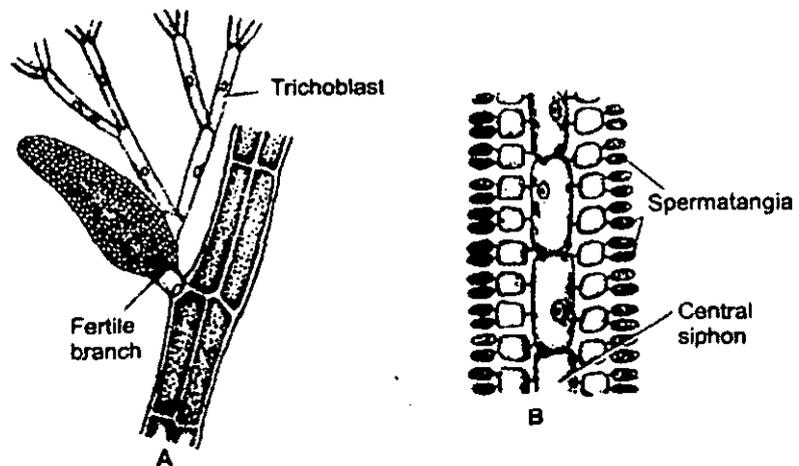


Fig. 28. Polysiphonia. A, Fertile spermatangial trichoblast; B, L.S. of an antheridial branch.

3. Unisiphonous male trichoblast bears many spermatangial cells, each of which forms many spermatangia.

4. In each spermatangium is present a single non-motile male gamete (spermatium).

Carpogonia :

1. Carpogonia are present on female trichoblast.

2. Each carpogonium develops on a supporting cell, present on carpogonial filament.

3. Terminal cell of the carpogonial filament contains a globular or swollen basal carpogonium with a long neck-like trichogyne (Fig. 29).

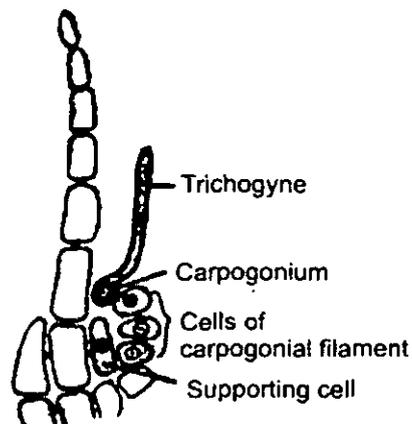


Fig. 29. Polysiphonia. A carpogonial filament bearing carpogonium and trichogyne.

Carpogonophyte or Cystocarp

1. Carposporophyte is an urn-shaped (Fig. 30) or spherical structure opening outside by a pore or ostiole.

2. It contains a placental cell or fusion cell at its base.

3. From the placental cell arise many filaments called *gonimoblast filaments*.

4. Tip or terminal cell of each gonimoblast filament bears a *carposporangium*.
5. Each carposporangium contains of diploid *carpospore* (Fig. 30).

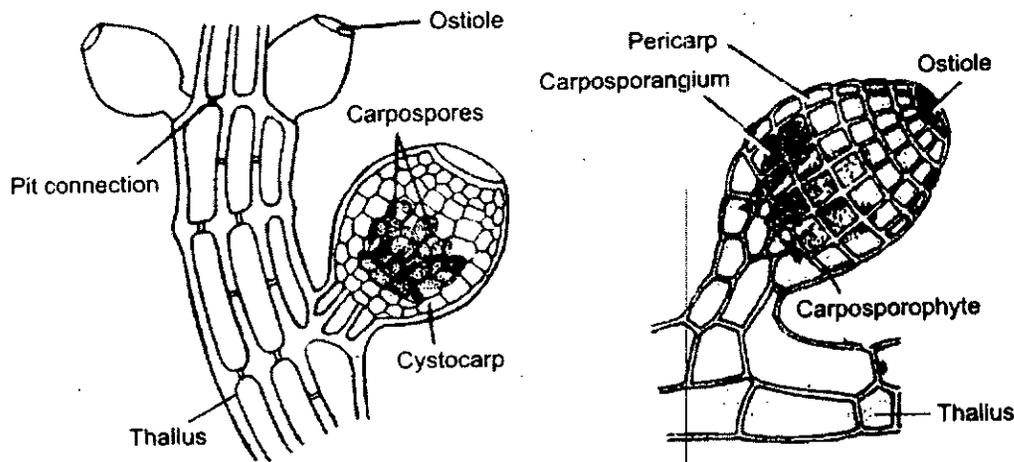


Fig. 30. Polysiphonia. Two thalli bearing cystocarps.

6. Wall of the carposporophyte is known as pericarp. It is made up of a single layer of cells.

Tetrasporophyte

1. Plant body is diploid and exactly similar in structure to that of gametophytic plant.
2. Many small, spherical and stalked sporangia are present. These are called tetrasporangia.
3. Each tetrasporangium contains four tetraspores arranged tetrahedrally (Fig. 31).

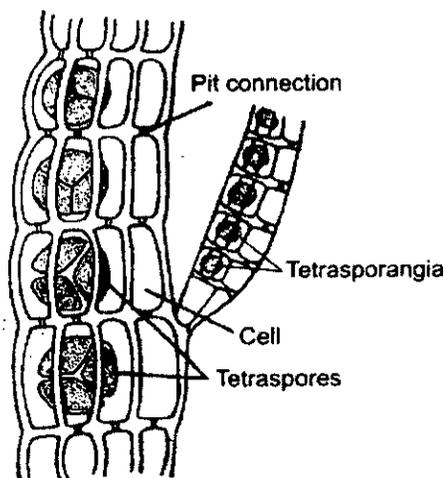


Fig. 31. Polysiphonia. Tetrasporophytic plant bearing tetrasporangia and tetraspores.

Identification :

- (a) (i) Simple thallus.
- (ii) Cell wall is made up of cellulose.
- (iii) presence of chlorophyll.
- (b) (i) Red-coloured chromatophores.

..... **Algae**

- (ii) Reserve food is floridean starch.
- (iii) Male gametes are non-motile.
- (iv) Spermatangia and carpogonia are present.
- (v) Presence of carposporophyte. **Rhodophyceae**
- (c) (i) Pseudoparenchymatous thalli.
- (ii) Presence of pit connections.
- (iii) Highly differentiated sex organs. **Florideae**
- (d) (i) Multiaxial in construction.
- (ii) Carpogonial branch four-celled.
- (iii) Trichoblasts present.
- (iv) Auxiliary cell present.
- (v) Triphasic or diplobiontic life-cycle. **Ceramiales**
- (e) (i) Uninucleate cells with many discoid chromatophores.
- (ii) Thallus polysiphonous.
- (iii) Pericentral cells present.
- (iv) Male trichoblast dichotomously branched.
- (v) Female trichoblast unbranched. **Rhodomelaceae**
- (f) (i) Many siphons are present.
- (ii) Tetransporangia borne single. **Polysiphonia**

FUNGI

• GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

1. Fungi (*L. fungus*, mushroom) are heterotrophic, chlorophyllous, eukaryotic and spore-bearing organism surrounded by a well-defined cell wall, chiefly made of *chitin* alongwith many other complex organic substances. Study of fungi is also called *mycology* (Gr. *mykes*, mushroom; *logos*, discourse).

2. Fungi are represented by about 5100 genera and over 100,000 recognized species. They comprise molds, mildews, yeasts, smuts, rusts, mushrooms, puffballs, morels, etc.

3. Fungi reproduce by several types of spores. The spore germinates by producing one or more germ tubes. The germ tube elongates to form fine, branched filaments called *hyphae*. A mass of more or less loosely interwoven hyphae constituting the vegetative body of majority of fungi is called *mycelium*.

4. The mycelium may be intercellular (growing in between the host cells) or intracellular (penetrating into the host cells).

5. If the vegetative mycelium is absent the fungus is called *holocarpic* (e.g., *Synchytrium*), but if vegetative mycelium is present, it is called *eucarpic* (as in majority of fungi).

6. From the mycelium develop some special knob-like modifications called *haustoria*, through which it seeks nutrition from the host.

7. Fungi, being heterotrophic, exist either as parasites or as saprophytes. *Parasitic fungi* take all their nutrients from the tissues of another organisms whereas *saprophytic fungi* obtain all their nutrients from dead organic matters.

8. Asexual reproduction takes place by several kinds of *spores*, e.g., *conidia*, *zoospores*, *chlamydospores*, *basidiospores* and *aplanospores*.

9. Sexual reproduction is highly reduced and is totally absent in members of Deuteromycotina. After fertilization, the characteristic fruiting bodies (*ascocarp* in Ascomycotina and *basidiocarp* in Basidiomycotina) develops.

PRACTICAL No. 3

• ASEXUAL STAGES OF SOME FUNGI

1. *Alternaria*

Common Name : Early-blight.

Systematic Position :

Kingdom	:	Mycota
Division	:	Eumycota
Sub-division	:	Deuteromycotina
Class	:	Hyphomycetes
Order	:	Moniliales
Family	:	Dematiaceae
Genus	:	<i>Alternaria</i>

Occurrence : In nature, the fungus occurs most commonly as saprophyte several species are parasitic on plants. Most common species is *Alternaria solani* causing early-blight of potato (*Solanum tuberosum*). Other hosts are chillies, Brassica, wheat, *Rumex*, etc. It is the most common laboratory contaminant of cultures.

Work to be done : To study the (i) Symptoms of the disease "early-blight of potato" (ii) Vegetative structures, and (iii) Conidia of the fungus.

Symptoms of "Early Blight of Potato"

1. Small, yellowish-brown spots appear on the leaves of potato when the plants are three to four weeks old.

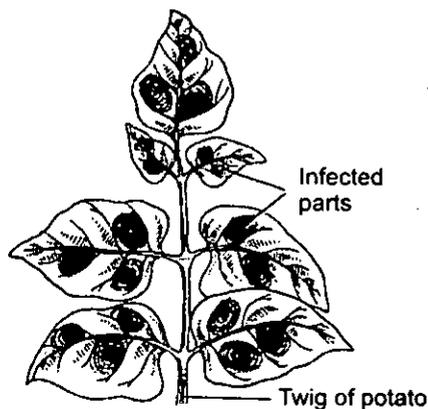


Fig. 1. *Alternaria solani* causing early blight disease of potato (*Solanum tuberosum*).

2. Spots enlarge in size and become rounded to form concentric rings (Fig. 1). Color of the infected part, later on, changes to black.

3. At the time of severe infection, complete lamina of leaf turns black, and spots are observed on petiole, stem and even on tubers.

4. Inner edible part of infected tuber turns brown.

Fungal Morphology : Cut thin transverse sections of the host through the infected portion, stain in cotton blue, mount in lactophenol and study :

Vegetative Structures :

1. Mycelium of the fungus is intercellular or intracellular.

2. Light-brown coloured hyphae are well-branched, septate, and each cell multinucleate (Fig. 2).

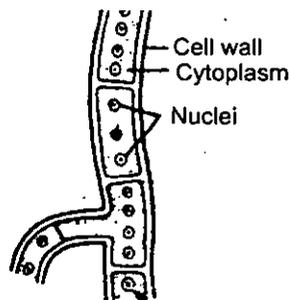


Fig. 2. *Alternaria*. A part of mycelium.

3. Haustoria are absent.

Conidia : Fungus reproduces only by asexual reproductive bodies called conidia which show following characters :

1. These are present terminally on conidiophores (Fig. 3).

2. Each conidiophore is a multicellular, short or elongated, dark-coloured structure.
3. Each cell of the conidiophore is multinucleate.
4. Each conidium is multicellular, obovoid, elliptical or spindle-shaped structure.

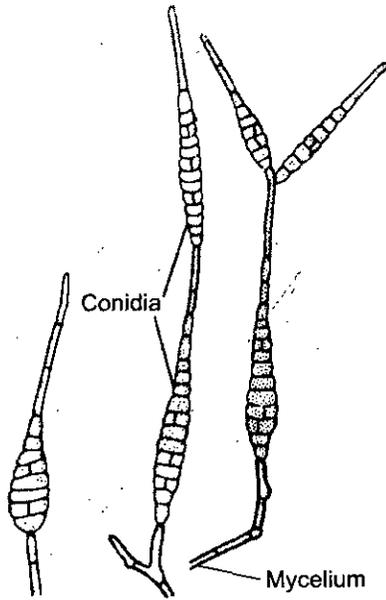


Fig. 3. *Alternaria*. Hyphae bearing conidia

5. Some 5-15 transverse and longitudinal septa are present in each conidium.
6. The colour of the conidia is yellowish brown or dark brown.
7. Conidia may also be present in chain, as in *Alternaria tenuis*.
8. In moist conditions, conidia germinate (Fig. 4) with the help of 5 to 10 germ tubes.

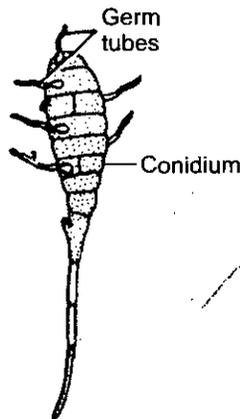


Fig. 4. *Alternaria*. A germinating conidium.

Identification

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| (a) (i) Chlorophyll absent. | |
| (ii) Glycogen is reserve food. | |
| (iii) Cell wall of fungal cellulose. | Mycota |
| (b) (i) Plasmodium absent. | |
| (ii) True mycelium present... | Eumycota |
| (c) (i) Zygosporos, zoosporos and basidiosporos absent. | |
| (ii) Reproduction only by asexual means. | Deuteromycotina |

- (d) (i) Pycnidia or acervuli absent.Hyphomy
 (e) (i) Conidia develop at the tip of conidiophores.Monili
 (ii) Conidia of varying shape.Dematiac
 (f) (i) Mycelium and conidia dark coloured.Dematiac
 (ii) Absence of fruiting body.Dematiac
 (g) (i) Conidia are transversely as well as longitudinally septate.Dematiac
 (ii) Conidiophores are erect bodies.Alternaria

2. Rhizopus

Common Name : 'Bread mold'.

Systematic Position

Kingdom	:	Mycota
Division	:	Eumycota
Sub-division	:	Zygomycotina
Class	:	Zygomycetes
Order	:	Mucorales
Family	:	Mucoraceae
Genus	:	<i>Rhizopus</i>

Occurrence : Majority of the species are saprobes growing on dead and decaying plant or animal matter. It occurs very commonly on rotten or stale bread and is called bread-mold. It causes the common fruit-rot disease of many fruits like *Artocarpus*, *Pyrus*, *malus*, etc.

Work to be done : To (i) Culture *Rhizopus* in laboratory, and to study (ii) Vegetative structures, (iii) Asexual reproductive structures and (iv) Sexual reproductive structures of the fungus.

To Culture *Rhizopus* in Laboratory : It can be cultured easily by placing a moistened piece of bread in a petridish (Fig. 1) for a few days at room temperature. *Rhizopus* first appears as small white patches, which later increase in size and cover the complete bread as a white tuft.

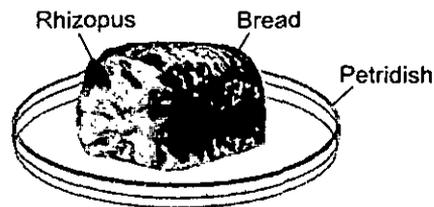


Fig. 1. *Rhizopus* culture on moistened bread.

Fungal Morphology : Pick up a small part of the hyphae growing on moistened bread, stain in cotton blue, mount in lactophenol and study :

Vegetative Structures :

1. Mycelium consists of many branched, white, filamentous and tubular hyphae giving a cottony appearance.
2. Mycelium is aseptate and multinucleate.
3. Hyphae are surrounded by a wall made up of chitin. It encloses the cytoplasm.

4. Cytoplasm is granular and multinucleate, and contains oil and glycogen as reserve food material.

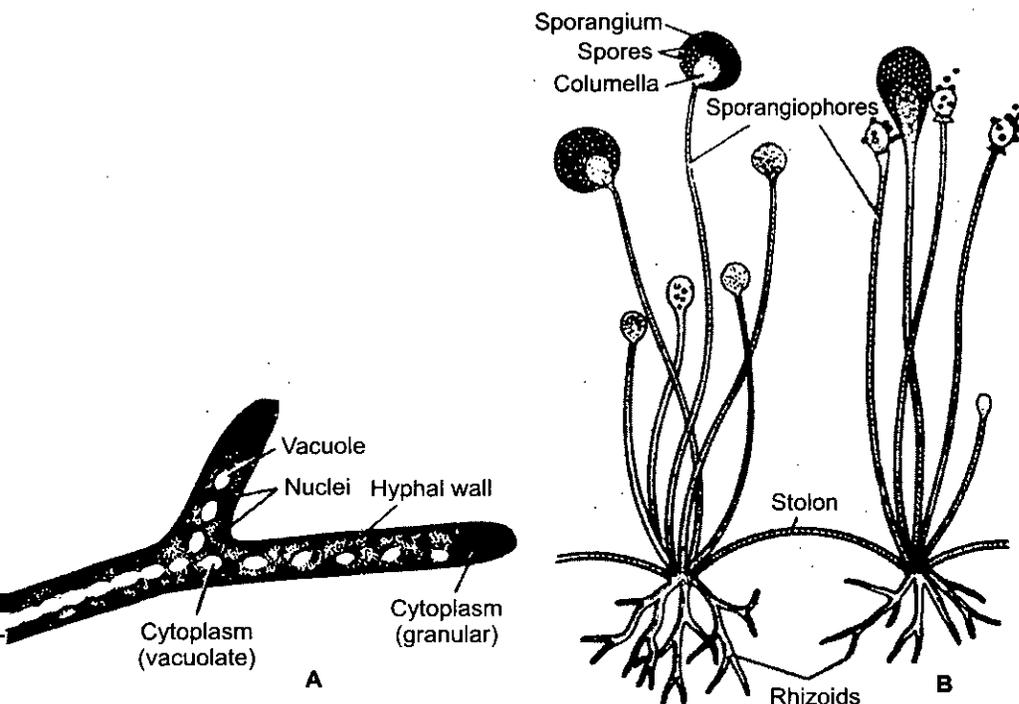


Fig. 2. *Rhizopus*. A, A part of mycelium; B, Mycelium with sporangia and sporangiophores.

5. Mature mycelium contains following three kinds of hyphae (Fig. 2) :

(a) **Stolons** : These are aerial, unbranched hyphae usually running horizontally over the surface of the substratum. Stolon is divisible into nodes and internodes.

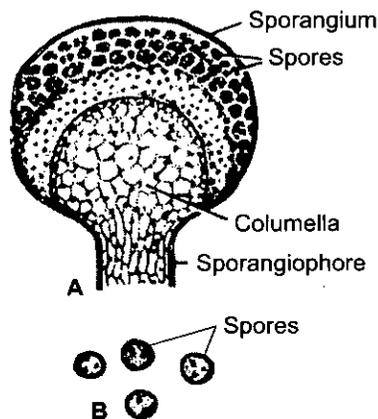


Fig. 3. *Rhizopus*. A, A mature sporangium, B, Spores.

(b) **Rhizoids or Holdfast** : From the node of stolon many branched rhizoid-like hyphae arise towards lower side. These are called holdfast or rhizoids. These absorb water and food.

(c) **Sporangiophores** : From the node of stolon many erect sporangia-bearing hyphae arise towards upper side. These are called sporangiophores.

Asexual Reproductive Structures

1. Asexual reproduction takes place by spores formed in the sporangium.
2. A single sporangium develops at the tip of long, erect sporangiophore.

3. A dome-shaped columella (Fig. 3 A) is present in each sporangium. The pro of columella is in continuation with that of sporangiophore.

4. The space between columella and wall of sporangium is known as spore remains filled with sporangiospores or aplanospores.

5. Each sporangiospore is ovoid, non-motile, unicellular and multinu structure. There is no flagella on the spores.

6. Spores come out on dehiscence of sporangium and germinate immediat forming new mycelium.

7. Another means of asexual reproduction is the formation of *chlamydo*spores: **Sexual Reproductive Structures**

1. It takes place by the fusion of multinucleate gametangia. Species are dioeci heterothallic.

2. Two fusing gametangia (male and female, or + and -) are morphologic ally s: but physiologically different.

3. Developing gametangia are known as *progametangia*. These are filled cytoplasm and nuclei in their swollen tip.

4. At the time of their fusion each gametangium is separated from the 'suspe with the help of a septum.

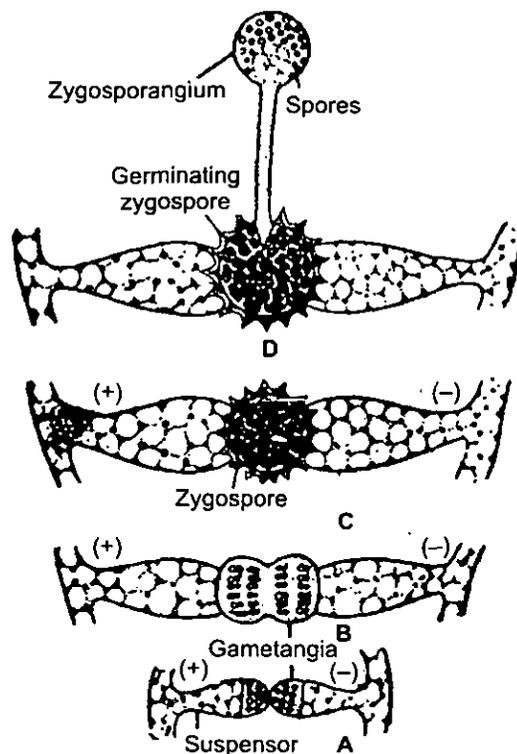


Fig. 4. *Rhizopus*. Stages of sexual reproduction.

5. The multinucleate protoplasm of each gametangium is known as coenogam (Fig. 4).

6. Fusion of two gametangia takes place. The nuclei of + gametangium fuse v those of -, and thus many diploid nuclei are formed. Around this fusion produc thick, spiny wall develops, and now it is called *zygospore*.

7. Zygospore germinates meiotically by producing a long sporangiophore bearin sporangium at the tip (Fig. 4D).

Identification

- (a) (i) Chlorophyll absent.
 (ii) Glycogen is the reserve food.
 (iii) Cell wall of fungal cellulose.**Mycota**
- (b) (i) Plasmodium absent.
 (ii) True mycelium present.**Eumycota**
- (c) (i) Zoospores absent.
 (ii) Perfect-state spores are zygospores.**Zygomycotina**
- (d) (i) Mostly saprobic.**Zygomycetes**
- (e) (i) Presence of stolon.
 (ii) Presence of rhizoids or holdfast.**Rhizopus**

Penicillium**(penicilli = small brush)****Common Name :** Blue-mold**Systematic Position**

Kingdom	:	Mycota
Division	:	Eumycota
Sub-division	:	Ascomycotina
Class	:	Plectomycetes
Order	:	Eurotiales (Aspergillales)
Family	:	Aspergillaceae
Genus	:	<i>Penicillium</i>

Occurrence : Common blue or green-mold occurs saprophytically on decaying organic substances like lemons, oranges and other fruits and vegetables.

What is to be done?

(i) To culture *Penicillium* in laboratory, and to study (ii) Vegetative structures, (iii) Asexual reproductive structures, and (iv) Fruiting body of the fungus.

Laboratory Culture : If a moist Citrus fruit or cheese piece is placed in damp warm place covered with a hollow large basin or cup, some bluish-green patches of *Penicillium* appear within a few days.

Fungal Morphology

Pick up a few hyphae, stain in cotton blue, mount in lactophenol and study.

Vegetative Structures

1. Mycellium consists of many branched, septate and hyaline hyphae (Fig. 1).
2. Some of the hyphae enter into the substratum and absorb the food material while others remain on the surface and produce the sex organs.
3. Each cell is generally uninucleate but sometimes more than one nuclei are also seen.
4. In the cytoplasm are present many oil globules in the form of reserve food.
5. Sometimes, many hyphae combine and form a solid structure called *sclerotium*.

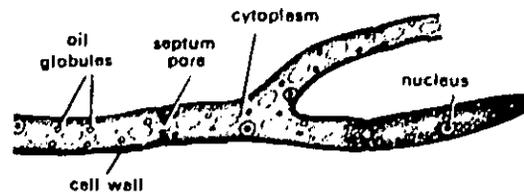


Fig. 1. Penicillium, a part of mycelium

Asexual Reproductive Structures

1. Asexual reproduction takes place by conidia.
2. Conidia develop on branched, septate and multinucleate conidiophores.
3. A conidiophore is an erect body developed from any cell of the mycelium.
4. Brush-like apical portion of the conidiophore is known as penicillus, which bears many bottle-shaped *phialides* (Fig. 2). Sometimes, it bears primary, secondary, tertiary branches, and the ultimate branches are called *metulae*, which bear sterigmata of phialides.

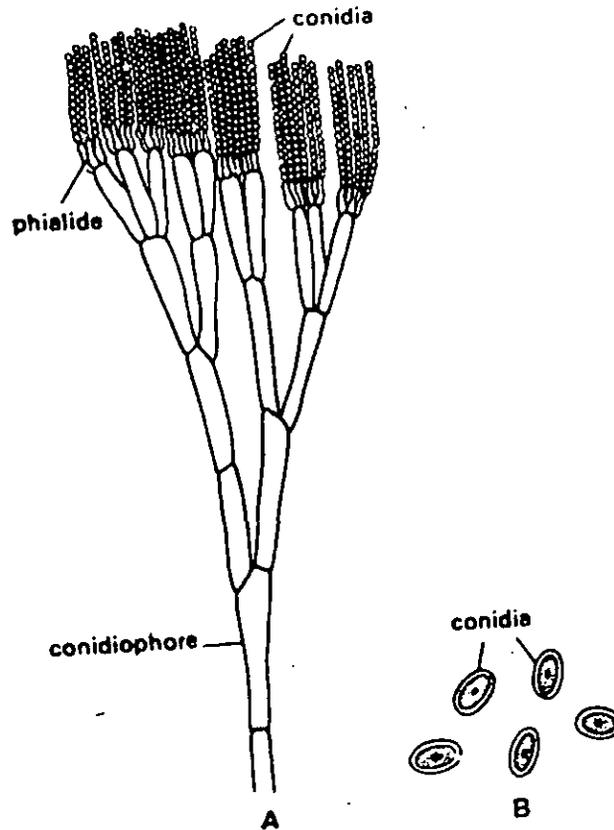


Fig. 2. Penicillium. A, A conidiophore with conidia, B, Some conidia.

5. Sterigmata are uninucleate structures, and bear conidia, arranged basipetalous chains.
6. Each conidium is a small, ovoid or globose, uninucleate but sometimes multinucleate, bluish-green or pale coloured structure with a smooth or sometimes rough wall.
7. Conidia are dispersed by the wind, and on getting the suitable conditions they germinate into a new mycelium.

Fruiting Body

- Sexual reproduction takes place by ascospores formed in ascus (Fig. 3).
- Fruiting body is of cleistothecial type.
- In each cleistothecium are present many asci.

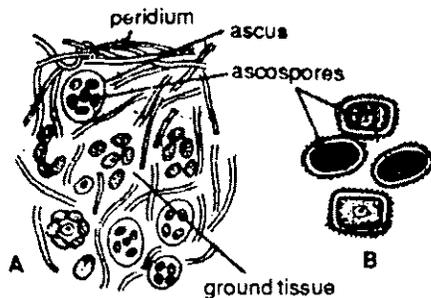


Fig. 3. Penicillium. A, A part of fruiting body, B, A few ascospores.

- Each ascus contains eight ascospores.
- Each ascospore germinates and form new mycelium.

Agaricus

Common Name : 'Mushroom'.

Systematic Position

Kingdom	:	Mycota
Division	:	Eumycota
Sub-division	:	Basidiomycotina
Class	:	Hymenomycetes
Order	:	Agaricales
Family	:	Agaricaceae
Genus	:	<i>Agaricus</i>

Occurrence : It is a saprophytic, edible fungus occurring commonly in rainy season on humus soil, rotten woods, tree trunks and other organic substances. The most common species is *Agaricus campestris*.

Work to be done : To study (i) Vegetative structures, (ii) Buttons stage, (iii) Mature fruiting body, (iv) T.S. through gills of the fungus.

Fungal Morphology

Stain mycelium and various stages of button stage and gills with cotton blue, mount on lactophenol and study:

The body of the mature fungus is differentiated into

- Somatic parts, made of vegetative mycelium and
- Reproductive parts or fructification or sporophore.

Vegetative Structures

- Vegetative mycelium grows within the soil.
- The primary mycelium is septate, haploid, short-lived, and each cell contains oil globules, vacuoles and one nucleus.
- The secondary mycelium is dikaryotic and long-lived.
- The hyphae of the secondary mycelium are long, branched and remain twisted to form a thick hyphal cord, called the mushroom's body or *basidiocarp*.

Button Stage and its Longitudinal Section

1. The fruiting-bodies arise as small, white, globular, apical swellings (Fig. 1) — branches of the subterranean mycelial strands.
2. These small tiny knots represent the common "Button-Stage" of the fungus

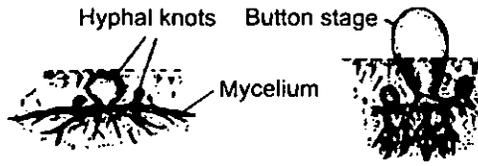


Fig. 1. Agaricus. Some stages of the formation of young fruiting bodies.

3. The dome-shaped upper portion is known as pileus (Fig.2).

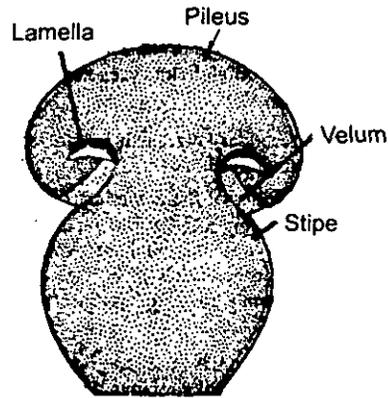


Fig. 2. Agaricus. L.S. button stage

4. The lower hyphae constitute the stalk or stipe.
5. The margins of the pileus are connected with the stipe with the membrane called inner veil or velum.
6. There is present a constriction between stipe and pileus.
7. Two gill-chamber cavities are present, one on either side of the pileus.
8. From the roof of these cavities arise many gills or lamellae.
9. Button stage is a developmental stage of the fruiting body of *Agaricus*.

Mature Fruiting Body

1. The basal underground mycelial portion is known as rhizomorph, from which develops the basidiocarp or fruiting body (Fig. 3).
2. The basidiocarp is differentiated into a long stalk-like stipe and an upper cap-like pileus (Fig. 3).

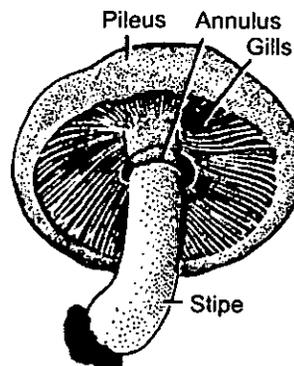


Fig. 3. Agaricus. A mature fruiting body (basidiocarp).

3. The stipe is fleshy, and made up of pseudoparenchymatous mass of hyphae. It gives support to the pileus.

4. Pileus is an umbrella-shaped structure, the underside of which is lined by many gills.

5. On the stipe is present a membranous ring of velum or annulus, which, in the early stages, remains in contact with the pileus.

T.S. Through Gills

1. Three types of gills are present, which vary only in their size. These are known as long gills, half-length gills and quarter-length gills (Fig. 4B).

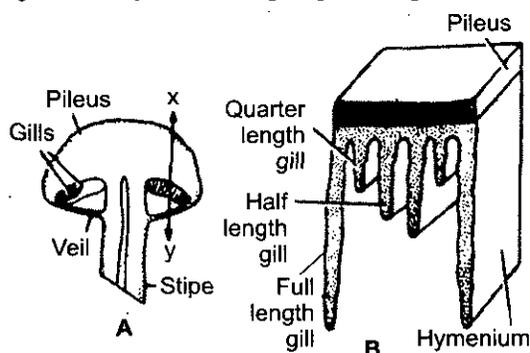


Fig. 4. Agaricus. A, V.S. of basidiocarp, B, V.S. of pileus along the axis 'x' - 'y' in 'A'.

2. In each gill, three different layers are present, i.e., trama, sub-hymenium and hymenium (Fig. 5).

3. The *trama* consists of many anastomosing, interwoven sterile hyphae. It is central in position.

4. The hyphae of trama region develop into a compact hypodermal layer on its either side. This is known as *sub-hymenium*.

5. The hyphae of the sub-hymenial layer terminate into the superficial layer of the gills called hymenium.

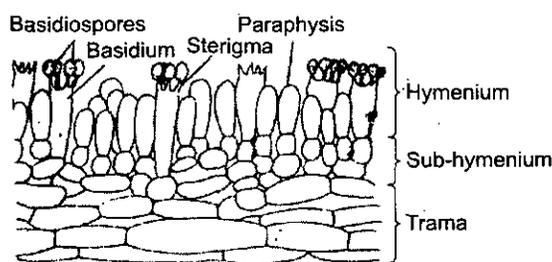


Fig. 5. Agaricus. T.S. gill (a part).

6. The *hymenium* (Fig. 5, 6) consists of many club-shaped cells of two types, of which some are fertile cells and called *basidia*, and others, are sterile cells and called *paraphyses*.

7. From each basidium develop four basidiospores.

8. Basidiospores remains attached with the basidium with the help of *sterigmata* (sing. *sterigma*).

9. Each basidiospore is a purple coloured, oval and uninucleate structure.

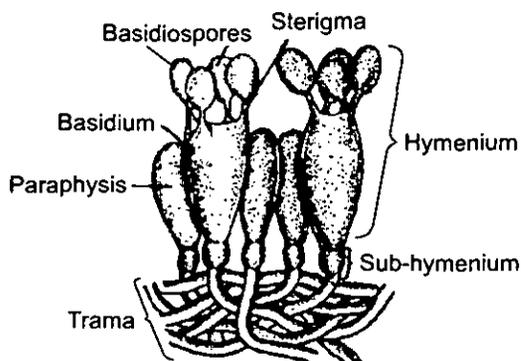


Fig. 6. *Agaricus*. A few basidia and paraphyses.

Identification

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| (a) (i) Chlorophyll absent. | |
| (ii) Glycogen is reserve food. | |
| (iii) Cell wall of fungal cellulose. | <i>Mycota</i> |
| (b) (i) Plasmodium absent. | |
| (ii) True mycelium present. | <i>Eumycota</i> |
| (c) (i) Zoospores and zygospores absent. | |
| (ii) Basidiospores present. | <i>Basidiomycotina</i> |
| (d) (i) Mostly saprophytic. | |
| (ii) Basidiocarp present. | |
| (iii) Basidiospores ballistospores. | <i>Hymenomyces</i> |
| (e) (i) Fructification is present above the ground. | |
| (ii) Hymenium consists of basidia and paraphyses. | <i>Agaricales</i> |
| (f) (i) Edible, fleshy fungus. | |
| (ii) Fruiting body is differentiated into a stipe and pileus. | |
| (iii) Undersurface of pileus contains gills. | <i>Agaricaceae</i> |
| (g) (i) Presence of annulus. | |
| (ii) Gills are of three different sizes. | <i>Agaricus</i> |

PRACTICAL NO. 4

Puccinia

Common Name : Rust

Systematic Position

Kingdom	:	Mycota
Division	:	Eumycota
Sub-division	:	Basidiomycotina
Class	:	Teliomycetes
Order	:	Uredinales
Family	:	Pucciniaceae
Genus	:	<i>Puccinia</i>

Occurrence : It occurs as an obligate parasite on many cereals, millets and other important crops, and causes the rust disease. Important hosts are wheat, oat, jwar, bajra, maize, *Asparagus*, *Malva*, *Berberis*, *Thalictrum*, *Antirrhinum*, etc.

Heteroecious and Autoecious Rusts

Some species of *Puccinia* complete their life-cycle on two different hosts, and are called heteroecious, e.g., *P. graminis*. It completes some stages of its life-cycle on wheat (*primary host*) and the remaining stages on *Berberis vulgaris* (*secondary host*). *Puccinia butleri* is an example of *autoecious rust* because it completes all the stages of its life cycle on one and the same host, i.e., *Launea*.

Macrocytic and Microcytic Rusts

In the life-cycle of rusts, following stages are generally observed, i.e., pycnidiospores, aeciospores, uredospores, teleutospores and basidiospores. If all these five stages are present in the life-cycle of a rust, it is known as *macrocytic rust*, *long-cyclic rust* or *euform rust*. But in some rusts uredospores and aeciospores (or aeciospores) are not present. These are called *microcytic* or *short-cyclic rusts*.

Black, Yellow and Brown Rusts

Wheat (*Triticum vulgare* Vern. Gehun, Fam. Poaceae) is commonly attacked by three species of *Puccinia*, i.e., *P. graminis*, *P. recondita* and *P. striiformis* which cause black rust, brown rust and yellow rust, respectively.

Work to be done

(i) To study general symptoms of *Puccinia graminis tritici* on wheat and berberis plant, (ii) Vegetative structure of the fungus, (iii) T.S. uredosorus, (iv) Teleutosorus, (v) Pycnidial cup, (vi) Aecial cup, (vii) *Puccinia butleri* on *Launea*, and (viii) Symptoms of rust on *Berberis* plant.

Symptoms of *Puccinia graminis tritici*

(a) On Wheat

1. Large, elongated and brown pustules appear on the stem, leaf sheath and leaf. These are the pustules of uredosori.
2. Brown pustules change into black-coloured large pustules. These are due to teleutosori (Fig. 1B).
3. These pustules, on the infected region, give rusty appearance.

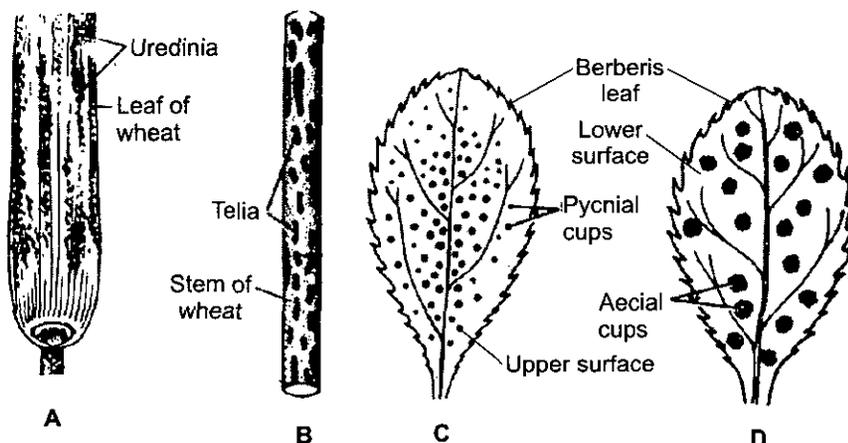


Fig. 1. Infection of *Puccinia graminis*. A, On leaf of wheat showing uredosori; B, Teleutopustules on stem of wheat; C, Pycnidial cups on upper surface of berberis leaf; D, Aecial cups on lower surface of Berberis leaf

4. Grains of the infected plants are shrivelled and thus reduce the yield.

(b) On *Berberis vulgaris*

5. Infection first starts on the dorsal surface of the leaf, and pycnidial cups are formed which appear as yellow spots (Fig. 1C).

6. Ventral surface of the leaves is affected at the time of the formation of aecial cups (Fig. 1D).

Fungal Morphology

It is a macrocyclic, heteroecious fungus, of which first two stages, i.e., uredo and teleutospores develop on wheat (*primary host*), and last two stages i.e., pycnidiospores and aecidiospores on *Berberis* or *Thalictrum* (*secondary host*). Teleutospores, after germination, produce basidiospores which infect the secondary host.

Vegetative Structures

1. The mycelium is dikaryotic in wheat while monokaryotic in *Berberis*.
2. The mycelium is well-branched, septate and intercellular.
3. The wall of hyphae consists of fungal cellulose.
4. Each cell contains either one or two nuclei and many oil globules and glycogen bodies in the form of the reserve food.
5. Sometimes, branched or knob-like haustoria are also developed.

Reproductive Parts

For uredo-, teleuto- and basidiospore stages, cut the transverse sections of the infected leaf of wheat, stain them in cotton blue, mount in lactophenol and study under microscope :

T.S. Uredopustule or Uredosorus

1. The mycelium is intercellular, branched, septate, and each cell contains two nuclei.
2. The mycelium aggregates below the epidermis at certain places and produces many stalked, unicellular spores called uredospores (Fig. 2).

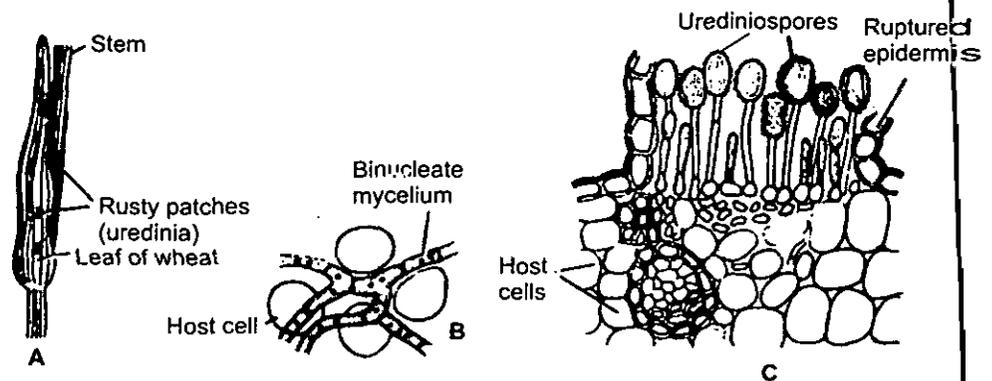


Fig. 2. *Puccinia graminis*. A, Infected wheat leaf, B, Mycelium in between wheat cells, C, T.S. of host leaf through a uredosorus.

3. Due to the pressure of uredospores, the epidermis is ruptured (Fig.2)
4. Each uredospore is a stalked structure and bears swollen rounded or oblong body.
5. Each uredospore contains two nuclei, and remains surrounded by a thick warty or spiny wall called exine and an inner smooth wall called intine (Fig. 3).

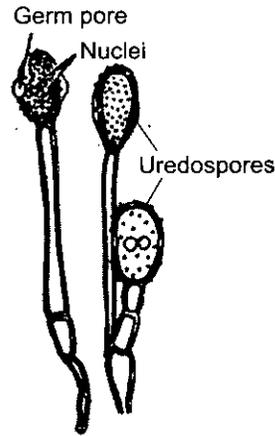


Fig. 3. *Puccinia graminis*. A few uredospores.

6. Thick outer wall contains 5 to 6 thin areas called germ pores.
7. Many uredospores are present in a group called uredosorus, and they all provide rusty appearance.
8. Uredospores can reinfest fresh plants of wheat by producing new mycelium.
9. The tip of the germ tube, formed by the spore, swells up to form an appressorium.

T.S. Teleutopustule or Teleutosorus

1. In teleutopustules many teleutosori are present, each containing many teleutospores. Teleutosori appear black on the host.
2. The mycelium is intercellular, branched, septate, and each cell contains two nuclei.
3. The mycelium aggregates below the epidermis, and produces many stalked, bicelled *teleutospores* (Fig. 4).

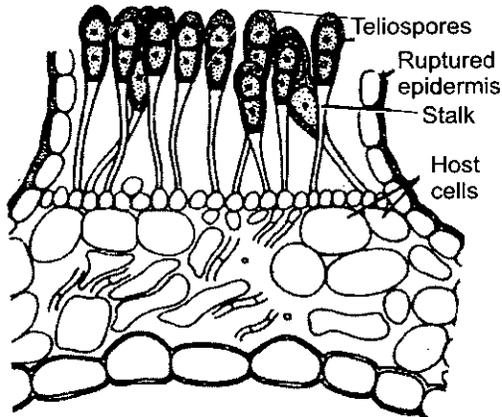


Fig. 4. *Puccinia graminis*. T.S. leaf through a teleutosorus.

4. Teleutospores develop from the uredia in the uredospores, in the late growing season.
5. Each teleutospore contains a long stalk and a spindle-shaped bicelled structure.
6. The wall of the bicelled spore consists of smooth, black and very thick exine and a thin intine (Fig. 5).
7. Each cell contains a single germ pore.
8. In the young stages each cell contains two nuclei, which fuse at maturity and form a diploid nucleus or synkaryon.

9. The teleutospores cannot reinfect the wheat plant.

10. Each teleutospore germinates and produces the basidiospores.

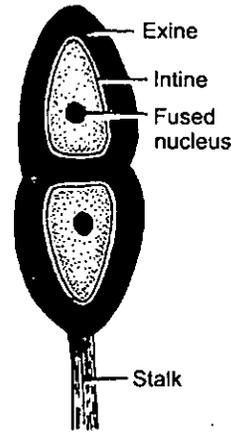


Fig. 5. *Puccinia graminis*. A single teleutospore.

Basidial Stage

1. Each cell of the teleutospore germinates and produces an epibasidium promycelium (Fig. 6).

2. The epibasidium is a four-celled structure, each cell of which is uninucleate. The nuclei in these cells are the product of the meiotic division of the diploid nucleus of each cell of teleutospore.

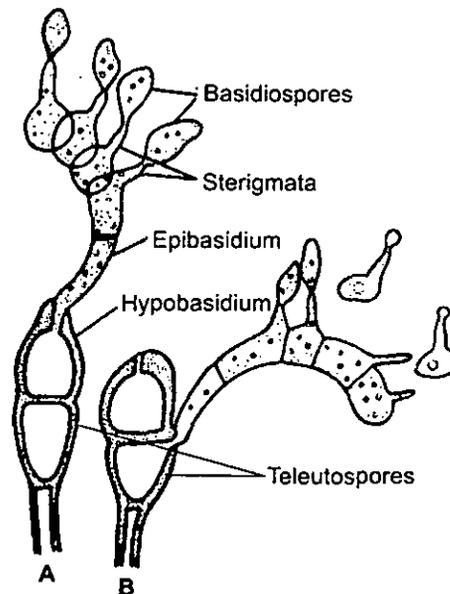


Fig. 6. *Puccinia*. Two germinating teleutospores

3. Each cell produces a tube-like sterigma, the free tip of which swells and produces a basidiospore (Fig. 6).

4. Each basidiospore is a haploid, uninucleate, unicellular and small structure.

5. Basidiospores are taken away to the hills by the wind where they infect the alternate host, i.e., *Berberis* or *Thalictrum*.

T.S. Pycnidial Cup

Cut the transverse section through the infected portion of *Berberis* leaf, stain in cotton blue, mount in lactophenol and observe pycnidial cups on the upper surface.

1. The mycelium is monokaryotic.
2. Below the upper epidermis the mycelium collects and forms a flask-shaped cavity called the *pycnidial cup*, *pycnidium* or *spermogonium*.
3. Pycnidium opens outside with an opening or ostiole.

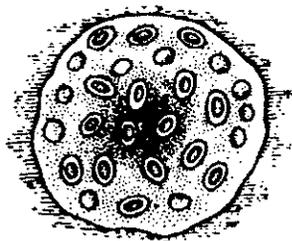


Fig. 7. *Puccinia graminis*. A magnified aecial cluster.

4. From the monokaryotic mycelium present at the base of the pycnidium, arise many erect pycniophores (Fig. 8).
5. At the base of each pycniophore is present a basal cell.
6. From the tip of pycniophore develops many pycniospores.
7. Each pycniospore or pycnidiospore is an oval, thin-walled, small structure containing one nucleus.
8. Some of the erect hyphae do not produce the pycnidiospores and project out of the cup. These are known as receptive hyphae or flexuous hyphae.
9. Pycniospores cannot infect any of the hosts.

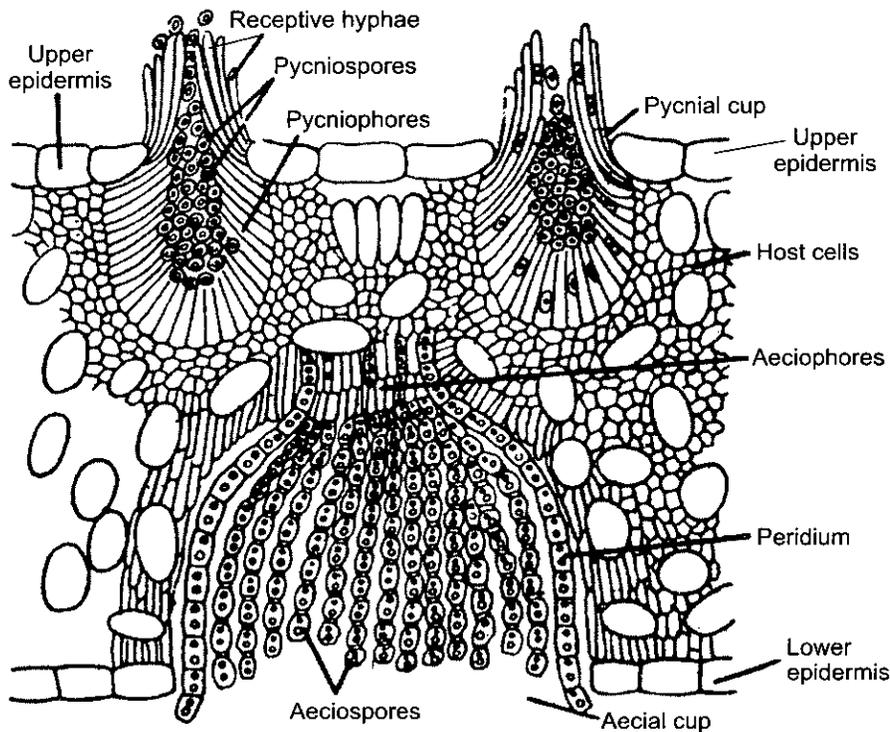


Fig. 8. *Puccinia*. V.S. through a *Berberis* leaf showing pycnidia on upper surface and aecidia on lower surface.

10. Pycniospores and flexuous hyphae of different strains unite and form the dikaryotic mycelium, which gives rise to the *aecidial stage* on the lower surface of the leaf.

T.S. Aecial Cup or Aecidial Cup

Cut T.S. of *Berberis* leaf through the infected part, stain in cotton blue, lactophenol and observe aecial cups on the lower surface of the leaf:

1. Aecial cups are present on the lower surface of the leaves of *Berberis* plant.
2. The mycelium is dikaryotic, from which develops many erect hyphae called sporophores.
3. From the tip of the sporophores are cut many aecidiospores.
4. Aecidiospores are arranged in a basipetalous manner (Fig. 8, 9).

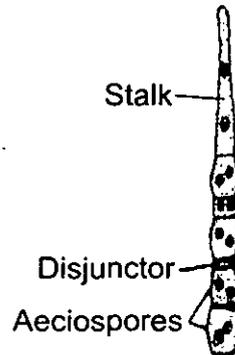


Fig. 9. *Puccinia*. Aecidiospores or aeciospores on a stalk.

5. Between the two aeciospores is present a sterile separation disc called disjunctive or intercalary disc.
6. The wall of the aecial cup is made up of sterile layer called peridium.
7. Each aecidiospore is a polyhedral, binucleate structure, having an outer thick smooth exine and inner thin intine.
8. The aecidiospore can only infect the wheat plant.

Puccinia butleri on *Launea*

1. *Puccinia butleri* is an autoecious rust, i.e., all the stages of the life-cycle are completed only on one host.
2. The host *Launea* (Fig. 10) is a member of family *Compositae* or *Asteraceae*.
3. On the leaves, various stages of life-cycle are present in the form of pustules.

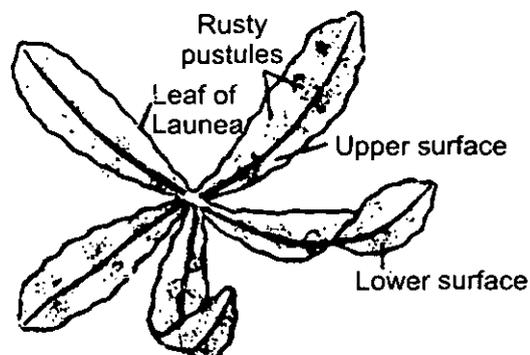


Fig. 10. *Puccinia butleri*, an autoecious rust on *Launea*.

Symptoms on *Berberis* Plant

1. *Berberis* plant is an alternate host of *Puccinia graminis*.
2. It is a member of family *Berberidaceae*.

3. The primary host is wheat.
4. *Berberis* plants are found only in the hilly regions.
5. Pycnidial and aecial stages of life-cycle are completed on this host.
6. On the upper surface of the leaf are present many circular spots of yellow colour, which are pycnidial cups (Fig. 11).

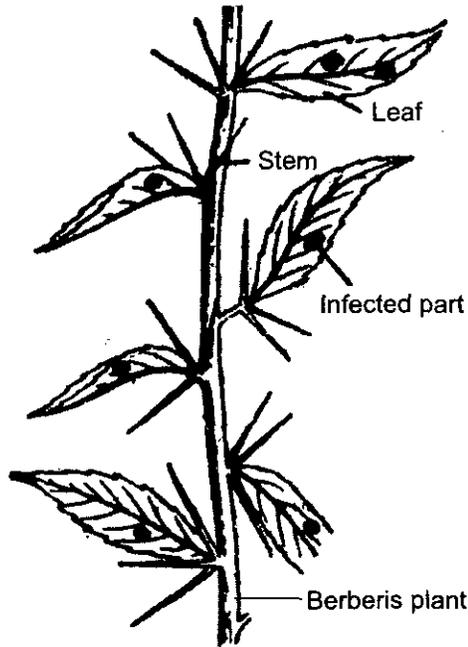


Fig. 11. A branch of *Berberis* plant infected by *Puccinia graminis*.

7. On the lower surface of the leaf are present numerous purplish or red, circular spots, which are the aecial stages of the fungus.

Identification

- (a) (i) *Chlorophyll absent.*
- (ii) *Glycogen is reserve food.*
- (iii) *Cell wall of fungal cellulose.**Mycota*
- (b) (i) *Plasmodium absent.*
- (ii) *True mycelium present.**Eumycota*
- (c) (i) *Zoospores and zygospores absent.*
- (ii) *Basidiospores present.**Basidiomycotina*
- (d) (i) *Parasitic on vascular plants.*
- (ii) *Basidiocarp absent.*
- (iii) *Teliospores present.**Teliomycetes*
- (e) (i) *Obligate parasite giving rusty appearance.*
- (ii) *Heteroecious and polymorphic rust.*
- (iii) *Basidiospores develop on sterigmata.*
- (iv) *Basidium is transverse septate.* *Uredinales*
- (f) (i) *Four basidiospores are formed laterally.*
- (ii) *Basidium is external.*

- (ii) Stalked, more than one-celled teleutospores.*Puccinia*
- (g) (i) Bicelled teleutospores.
(ii) Fungus completes the life-cycle on wheat and Berberis.
(iii) Exhibits rusty appearance.*Puccinia grami*

LICHENS AND MYCORRHIZAE

PRACTICAL NO. 5

WHAT IS A LICHEN?

Lichen is a combination of two different members belonging to two different groups, i.e., one is a fungal component while the another is an algal component. So, it is a dual organism. Algal component is called *phycobiont* while the fungal component is known as *mycobiont*.

About 400 genera and more than 15000 species of lichens have been reported so far, and now it has become a separate branch of Botany with the name *Lichenology*. Some common lichens are shown in Fig. 1.

Systematic position of lichens has always been a controversial point only due to their dual nature. Bessey (1950) has placed them in order Lecanorales of Ascomycetes while Bold (1959) has proposed a new name *Mycophycophyta* (*mykes-fungi*, *phykos-algae*, *phyta-plants*) due to the dual nature of these organisms.

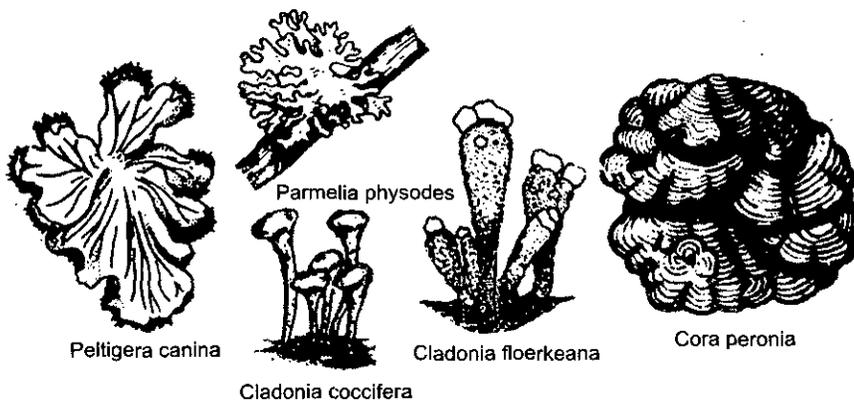


Fig. 1. Some common lichens.

Regarding the nature of the lichens, there are various schools of thought. Some are of the opinion that fungus lives as parasite on algal partner and so alga is simply a victim of the fungus, while others opine that the two partners of the combination remain in symbiotic relationship helping each other in some or the other way. A few lichenologists are of the opinion that, of course, there is the symbiotic relationship between two partners but the fungal partner has its upper hand in the partnership, and thus alga lives as prisoner, and this phenomenon has been termed as *helotism*.

Most of the fungal members in the lichens belong to class Ascomycetes, except a few which belong to Basidiomycetes. Algal members belonging to lichens are mostly the members of class Cyanophyceae, except a few of Chlorophyceae.

Classification of Lichens

Lichens have been classified on the basis of their fungal members and nature of their fruiting bodies into following two groups :

- (a) Ascolichens,
- (b) Basidiolichens.

Ascolichens are further divided into :

- (i) *Gymnocarpae* : (fruiting body of apothecium type)
- (ii) *Pyrenocarpae* : (fruiting body of perithecium type)

Occurrence : Lichens occur commonly on tree trunks or bare rocks, old walls, roofs of houses in hilly regions, and on the basis of their habitat they have been classified into *saxicoles* and *corticoles*. Saxicole lichens occur on stones or rocks and the corticoles occur on the bark of the trees.

Plant Body : Lichens are thallus-like bodies, variously lobed and flat or some cylindrical or erect structures, of various colours. On the basis of their form, following five categories of *thallus organization* of lichens have been recognized by Hawksworth and Hill (1984) :

1. Leprose Lichens : In this simplest form of thallus organization of lichens, fungal hyphae envelope either one or only a very small number of algal cells. A distinct fungal layer does not surround the algal cells all over. The so-formed simple lichen thallus develops superficially over the substratum, provides a powdery appearance and is called leprose lichen, e.g., *Lepraria incana*.

2. Crustose Lichens : These are very closely adhered to the substratum (Fig. 2) which they are present, and give a crust-like appearance. It is very difficult to separate them from their substratum. Fruiting bodies are present on the upper surface, e.g., *Graphis scripta*, *Lacidia*, *Verrucaria*, etc.

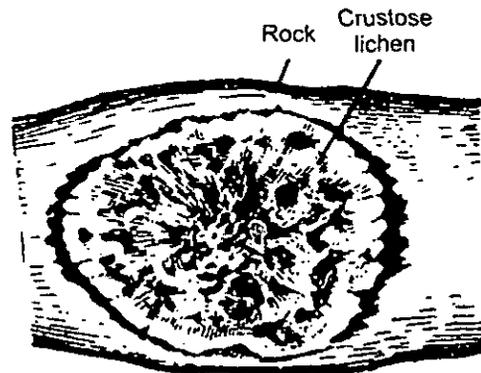


Fig. 2. A crustose lichen attached on a rock.

3. Foliose Lichens : Thallus in these lichens is flat, leaf-like, well-branched and attached to the substratum with the help of rhizines, e.g., *Physcia*, *Parmelia*, *Peltidea*, etc. (Fig.3).

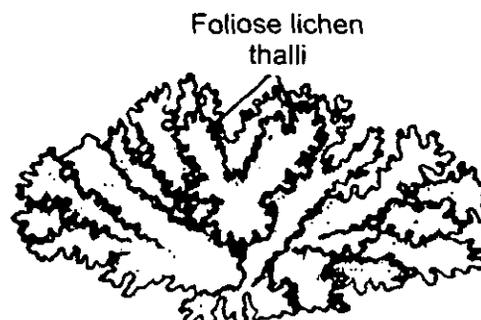


Fig. 3. A foliose lichen.

4. Fruticose Lichens : Lichens of this category are well-branched structures (Fig. 4, 5), which are generally erect or sometimes prostrate, and give shrub-like appearance, e.g., *Usnea*, *Cladonia*, *Everinea*, etc.,



Fig. 4. *Cladonia* a fruticose lichen.

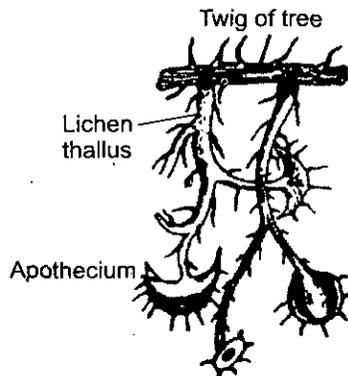


Fig. 5. A fruticose lichen.

5. Filamentous Lichens : In some lichens, instead of fungal, the algal partner is more developed. Such algal partners of the lichens are filamentous and remain ensheathed or covered by only a few fungal hyphae. Such lichens are filamentous in appearance, have a dominance of algal partner, and are named *filamentous lichens* by Hawksworth and Hill (1984).

Examples : *Ephebe*, *Coenogonium*, *Cystocoleus* and *Racodium*.

Internal Structure

Internally, a *foliose lichen* is divisible into four different regions, *i.e.*, upper cortex, algal zone, medulla and lower cortex (Fig. 6).

Upper cortex is a thick, protective layer made up of dense, closely woven pseudoparenchymatous mass of fungal hyphae. Outer to this, an epidermal layer may or may not be present.

Algal zone consists of mostly blue-green, or green algal filaments of Cyanophyceae or Chlorophyceae. Some fungal hyphae also remain embedded in this layer. Common algal members are *Nostoc*, *Gloeocapsa*, *Rivularia* and *Chlorella*. This is also known as *gonidial layer*.

Medulla forms the central region of the lichen. It consists of loose mass of fungal hyphae.

Lower cortex forms the lower surface of lichen and from this arises rhizines. It is composed of densely packed hyphae.

A *crustose lichen* (Fig. 7.) is internally differentiated into cortex, algal zone and medulla. Some hyphae of medulla form pointed rhizoids.

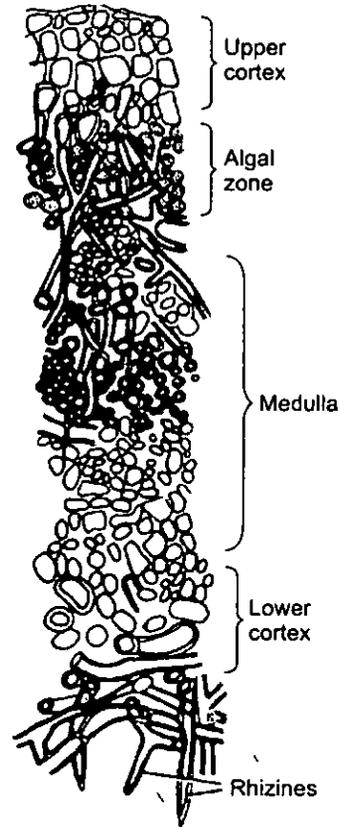


Fig. 6. Structural organisation of a foliose lichen.

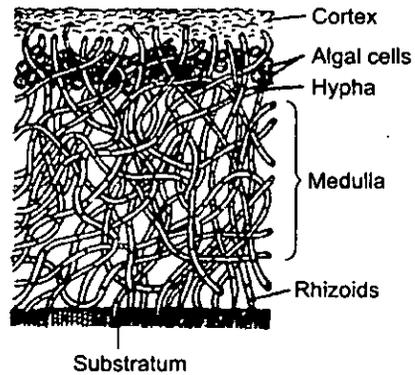


Fig. 7. Structural organisation of a crustose lichen.

V.S. Apothecium

1. Apothecium is a cup-shaped (Fig. 8) body.

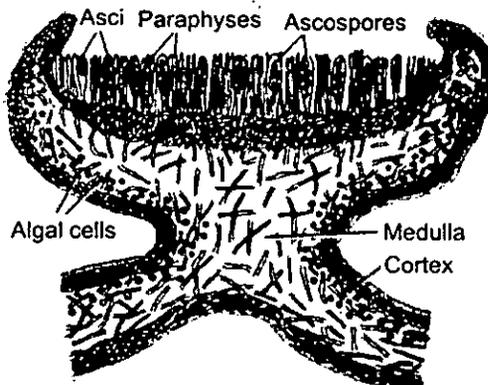


Fig. 8. V.S. apothecium of an ascolichen.

2. In the cavity of the cup are present many asci and sterile paraphyses.
3. In each ascus are present generally eight uninucleate ascospores.
4. Other structures of the internal organisation are same as those of vegetative thallus.

• MYCORRHIZAE

The roots of many plants enter into a mutualistic symbiotic association with fungi. The existence of such a relationship was first noted in 1885 by A.B. Frank, a German botanist, who coined the term "*mycorrhiza*" (Gr. *mykes* = fungus + *rhiza* = root).

Types of Mycorrhizae

There are six major types of mycorrhizae, which can be categorised as under :

(A) *Ectomycorrhizae* (or *Ectotrophic mycorrhizae*)

(B) *Endomycorrhizae* (includes 3 major types viz. *Arbuscular mycorrhizae* or AM, *Ericoid mycorrhizae* and *Orchidoid mycorrhizae*).

(C) *Ectendomycorrhizae* (includes 2 major types viz., *Arbutoid mycorrhizae* and *Monotropoid mycorrhizae*)

Some of these mycorrhizae are shown in Fig. 9.

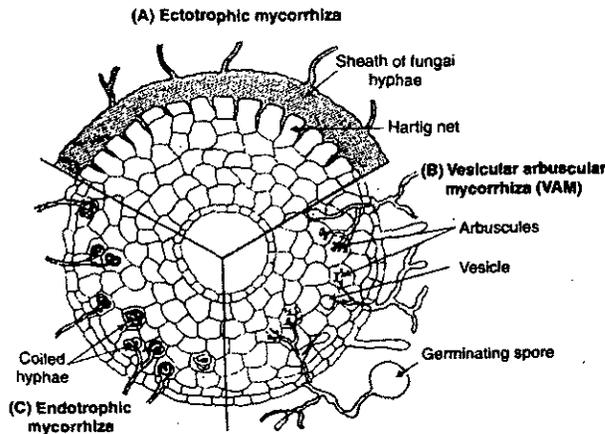


Fig. 9. Three types of mycorrhizae shown diagrammatically in transverse section of root. A, Ectotrophic mycorrhiza; B, Vesicular-arbuscular mycorrhiza; C, Endotrophic mycorrhiza of an orchid.

Ectomycorrhizae

The ectomycorrhizae are characterized by the presence of an external pseudoparenchymatous sheath, called *mantle*, on the terminal nutrient absorbing rootlets. The sheath may be more than 40 μm thick, and may constitute up to 40% of the dry weight of combined (root+fungus) structure. Beneath the sheath, the fungal hyphae penetrate the intercellular spaces of epidermis and cortex to form an intercellular network of hyphae called *Hartig net*. Though the hyphae of the Hartig net are in close contact with the root cells in the region, there is no penetration of host cells.

Endomycorrhizae

In case of endomycorrhizae, the fungal partner grows mainly inside the roots, penetrating the outer cortical cells of the plant root. Only a small portion of the fungal component lies externally as a loose mass of hyphae in soil. Three major types of endomycorrhizae are : (a) arbuscular mycorrhizae (AM); (b) ericoid mycorrhizae, and (c) orchidoid mycorrhizae.

BRYOPHYTA

• GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF BRYOPHYTES

1. **Occurrence** : Majority of the bryophytes are terrestrial, except a few, which are in aquatic surroundings like *Riccia fluitans*, *Ricciocarpus natans*, *Riella* and *Sphagnum*.

They like to grow in moist shady places. Some are epiphytic, e.g., members of Jungermanniales, and even some members are saprophytes, e.g. *Buxbaumia*.

2. **Plant body** : Either thalloid, e.g. members of Hepaticae, or foliose, e.g. members of Musci. Plant body is gametophytic and green in colour.

3. **Size** : It is variable from microscopic, as in *Zoopsis* or order (Jungermanniales) to gigantic size up to 40 cm. or even more as in *Dawsonia*.

4. **Absorptive organs** : These are fine thread like structures called rhizoids. Rhizoids are present in thalloid plants on their ventral surface, and in foliose plants on their lower side.

5. **"Leaves"** : In foliose plants, the leaves are present. In Jungermanniales, leaves are arranged in 2 to 3 rows and there is no midrib, but in mosses leaves are arranged spirally and a distinct mid rib is present.

6. **"Axis"** : Axis is present in Jungermanniales as well as in mosses. In Jungermanniales, it is homogeneous structure but a conducting strand is present in mosses.

7. **Vegetative reproduction** : Various means of vegetative propagation are present, such as progressive death and decay of older parts of the plants, or by adventitious branches, gemmae, tubers, bulbils, and sometimes also by protonema.

8. **Sexual reproduction** : It is oogamous type, and sex organs are antheridia and archegonia. Antheridia are club-shaped structures, and produce many unicellular, uninucleate and biciliate antherozoids. Archegonia are flask-shaped structures, each encloses a single non-motile egg.

9. **Fertilization** : It takes place in the presence of water and its ultimate product is an oospore or zygote. Oospore is the first cell of the sporophyte.

10. **Sporophyte** : Sporophyte is always dependent on gametophyte. It is differentiated generally into foot, seta and capsule. There may also be variations (either foot or seta is absent, or both are absent as in *Riccia*).

Foot : Function of foot is absorption. It absorbs food material from gametophyte.

Seta : Function of seta is elongation.

Capsule : Function of capsule is spore-production.

In capsule, spore mother cells and sometimes elaters are also present, e.g. *Marchantia*.

11. **Spores** : After reduction division in spore mother cells four spores are formed which remain arranged tetrahedrally. All the spores are alike (*homosporous*). They germinate into gametophytic plants.

12. **Alternation of generations** : Bryophytes exhibit best example of heteromorphic alternation of generations.

PRACTICAL NO. 6

• MARCHANTIA

Common Indian Species : *Marchantia polymorpha*, *M. simalana*, *M. nepalensis* and *M. palmata*.

Systematic Position

Division	:	Bryophyta
Class	:	Hepaticopsida
Order	:	Marchantiales
Family	:	Marchantiaceae
Genus	:	<i>Marchantia</i> .

Occurrence : It is cosmopolitan in distribution, and is found commonly in moist and cool surroundings, banks of streams, damp shady places and on the rocks of hills.

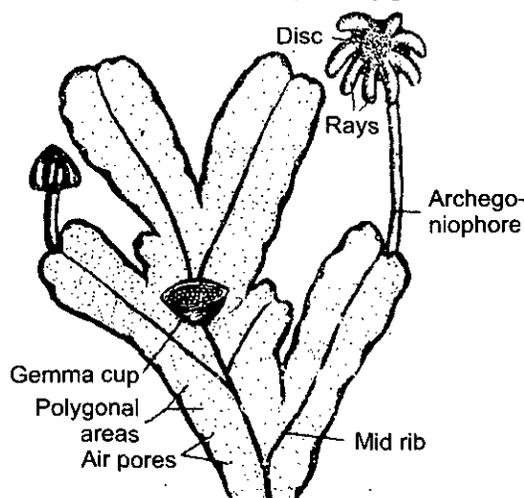


Fig. 1. *Marchantia*. Dorsal surface of thallus with two archegoniophores and gemma cup

Work to be done

To study (i) External: features of thallus; (ii) Anatomy of thallus; (iii) V.T.S. through gemma cup; (iv) A single gemma, (v) T.S. stalk, (vi) L.S. antheridiophore, (vii) L.S. archegoniophore (young and mature), (viii) Mature sporogonium, and (ix) To identify the genus.

External Features of Gametophyte

Study the dorsal and ventral surfaces of thallus through a hand lens; separate two types of scales and two types of rhizoids from the ventral surface, stain them in safranin, mount in glycerine and study :

1. The plant body is thalloid, prostrate, green in colour, and larger than *Riccia*.
2. It is dichotomously branched and is differentiated dorsiventrally (Fig. 1).
3. The thalli attain a length of 2 to 10 cm or more.
4. A growing point is situated at the notch of the apex of each lobe.

Dorsal Surface

5. A clear mid-dorsal groove is present.

6. Many diamond-shaped rhomboidal or polygonal areas are present, if observed under a magnifying lens (Fig. 2).

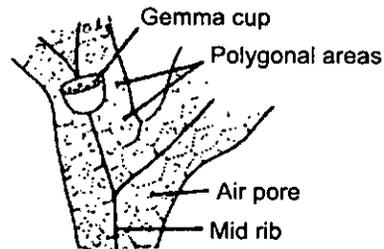


Fig. 2. *Marchantia*, A part of dorsal surface of thallus showing polygonal areas.

7. These polygonal areas indicate the outline of the air chambers, and contain dot-like structure in their centre. This dot represents the *air pore*.

8. Sometimes many cup-shaped, sub-sessile structures are present on the mid-dorsal groove. These are *gemma cups* (Fig. 1, 2).

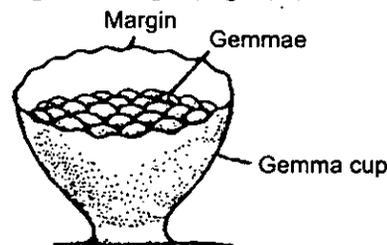


Fig. 3. *Marchantia*. A single gemma cup.

9. Each gemma cup contains many gemmae which are the means of vegetative reproduction.

Ventral Surface

10. Mid dorsal groove appears in the form of a clear midrib on the ventral surface.

11. On the midrib are present many scales and rhizoids (Fig. 4).

Scales

1. These are purplish to violet coloured, multicellular but one-celled thick structures, arranged in 2 to 3 rows on either side of the midrib.

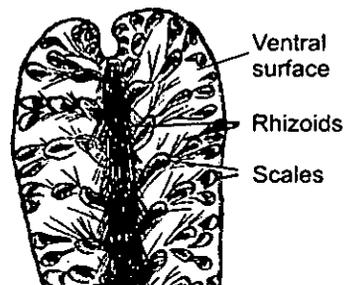


Fig. 4. *Marchantia*. Ventral surface of thallus.

2. Scales are of two types, i.e., *appendiculate* and *ligulate* (Fig. 4).

3. *Appendiculate scale* contains an appendage at its apical side (Fig. 5). They remain situated in one row just on both the sides of midrib. These are bigger in size than ligulate scales.

4. *Ligulate scales* are ligule like (Fig. 6) and devoid of any type of appendage. These are present in one or two rows on either side of midrib.

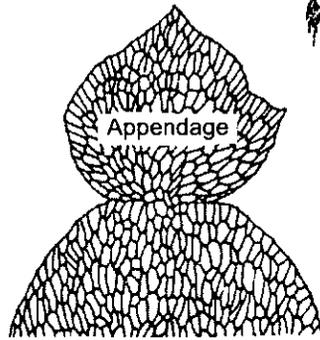


Fig. 5. *Marchantia*. An appendiculate scale.



Fig. 6. *Marchantia*. A ligulate scale.

5. Functions of the scales are to retain the moisture and protect the growing apex.

Rhizoids

1. These are elongated, unicellular, hair-like outgrowths of two types, *i.e.*, smoothwalled and tuberculate (Fig. 7E).

2. *Smoothwalled rhizoids* are broad, thin-walled, unicellular, and filled with colourless contents.

3. *Tuberculate rhizoids* are narrow, comparatively thick-walled, and contain many peg-like in growths (Fig. 7B).

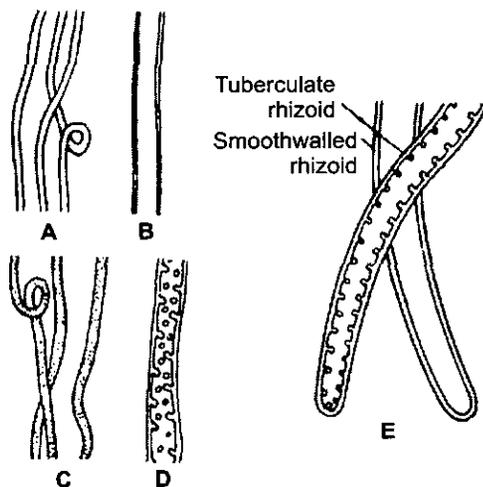


Fig. 7. *Marchantia* rhizoids. Smoothwalled rhizoids in surface view (A) and optical section (B); Tuberculate rhizoids in surface view (C) and optical section (D); Both types of rhizoids in optical section (E).

4. The functions of the rhizoids are absorption and fixation.

Anatomy of Gametophyte

Cut V.T.S. thallus, stain in safranin, mount in glycerine and study. Also cut the section of the thallus through gemma cup.

Anatomically, the thallus is divisible into two clear regions, i.e., photosynthetic region and storage region (Fig. 8).

Photosynthetic Region :

Upper, dorsal, green photosynthetic region consists of upper epidermis, air pores, air chambers and photosynthetic filaments.

Upper Epidermis : 1. It is the outermost layer made up of thin-walled cells, having a slightly thicker outer wall.

2. Cells contain chloroplasts.
3. Function of the epidermis is protection.
4. Continuity of epidermis is broken by many air pores (Fig. 8).

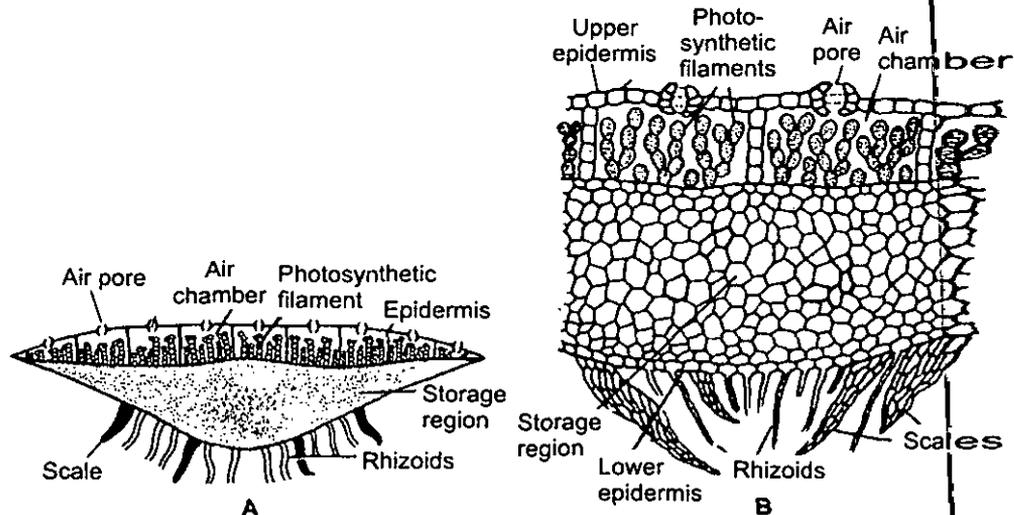


Fig. 8. Marchantia. A, V.T.S. thallus (diagrammatic); B, V.T.S. thallus (a part cellular).

5. **Air Pores :** These are barrel-shaped structures.
6. Each pore is surrounded by four to eight tiers of cells (Fig. 9).

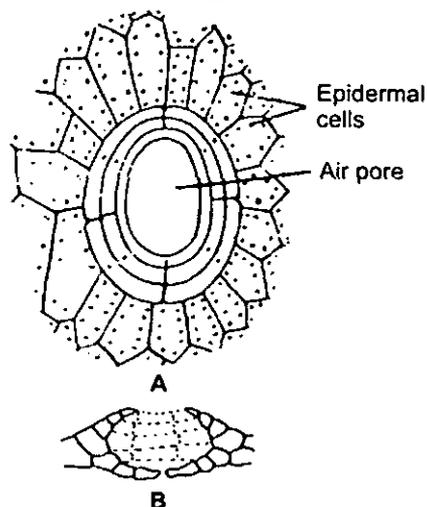


Fig. 9. Marchantia. An air pore in surface view (A) and in cross-section (B).

7. Each tier consists of 4 to 5 cells.
8. Tiers are present in the form of rings one above the other, but in sections they are seen to be arranged in the form of a chimney.
9. Wall of the pore lies half above and half below the epidermis.

10. **Air Chambers** : These are arranged in a single, horizontal layer below the upper epidermis.

11. They are separated from each other by 2 to 6-celled partition walls.

12. Cells of partition wall also contain chloroplast.

13. An air chamber opens outside by a barrel-shaped air pore.

14. **Photosynthetic Filaments** : These are green, chlorophyll-containing filaments present in air chambers.

15. They may be branched or unbranched, and consist of 2 to 6 or more cells.

Storage Region :

It consists of many types of cells, conducting strand, lower epidermis, scales and rhizoids.

16. In the centre, it is composed of many thin-walled parenchymatous cells, but on the margins only 2 to 3 layers of cells are present.

17. Most of the cells contain starch and are devoid of chloroplast.

18. In the midrib region, some cells may bear reticulate thickenings.

19. Cells of the lower epidermis contain both the kinds of scales and rhizoids.

V.T.S. Thallus through Gemma Cup :

1. On the dorsal surface of the thallus is present a large cup-shaped cavity called gemma cup (Fig. 10).

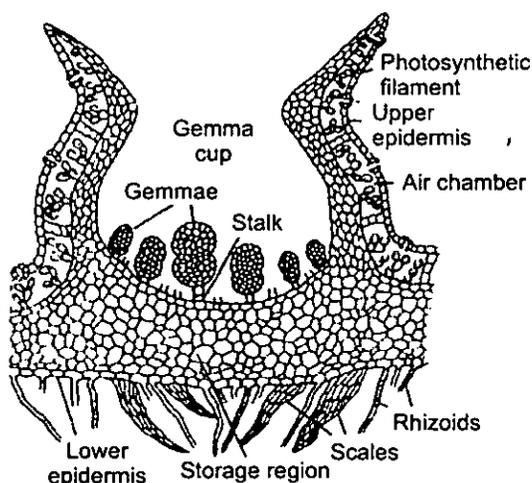


Fig. 10. *Marchantia*. V.T.S. thallus through gemma cup (diagrammatic).

2. On the floor of the gemma cup are present many multicellular discoid bodies known as *gemmae*.

3. Many club-shaped, mucilaginous hairs are also present in gemma cup.

4. Gemmae are the means of vegetative reproduction.

5. Other details of the thallus are same as described above, *i.e.*, *photosynthetic region* consisting of air pores, air chambers and photosynthetic filaments, and *storage region* consisting of parenchymatous cells with lower epidermis having scales and rhizoids.

A Single Gemma :

1. It is a multicellular, discoid, green structure attached with the help of a unicellular stalk (Fig. 11).

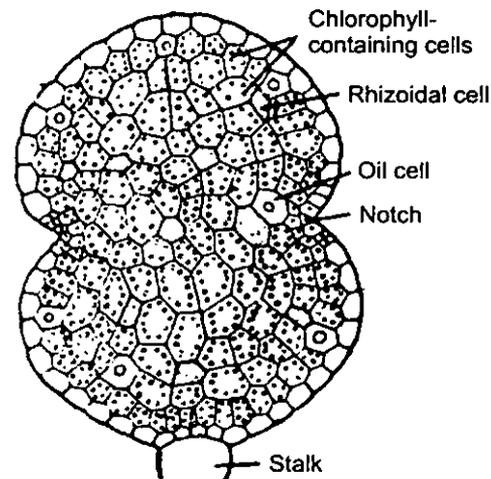


Fig. 11. Marchantia. A single gemma

2. It is many cells thick in the middle but only one cell thick on the margins.
3. On each lateral side is present a deep notch.
4. Each notch contains many apical cells at the base.
5. Most of the cells of the body of gemma are green and contain chloroplast.
6. Some isolated cells contain oil bodies and called *oil cells*, while a few cells near the margins are *rhizoidal cells*.
7. Gemmae germinate by falling on the ground.
8. From each notch develops a single individual plant,

Sex Organs

Study of the arrangement of antheridia on antheridiophore and archegonia on archegoniophore; cut T.S. of receptacular stalk and L.S. of antheridiophore and archegoniophore, stain in safranin, mount in glycerine and study;

1. Sexual reproduction is oogamous.
2. All species are dioecious.
3. Sex organs develop on highly specialized, long branches borne terminally.
4. At the tip of each gametophore is present a disc or receptacle.
5. Gametophore, which bears male sex organs, is termed as antheridiophore. It contains many antheridia.
6. Gametophore, which bears female sex organs, is termed as archegoniophore. It contains archegonia.

T.S. Stalk

1. Structurally, the stalks of male and female receptacles are simply the elongations of thallus and contain the same structure.
2. There are present air pores, air chambers and photosynthetic filaments on posterior side. The posterior side represents the dorsal surface of thallus (Fig. 12).
3. On the anterior side are present two longitudinally running grooves.
4. Many rhizoids and sometimes scales are present in the groove. The groove thus represents the ventral surface of the thallus.
5. The structure is dorsiventrally symmetrical, and resembles with that of thallus.

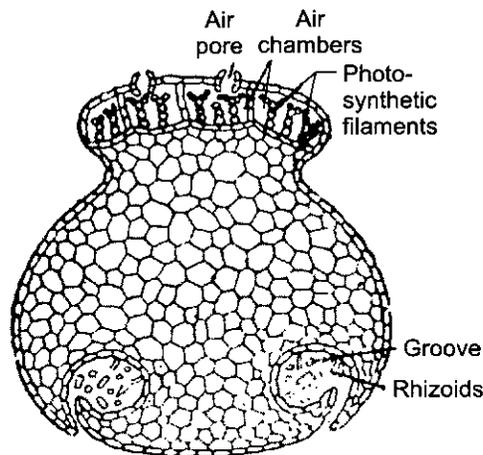


Fig. 12. *Marchantia*. T.S. stalk of receptacle.

Antheridiophore or Male Receptacle :

1. It is a stalked structure ranging from 2 to 3 cm. in length.
2. At its tip is present an eight-lobed disc (rarely four lobed).

A vertical longitudinal section (V.L.S.) through the antheridiophore and adjoining portion of the thallus reveals the following details (Fig. 13) :

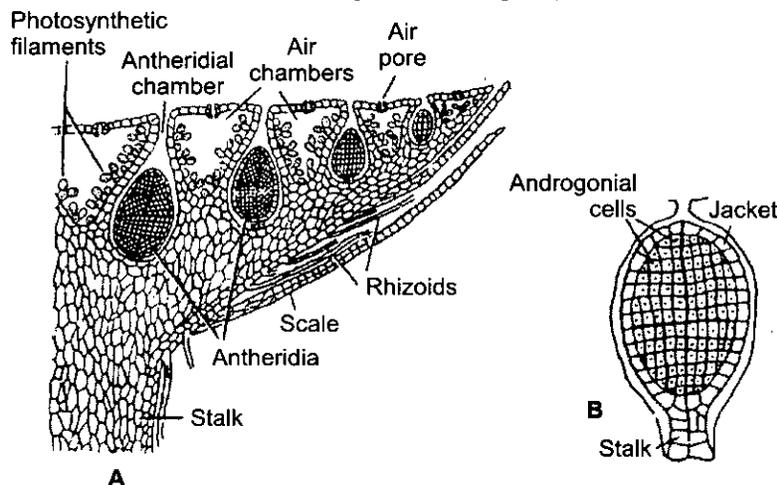


Fig. 13. *Marchantia*. L.S. antheridiophore (A) and a single antheridium (B).

3. Disc is bounded by a layer of epidermis, the continuity of which is broken by barrel-shaped air pores.
4. Each air pore opens in an air chamber containing photosynthetic filaments.
5. Each lobe on the disc contains a growing region at its apex.
6. Besides the air chambers, there are also present certain flask-shaped cavities which open outside by a pore or ostiole. These are antheridial chambers.
7. In each cavity is present a single antheridium.
8. These antheridia remain arranged acropetally *i.e.*, the oldest antheridium is present in the centre and the youngest near the apex of the lobe.
9. A *mature antheridium* is a stalked, Club-shaped structure situated at the base of the antheridial chamber.
10. A sterile layer of jacket encloses the androcyte mother cells, each of which divides into two androcytes. Androcyte metamorphoses into a biflagellate antherozoid.

11. The disc is held high by a long stalk, which is the continuation of the thallus.
12. Thallus is divided into same photosynthetic and storage regions having all same normal structures.

Archegoniophore or Female Receptacle

1. It is also a stalked structure but the stalk is comparatively shorter than antheridiophore (Fig. 1).
2. An eight-lobed disc is also present at the apex but the lobes are much dissected here. In *Marchantia polymorpha* nine-rayed disc is present.
3. The disc is much convex than that of the disc of antheridiophore.

V.L.S. Young Female Receptacle (Before Fertilization)

1. Each lobe of the disc contains its own growing point.
2. On each lobe is present a group of archegonia arranged acropetally.
3. Neck of each archegonium faces upward (Fig. 14).

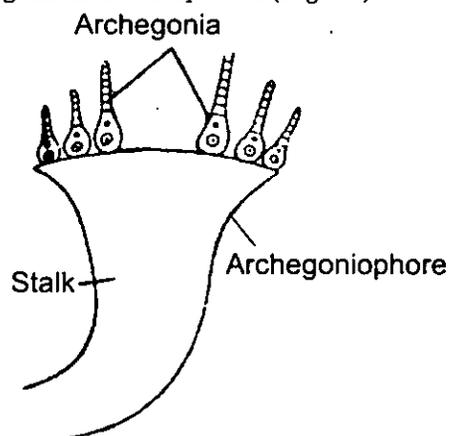


Fig. 14. *Marchantia*. L.S. archegoniophore before fertilization (diagrammatic).

4. Disc resembles in structure with the thallus.
5. A single archegonium is a flask-shaped (Fig. 14). body having a long, slender neck and a globular venter.
6. Venter remains surrounded by a layer of sterile cells, and encloses a venter canal cell and an egg.
7. Neck is surrounded by six longitudinal rows of neck cells enclosing 6 to 8 neck canal cells. It opens by four cover cells.

V.L.S. Mature Female Receptacle (After Fertilization)

1. Each lobe of the disc contains a group of archegonia (Fig. 14) in the inverted position, and the youngest archegonium is near the stalk and the oldest away from the stalk.
2. From the periphery of the disc arise long, green, cylindrical elongations called rays.
3. A bilipped, pendant, one-celled thick sheath with fringed margins arises from both the sides of the group of archegonia. It is known as *perichaetium* (Fig. 15)
4. At the base of the venter of each archegonium develops a ring of cells in the form of a collar-like structure called *perigynium* or *pseudoparicanth*.
5. Structure of thallus is same as discussed earlier on p. 72.

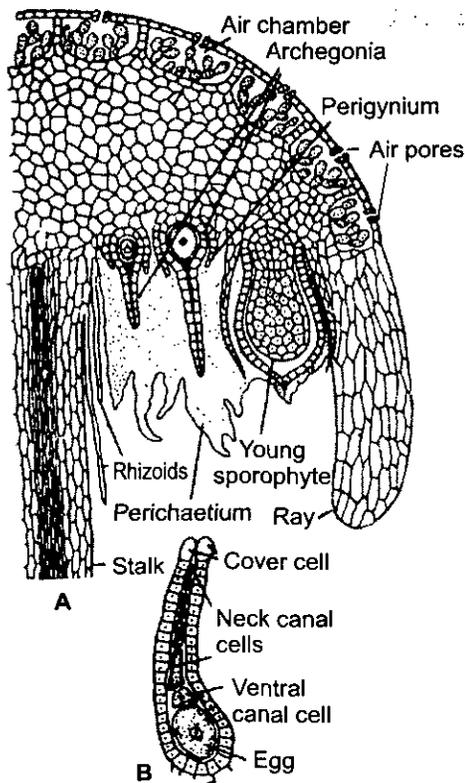


Fig. 15. *Marchantia*. A part of L.S. archegoniophore after fertilization (A) and a mature archegonium (B).

Mature Sporogonium

Cut L.S. through the disc of mature archegoniophore. Sporogonia are present on the under surface. Stain the section in safranin, mount in glycerine and study :

1. A mature sporogonium is clearly differentiated into foot, seta and capsule (Fig. 16).

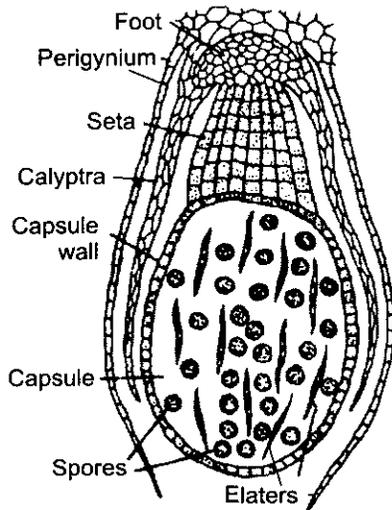


Fig. 16. *Marchantia*. A mature sporogonium.

2. *Foot* is bulbous, multicellular, and helps in attachment and absorption of food.
3. *Seta* consists of vertical rows of cells. Its cells are cubical and its function is elongation.
4. *Capsule* is surrounded by an outer layer of amphithecium and inner archesporial endothecium.

5. Endothecial region is in the form of sterile elaters and fertile spore mother cells.
6. Elaters (Fig 17) are long, pointed at both the ends and spirally thickened structures. These are hygroscopic in nature and help in dispersal of spores.

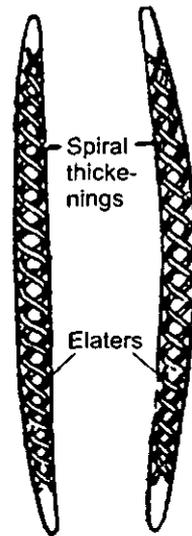


Fig. 17. Marchantia. Two elaters.

7. Spore mother cells divide reductionally, and change first into spore mother cells and then into haploid spores.

8. Young sporogonia remain surrounded by three types of coverings, i.e., calyptra, perigynium and pseudoparichth or perichaetium. But at maturity, due to the activity of the setae, sporogonium elongates and comes out on rupturing all these three coverings.

9. In the earlier stages the cells of foot, seta, capsule and spores contain chloroplast.

10. The spores (Fig. 18) are surrounded by two layers, i.e., an outer, thick exine which may be smooth or ornamented and an inner thin intine which remains smooth. The spore wall surrounds the granular cytoplasm and a nucleus.

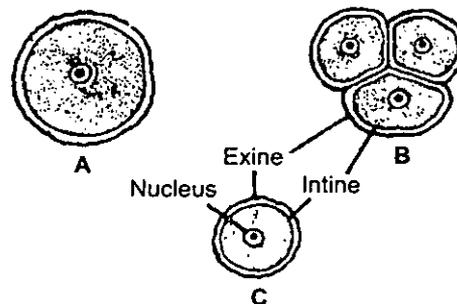


Fig. 18. Marchantia. A, A spore mother cell; B, A spore tetrad; C, A single spore.

Identification

- (a) (i) Plant body gametophytic and independent.
 (ii) Amphibious in nature.
 (iii) True roots and vascular strands absent.
 (iv) Presence of a layer of sterile jacket around antheridium.
 (v) Presence of heteromorphic alternation of generations.....**Bryophyta**
- (b) (i) Plant body thalloid.
 (ii) Pyrenoids absent.

(iii) Scales and two types of rhizoids present.

(iv) Columella absent.

(v) Absence of stomata and chlorophyllous tissue in sporogonium

..... **Hepaticopsida**

(c) (i) Thallus is flat and dichotomously branched.

(ii) Presence of scales on the ventral surface.

(iii) Photosynthetic and storage regions are present.

(iv) Presence of air chambers.

..... **Marchantiales**

(d) (i) Air pores barrel-shaped.

(ii) Presence of gemma cups on dorsal surface.

(iii) Sex organs on antheridiophore and archegoniophore.

(iv) Foot and seta present.

..... **Marchantiaceae**

(e) (i) Presence of ligulate and appendiculate scales.

(ii) Presence of photosynthetic filaments.

(iii) Presence of elaters.

..... **Marchantia**

PTERIDOPHYTA

• DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF PTERIDOPHYTES

The Pteridophyta are commonly called *vascular cryptogams*. They are represented by more than about 10,000 species, and are characterized by the following peculiarities.

1. Members of this group are most primitive living vascular plants, such as *Selaginella*, *Lycopodium*, *Equisetum* etc., and also fossil vascular plants, such as *Rhynia*, *Horneophyton*, *Asteroxylon*, etc.

2. Most of the plants prefer to grow in cool and shady places while some are xerophytic, e.g., *Selaginella rupestris*, and many occur in aquatic conditions, e.g., *Marsilea*, *Salvinia*, *Azolla*, etc.

3. Plant body is sporophytic and differentiated into roots, stem and leaves. In some plants an intermediate stage between root and stem, i.e., *rhizophore*, is present, e.g., *Selaginella*.

4. Young sporophyte is partially or completely dependent on gametophyte for sometime, but at maturity it becomes independent.

5. The fibro-vascular cylinder, consisting of xylem, phloem, etc., is present in the stem of these plants.

6. In lower members, the stele is protostele, as in *Lycopodium*, *Selaginella*, etc., while in higher members it is siphonostele in *Marsilea* (amphiphloic), *Equisetum* (ectophloic), and dictyostele in *Pteris*, *Aspidium*, *Polypodium*, *Dryopteris*, etc.

7. Vascular supply to the leaves takes place by leaf traces through leaf gaps in the vascular cylinder of stem.

8. Leaves may be simple, small and sessile, as in microphyllous types such as *Selaginella*, *Lycopodium*, etc., or very large, petiolate and megaphyllous types, as in the members of Filicinae.

9. Plants reproduce by the spores formed in sporangia. Sporangia develop either on the ventral surface or in the axil of leaves.

10. Plants may be *homosporous*, i.e., all the spores are of one type as in *Equisetum*, or *heterosporous*, i.e., two types of spores are present (microspores and megaspores), e.g., *Selaginella*.

11. On the basis of the development of sporangia, the plants can be classified into the following two categories ;

(a) *Eusporangiate type*, in which the sporangium develops from a group of superficial cells, e.g., *Selaginella*, *Equisetum*.

(b) *Leptosporangiate type*, in which the sporangium develops from a single cell, e.g., *Marsilea*.

12. Spores develop into a multicellular, gametophytic body called prothallus.

13. Two sex organs, i.e., antheridia and archegonia develop on the prothallus.

14. Fertilization takes place with the help of water, and results into the formation of a diploid zygote. It develops into a structure bearing roots, stem and leaves. This structure is called sporophyte.

15. Plants show clear *alternation of generations*.

PRACTICAL NO. 7

EQUISETUM

(L. *equus*-horse; *saeto*-bristle)

Common Name : "Horse tail."

Common Indian Species : *Equisetum debile*, *E. arvense*, *E. ramosissimum*.

Systematic Position

Division	:	Pteridophyta
Sub-division	:	Sphenopsida
Order	:	Equisetales
Family	:	Equisetaceae
Genus	:	<i>Equisetum</i>

Occurrence : Most of the species grow in damp shady places. Some are found in woods and marshes while some prefer to grow in exposed and relatively dry habitats.

Work to be done

To study (i) External features of plant, (ii) Anatomy of internode of aerial sterile shoot and fertile shoot, (iii) Anatomy of internode of rhizome, (iv) Anatomy of node of aerial sterile shoot, (v) Anatomy of root, (vi) Strobilus or cone anatomy, (vii) Spores and gametes, (viii) Gametophyte, and (ix) To identify the plant giving reasons.

External Features of Plant Body or Sporophyte

1. Plant body is sporophytic and the sporophyte is a well-branched perennial herb.
2. Size of the plant body ranges from a few centimeter as in *Equisetum scirpoides* to several metre as in *E. giganteum* (upto 13 metre). Most of the species are less than a meter in height.
3. Plant body consists of a long, horizontal, underground rhizome, from which arise many roots towards the lower side and many erect aerial shoots towards upper side (figs. 1,2).
4. *Rhizome* is long, creeping and well-branched. It is divisible into nodes and internodes.

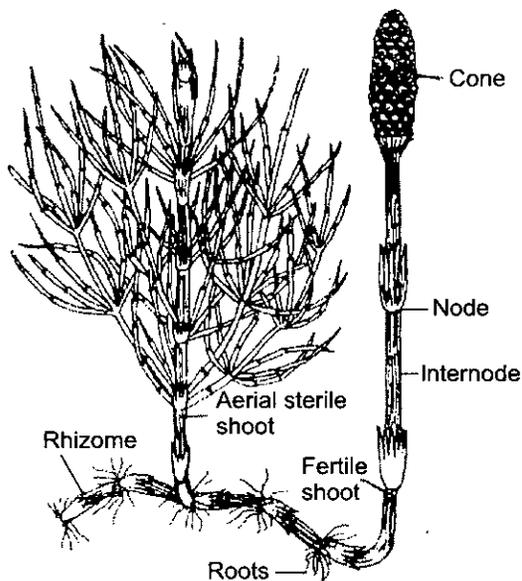


Fig. 1. *Equisetum*. External features of plant body

5. *Roots*, which develop from the node of rhizome, are long, slender, well-branched and adventitious.

6. *Aerial shoots*, which arise from the rhizome towards upper side, are of two i.e., sterile or vegetative shoots and fertile or reproductive shoots.

7. Both the sterile and fertile aerial shoots are ribbed and divisible into nodes and internodes, but the former is well-branched and long-lived while the latter (fertile shoots) are generally unbranched and short-lived structures.

8. Aerial shoots as well as rhizome are *articulated i.e.*, jointed.

9. From the nodes of aerial sterile shoots arise two types of branches in whorls. Some are long, unlimited in growth, well-branched and contain the same structure as the main axis of aerial sterile shoot. Others are short, also bear nodes and internodes and are limited in growth and unbranched (Figs. 1, 2).

10. *Fertile shoots* are unbranched, colourless or pale-yellow colour branches, which bears a strobilus at the tip.

11. On the nodes of rhizome, sterile shoot and fertile shoots are present many leaves.

12. *Scaly leaves* are minute, thin, uninerved, present in the form of a whorl and in number from 3 to 40 in different species.

13. These leaves are green when young but become yellow or red-colour at maturity.

14. The upper end of each leaf is free and pointed but all of them unite below at base to form a sheath on the node.

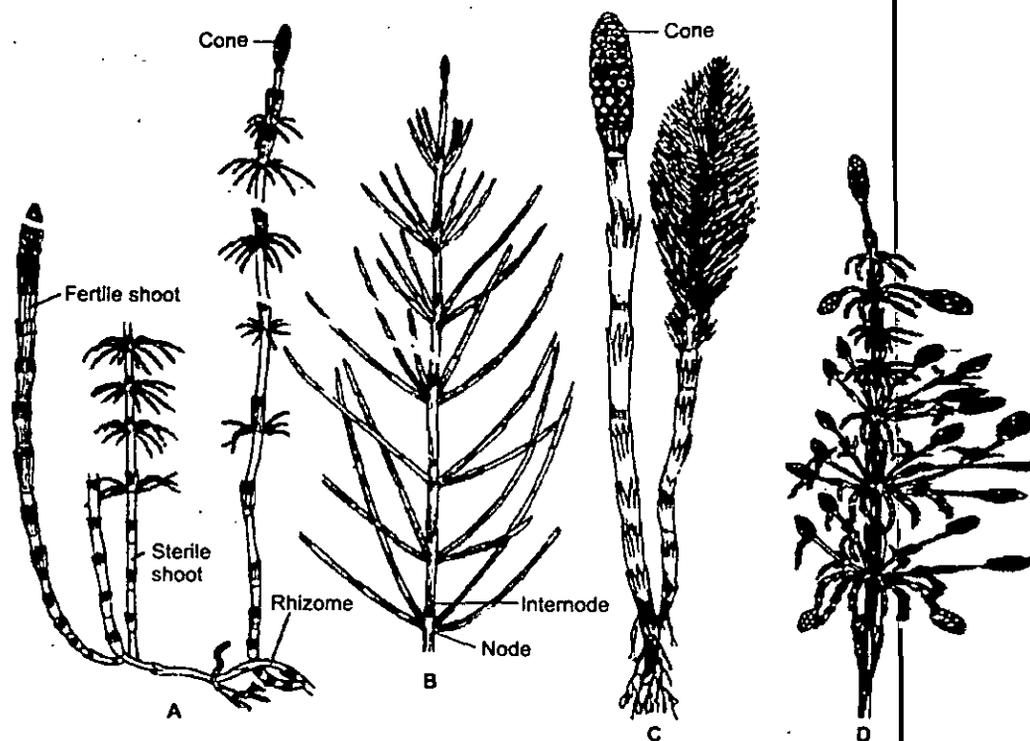


Fig. 2. Equisetum. External features of plant body of some species.
(A) *E. pratense*; (B) *E. palustre*; (C) *E. telmateia*, (D) *E. sylvaticum*.

15. The number of leaves represents the number of ridges on the internode.

16. Many round or irregular bodies are present on the rhizome. These are thick-walled and meant for vegetative reproduction. These are called *tubers* (Fig. 1)

17. Functions of various parts of the sporophyte are as follows :

(a) *Roots* : Absorption and fixation;

(b) *Rhizome* : Storage;

(c) *Sterile shoot* : Photosynthetic;

(d) *Fertile shoot* : Reproductive.

Thus, *Equisetum* shows an example of physiological division of labour.

ANATOMY

Cut thin transverse sections of different plant parts, stain in safranin-fast green combination, mount in glycerine and observe the anatomical details :

S. Internode of Aerial Sterile Shoot

In a cross-section following structures are visible (Figs. 3, 4):

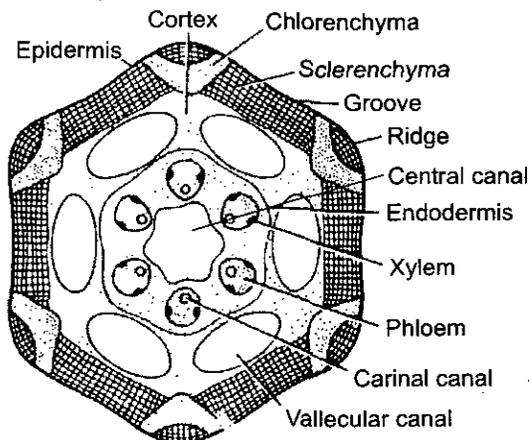


Fig. 3. *Equisetum*. T.S. internode of aerial sterile shoot (diagrammatic).

1. It is wavy in outline because of the presence of ridges and grooves.
2. Outermost layer is the epidermis, cells of which have a deposit of silica in their outer and lateral walls.
3. Due to the presence of silica, the stem appears hard and rough to touch.
4. The continuity of epidermis is broken by sunken stomata present in each groove. In each sunken stoma, the guard cells are covered completely by subsidiary cells, thus giving the appearance of two sets of guard cells.
5. Below the epidermis is present a well-developed cortex.
6. Just below each ridge is present a large patch of sclerenchyma, which is mechanical in function. Sclerenchyma is also present below the grooves in between chlorenchyma (Figs. 3, 4).
7. Inner to be sclerenchyma is present chlorenchymatous tissue below each ridge. It is photo-synthetic in function. It extends upto the epidermis in each groove, where the stomata lie.
8. Rest of the cortex is parenchymatous and many layered.
9. Just below each groove is present a large air canal in the parenchymatous cortex. It is known as *vallecular canal*.

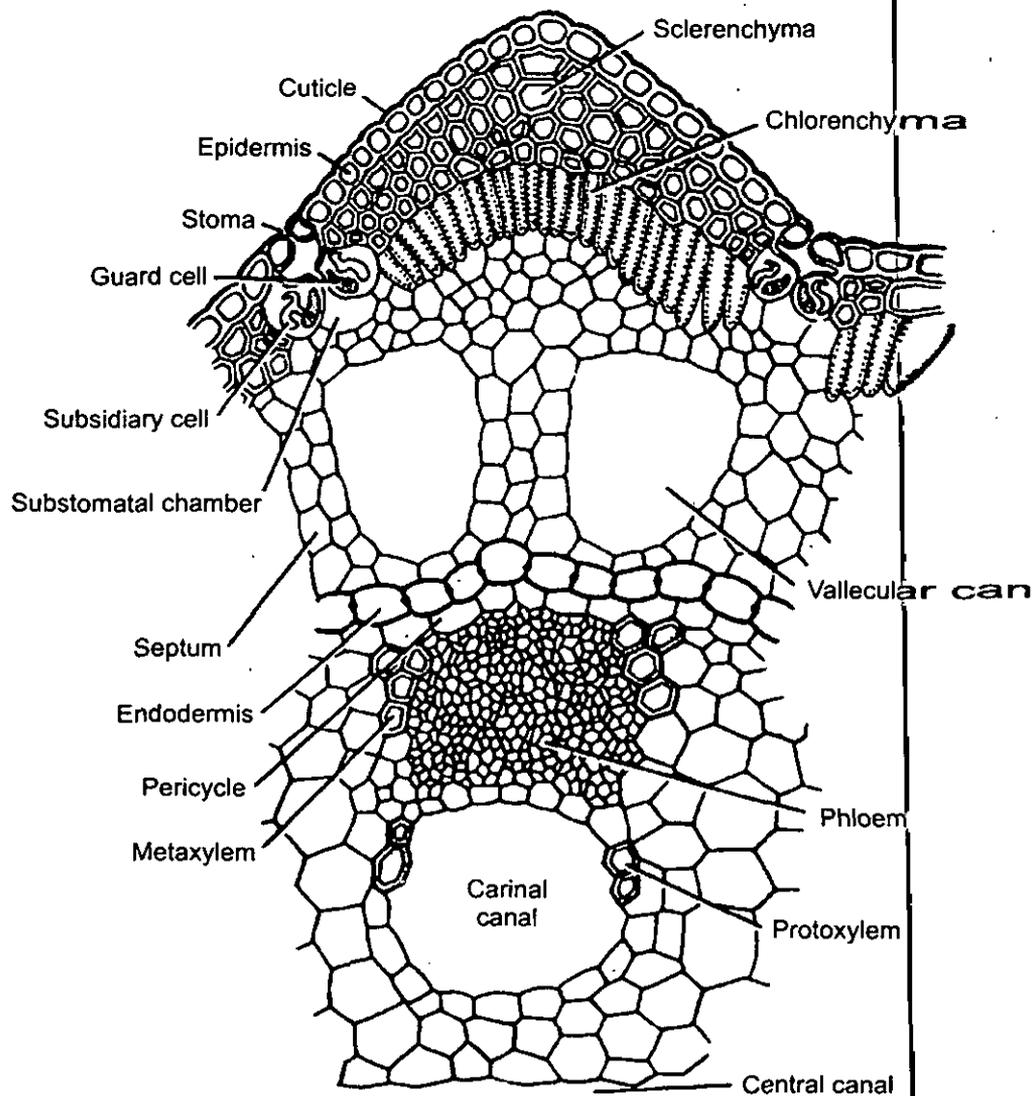


Fig. 4. Equisetum. T.S. internode of aerial shoot (a part).

10. Innermost layer of cortex is the endodermis, the cells of which contain casparian strips. But in species like *E. sylvaticum*, a layer of inner endodermis is also present (Fig. 5). In *E. litorale*, each vascular bundle contains its individual endodermis (Fig. 5) on next page.

11. Below the endodermis is present a single-layered pericycle.

12. Vascular bundles are present below the ridges, i.e., alternate to the vallicular canals of the cortex. They are present in the ring.

13. The number of vascular bundles and vallicular canals is equal to the number of ridges and grooves, respectively (Fig. 3).

14. Stele is of *ectophloic siphonostelic* type.

15. Each vascular bundle is conjoint, collateral, closed, and consists of xylem, phloem and some parenchyma.

16. In each vascular bundle is present a water-containing cavity or canal called *carinal canal* (Fig. 4).

17. Xylem is 'V' shaped.

18. Protoxylem is endarch lying opposite to carinal cavity. It consists of annular and spiral tracheids.

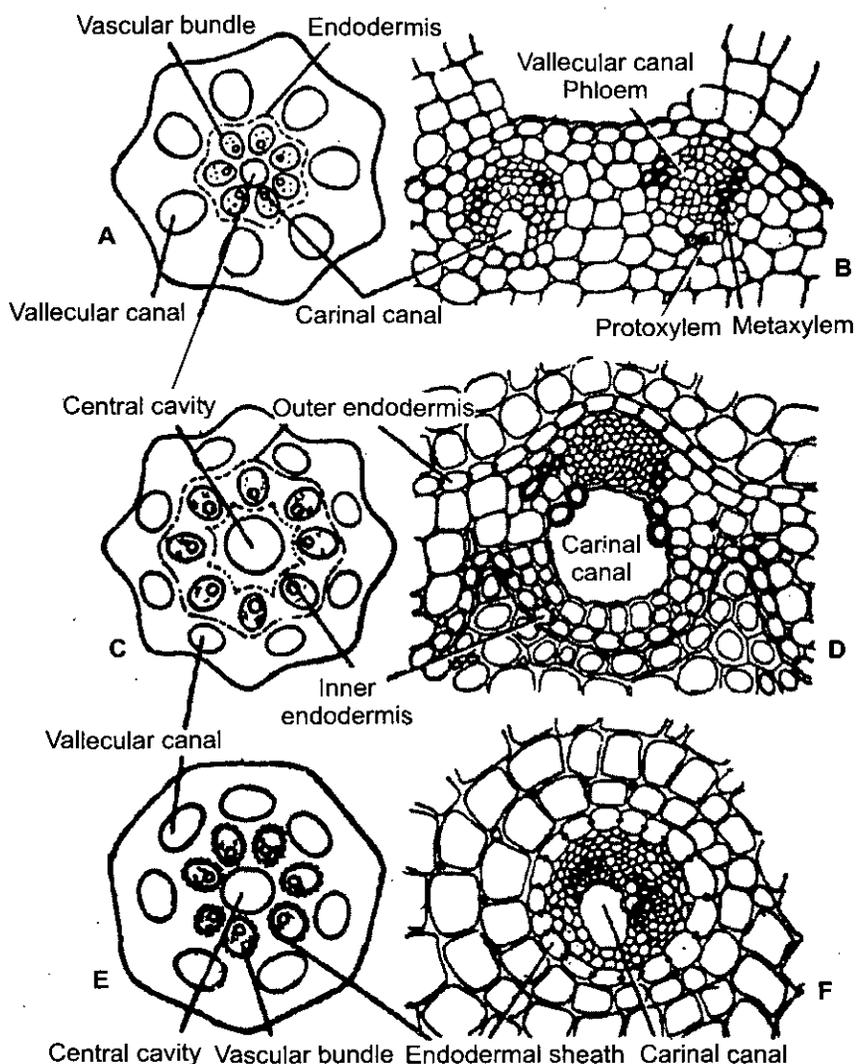


Fig. 5. *Equisetum*. Diagrammatic and a part cellular diagrams of different species. (A-B) T.S. stem of *E. palustre* showing a common endodermis of vascular bundles; (C-D) T.S. rhizome of *E. sylvaticum* showing outer and inner endodermal layers; (E-F) T.S. rhizome of *E. litorale* showing individual endodermal sheath of each vascular bundle.

19. Two strands of metaxylem are present.

20. Phloem is present in between two strands of metaxylem and is made up of phloem parenchyma and sieve tubes.

21. Pith is present in the form of pith cavity, located in the centre of the aerial shoot (Figs. 3, 4).

T.S. Internode of Aerial Fertile Shoot

The structure is exactly similar with that of aerial sterile shoot, except a few following minor differences :

1. Absence of stomata.
2. Less developed chlorenchyma and sclerenchyma regions.

T.S. Internode of Rhizome

It also resembles in structure with the aerial sterile shoot except a few following dissimilarities :

1. Ridges and grooves are not so much well-marked as in sterile shoot.
2. Absence of stomata (Fig. 6).

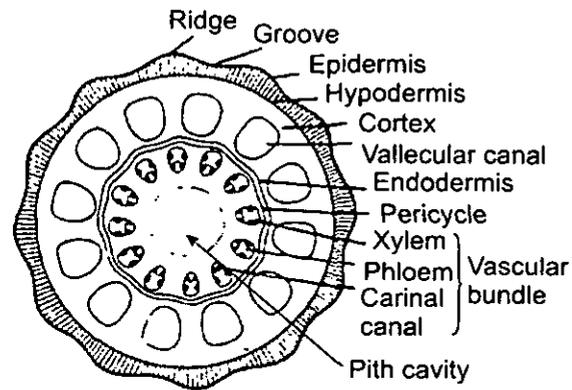


Fig. 6. *Equisetum*. T.S. internode of rhizome (diagrammatic).

3. Absence of chlorenchymatous region.
4. Sclerenchyma is poorly developed.
5. Hollow pith cavity is not well-developed and sometimes it becomes solid,

T. S. Node of Aerial Sterile Shoot

It also resembles the internode of aerial sterile shoot except following differences :

1. Absence of all three types of canal, i.e., vallicular canal, carinal canal and central canal.
2. Instead of a central pith cavity, a nodal diaphragm is present (Fig. 7).
3. Vascular bundles are present in the form of a ring after getting fused with each other.
4. Leaf traces and branch traces arise below the ridges and grooves, respectively.

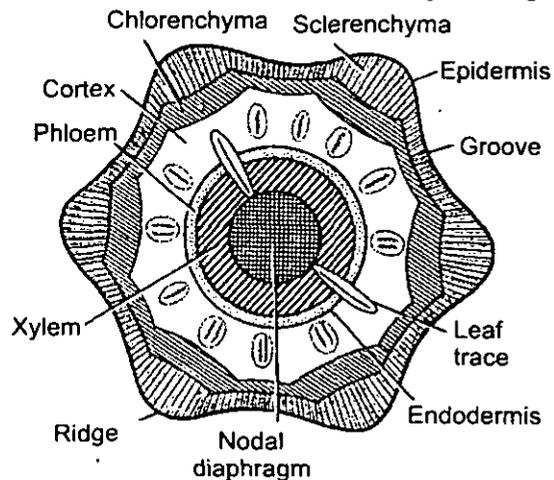


Fig. 7. *Equisetum*. T.S. node of aerial sterile shoot (diagrammatic).

T. S. Adventitious Root

1. Outermost layer is epidermis, from which arise many root hair.
2. Cortex is thick and multilayered.
3. Outer zone of cortex consists of 3 to 4-celled thick exodermis.
4. Inner zone is parenchymatous with many intercellular spaces.
5. Endodermis is two-layered (Fig. 8).

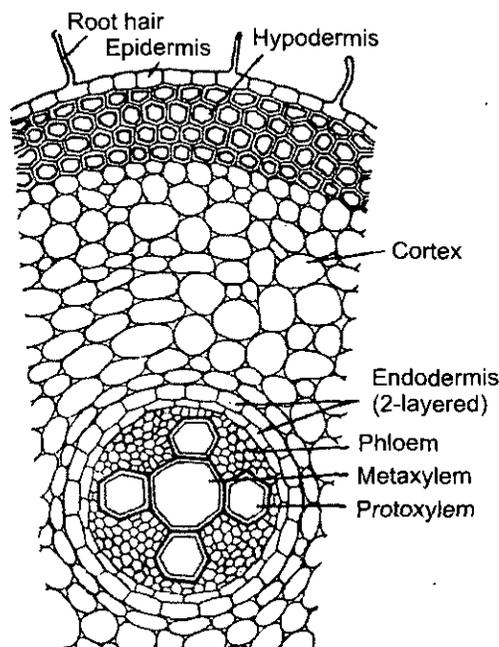


Fig. 8. *Equisetum*. T.S. root (a part cellular).

6. Pericycle is absent.

7. Stele is a protostele, which is triarch or tetrarch.

8. In the centre is present a large metaxylem tracheid having many protoxylem groups towards the periphery.

9. Phloem is present in between the angles of protoxylem.

SPORE-PRODUCING ORGANS

Study the external features of cone, cut its transverse and longitudinal sections, stain in safranin, mount in glycerine and study. Also prepare slides of spores and elaters :

1. Fertile aerial, unbranched shoots bear at their apices (Fig. 9) the spore-bearing compact organs known as *strobili* (sing. *strobilus*) or *cones*. In some rare cases branched fertile axis is also present (Fig. 10).

2. Each cone or strobilus has a thick central axis known as *strobilus axis* or *cone axis* (Figs. 11, 12).

3. On the strobilus axis are attached many umbrella like sporangiophores in whorl.

4. Each sporangiophore is a stalked structure, the free end of which becomes flattened to form a *peltate disc* (Fig. 11).

5. The disc is a hexagonal structure and present at right angle to the stalk.

6. On the undersurface of disc are present many sporangia, horizontally towards the axis of strobilus.

7. Each sporangium is elongated and pendant, and contains a rounded apex (Fig. 13)

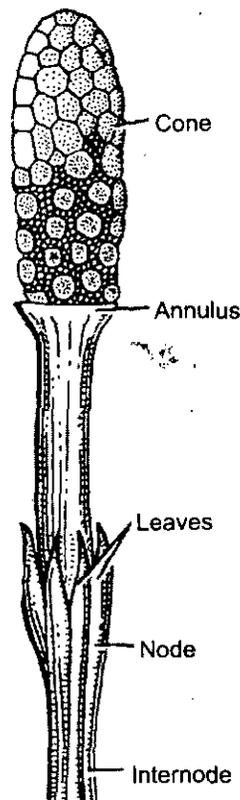


Fig. 9. *Equisetum arvense*. A fertile shoot bearing cone.

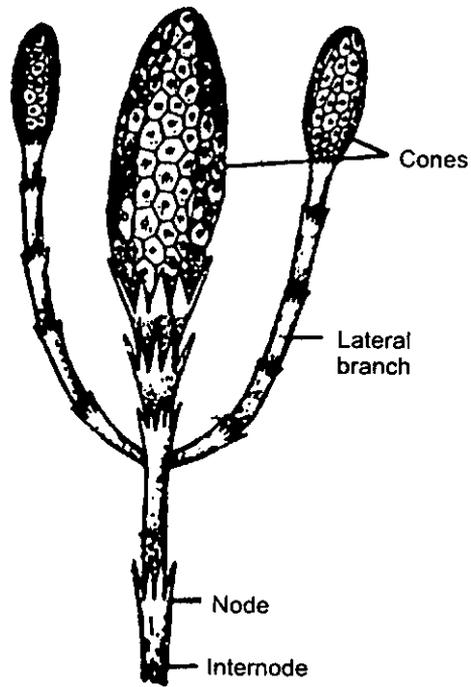


Fig. 10. *Equisetum debile*. Branched fertile axis bearing cones.

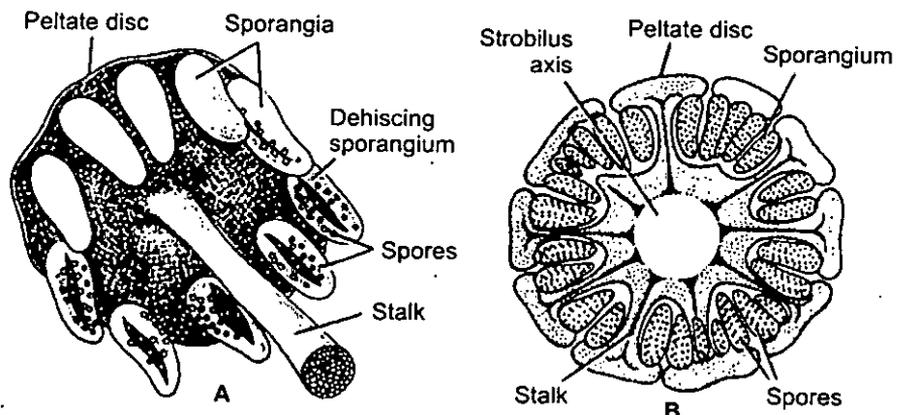


Fig. 11. *Equisetum*. A, Ventral view of a single sporangiophore; B, T.S. strobilus.

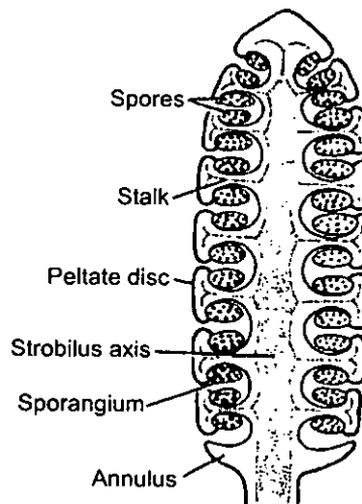


Fig. 12. *Equisetum*. L.S. cone.

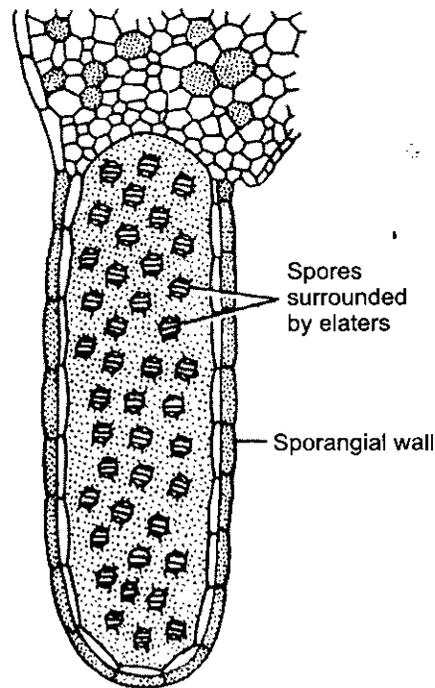


Fig. 13. *Equisetum telmateia*. A sporangium.

8. The sporangium is surrounded by jacket and tapetal layers which enclose many spores. *Equisetum* is homosporous (Fig.13).

9. A ring-like outgrowth is present below each strobilus. This is called *annulus*. Morphological nature of annulus is controversial. According to some it is the uppermost whorl of sterile leaves while others are of the opinion that it is the lowermost sterile sporangiophore (Fig. 12).

Spores and Elaters

1. Each spore is uninucleate, globular or spherical in shape and contains many chloroplasts.

2. The wall of each spore consists of four layers. Innermost cellulose layer is called endospore, which is enclosed by exospore, Outside the exospore is a middle layer (cuticular), which is surrounded by the outermost episporium (Fig.14).

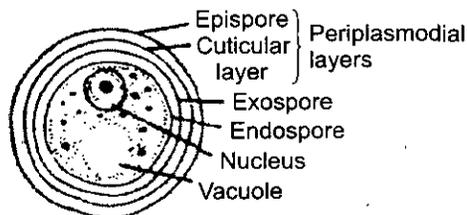


Fig. 14. *Equisetum telmateia*. A spore.

3. The middle layer and the outermost layer of episporium are the derivatives of periplasmodial liquid formed by the degeneration of some spore mother cells and tapetal cells.

4. The episporium splits and thus forms four distinct appendages, which remain attached on a common point on the spore wall. These four appendages are known as elaters (Fig. 15).

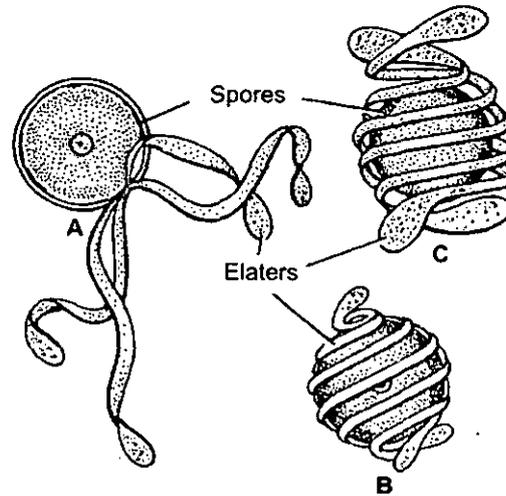


Fig. 15. Equisetum. Mature spores. A, A spore with uncoiled elaters of *E. telmateia*; B, With coiled elaters of *E. telmateia*, C, A mature spore of *E. arvense* with coiled elaters.

5. The tip of these spiral band-like elaters is flattened and spoon like.
6. The elaters are hygroscopic in nature.
7. In moist conditions, the elaters remain coiled around the spores, while in dry conditions, they separate and become free (Fig. 15).
8. Elaters help in the dehiscence of sporangium and dispersal of spores.

Identification

(a) (i) Roots, stem and leaves constitute the plant body.

(ii) True vascular strand present.

(iii) Plant body sporophytic.

(iv) Gametophyte is small and independent.

.....Pteridophyt

(b) (i) Plant body articulated.

(ii) Stem with distinct nodes and internodes.

(iii) Ridges and grooves present.

(iv) Leaves small and scaly.

.....Sphenopsid

(c) (i) Plants herbaceous and not tree-like.

(ii) Secondary thickenings absent.

(iii) Vascular cylinder siphonostelic.

(iv) Compact cones present.

.....Equisetale

with a single family.

.....Equisetacea

and the single genus.

.....Equisetum

GYMNOSPERMS

• WHAT ARE GYMNASPERMS?

"Phanerogams without an ovary" have been referred as *Gymnosperms* (*gymnos*, naked; *sperma*, seed) or *naked seeded* plants by Goebel. The lower Gymnosperms, such as members of Cycadales, resemble with the *higher Cryptogams* (*Pteridophytes*), while the higher Gymnosperms, such as Gnetales and Coniferales, resemble with members of Angiosperms. This sub-division of *Phanerogams* (*flowering plants*), *i.e.*, Gymnosperms, is represented by over 60 genera and 700 species, of which about 16 genera and 53 species have been reported from India.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

1. Plants are woody perennials with shrubby or tree like habit and show xerophytic characters.
2. Some of the members attain a height of more than 100 meters, *e.g.*, *Sequoiadendron giganteum*.
3. Plant body is differentiated into roots, stem and leaves.
4. Tap root system is exarch and diarch to polyarch.
5. Leaves are of two types foliage leaves and scaly leaves. They are pinnately compound as in *Cycas*, or needle-like as in *Pinus*.
6. The vascular bundles in stem are conjoint, collateral, open and endarch.
7. Due to the presences and activity of cambium, secondary growth is present.
8. The wood becomes closely packed or pycnoxylic in conifers due to the much reduced nature of pith and cortex. It is *manoxylic* or loose in *Cycas* due to the presence of well-developed pith and cortex.
9. The xylem is composed of tracheids with bordered pits.
10. In phloem, companion cells are absent.
11. The reproductive parts are generally arranged in the form of compact and hard *cones or strobili*. The cones are generally unisexual.
12. In male cones, many microsporophylls are arranged on the central axis, each having many microsporangia containing microspores or pollen grains.
13. The ovules are covered by a single integument, and are orthotropous. The integument consists of an outer fleshy, a middle stony and inner fleshy layer. It surrounds the nucellus.
14. Each ovule opens with the help of a mouth opening or micropyle.
15. Formation of embryo is meroblastic, *i.e.*, develops from a small part of zygote.
16. *Polyembryony* is present in many members, *e.g.*, *Pinus*.
17. True fruits are lacking.
18. Plants show alternation of generations.
19. Members of most of the orders (*Cycadales*, *Coniferales* and *Ginkgoales*) are living while that of the other orders like *Cordaitales* and *Cycadeoideales* are represented by fossil genera.

Indian Genera : Sixteen genera of gymnosperms reported from India are *Cycas*, *Pinus*, *Gnetum*, *Ephedra*, *Abies*, *Cedrus*, *Picea*, *Larix*, *Tsuga*, *Cupressus*, *Cephalotaxus*, *Juniperus*, *Podocarpus*, *Libocedrus*, *Taiwania* and *Taxus*.

Some Indian Species : *Cycas revoluta*, *C. circinalis*, *C. rumphii*, *C. pectinata*,
C. siamensis, *C. beddomei*, etc.

Systematic Position

Division	:	Gymnosperms
Class	:	Cycadopsida
Order	:	Cycadales
Family	:	Cycadaceae
Genus	:	<i>Cycas</i>

What is to do done?

To study (i) External morphology of plant, (ii) Anatomy of normal young root, normal old root, coralloid root, stem (young), stem (old), rachis, leaflets of *Cycas revoluta* and *circinalis*, (iii) External morphology of male cone, (iv) Microsporophyll, microsporangium and microspores, (v) T.S. microsporophyll, (vi) Megasporophylls of different species, (vii) L.S. mature ovule, (viii) L.S. seed, and (ix) To identify the plant giving reasons.

External Features

1. Sporophytic plant body attains a height of 8 to 15 feet or more and appears like small palm.
2. The plant body is differentiated into roots, stem and leaves (Fig. 1).
3. Roots are of two types : normal roots and coralloid roots.
4. Normal roots grow deep into the soil and are well-branched and positively geotropic.

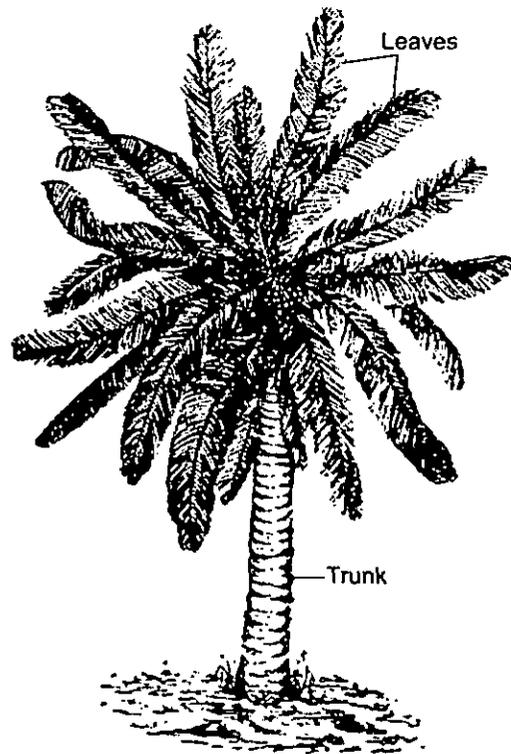


Fig. 1. *Cycas circinalis*. View of an entire plant.

5. *Coralloid roots* (Fig. 2.) are coral-like, dichotomously branched, fleshy, negatively geotropic and arise from the lateral branches of normal roots.

6. Coralloid roots are green in colour because of the presence of an algal zone: In this zone are present members of Myxophyceae, such as *Nostoc* and *Anabaena*, and some bacteria.

7. Due to the presence of endophytic algae, these roots become swollen, appear like a coral and hence named coralloid.

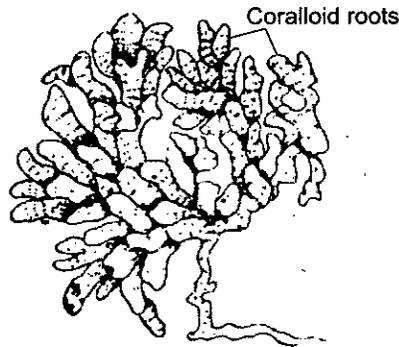


Fig. 2. *Cycas*. A bunch of coralloid roots.

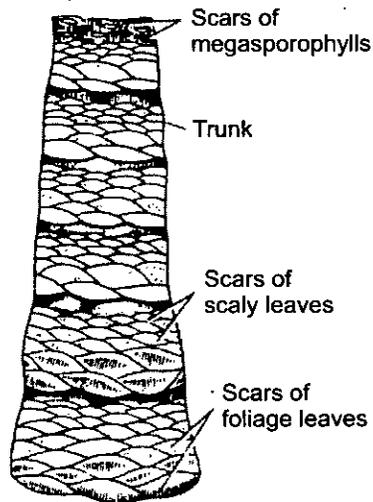


Fig. 3. *Cycas*. A part of stem showing leaf scars.



Fig. 4. *Cycas*. A single foliage leaf.

8. The *stem* is erect, stout and unbranched and remains covered with hard arm (Fig 3). of woody leaves and sporophyll bases.

9. At the apex of stem is present a crown of leaves arranged spirally.

10. Leaves are of two types ; foliage leaves and scaly leaves.

11. *Foliage leaves* (Fig. 4) are green, large, pinnately compound and may reach 3 to 5 feet or more in length.

12. A foliage leaf consists of a hard *rachis* having many *pinnae* or *leaflets* arranged in two rows on both sides (Fig. 4).

13. Each leaflet is sub-sessile and lanceolate in shape having an acute apex; midrib is present in each leaflet.

14. The margin of leaflets is revolute or curved downward in *C. revoluta*, while flat in *C. circinalis* and *C. rumphii*.

15. Leaves are circinately coiled when young (Fig. 5).

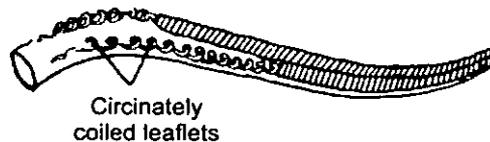


Fig. 5. *Cycas*. A young leaf showing circinate vernation.

16. *Scaly leaves* are dry, brown-coloured, covered with many hair and present at apex of stem.

17. Sometimes, many "*bulbils*" arise in between the leaf bases of the stem. They are covered with scaly leaves at the base and germinate into new plants in favourable conditions (Fig. 6).

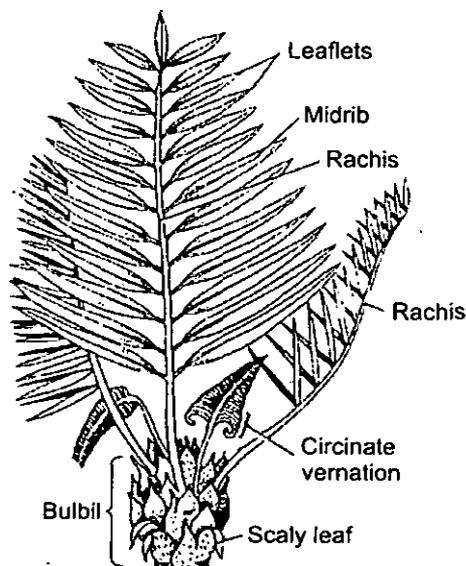


Fig. 6. *Cycas*. A single bulbil.

Anatomy of different parts

Cut thin transverse sections of different parts (young normal root, old normal root, coralloid root, young stem, old stem, rachis and leaflets of *Cycas revoluta* and *circinalis*), stain them separately in safranin-fast green combination, mount in glycerine and observe the anatomical details.

T.S. Normal Root (Young)

1. Outermost layer of the root, which is circular in outline, is called epiblema. It consists of many tangentially elongated cells. From some cells arise the root hair (Fig. 7).

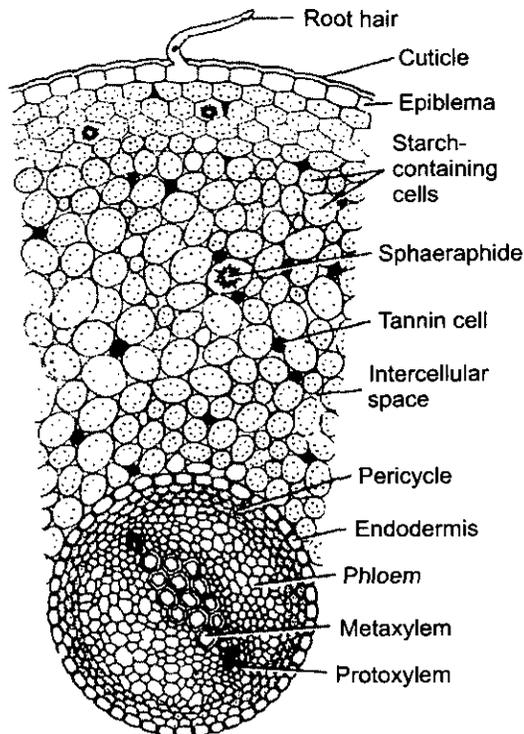


Fig. 7. *Cycas revoluta*. T.S. normal root (Young).

2. Inner to the epiblema is the parenchymatous cortex with many intercellular spaces. The cells are filled with starch.

3. Tannin cells and sometimes mucilage canals are also present in cortex.

4. Inner to the cortex is a single-layered endodermis having casparian strips and multilayered pericycle.

5. Vascular bundles are radial, *i. e.*, xylem and phloem are present on different radii. Xylem is exarch and generally diarch, but sometimes protoxylem strands range from 3 to 8 in number.

6. Exarch protoxylem contains spiral thickenings, while metaxylem has scalariform thickenings.

7. The phloem consists of sieve tubes and phloem parenchyma and present alternate to the xylem groups.

8. Pith is generally absent.

T.S. Normal Root (Old)

1. Epiblema is ruptured and lacks root hair.

2. Below the epiblema is present multilayered cork followed by cork cambium and many-layered parenchymatous cortex (Fig. 8).

3. Endodermis and pericycle are same as in young normal root.

4. Cambium cuts secondary phloem towards outer side and secondary xylem towards inner side. Vascular rays are also clear.

5. Outside the secondary phloem may also present a layer of crushed primary phloem.

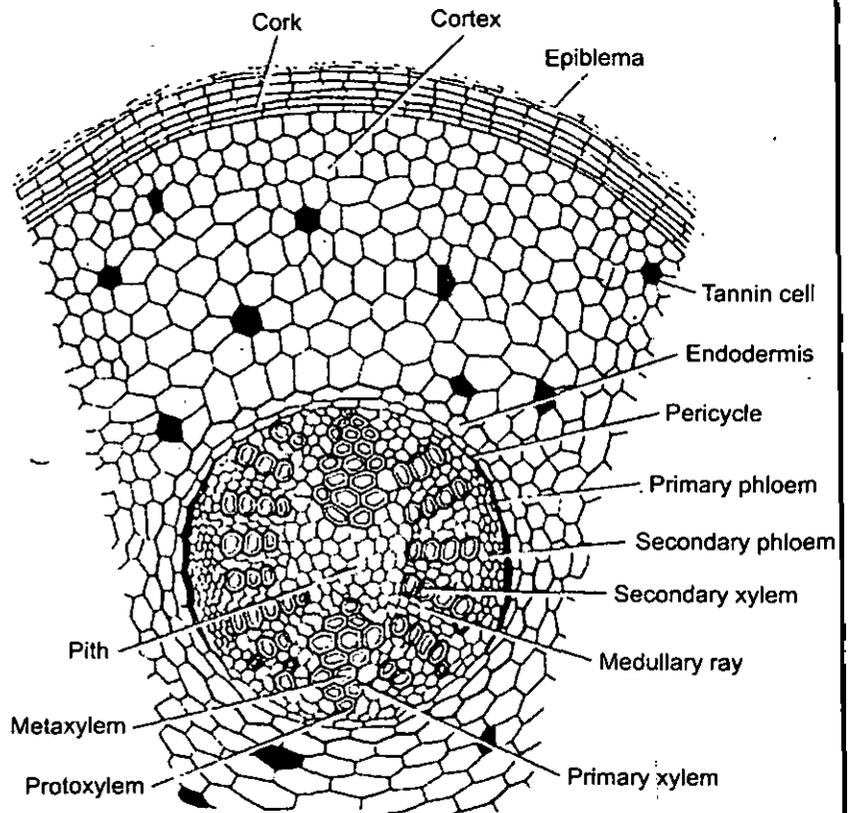


Fig. 8. Cycas. T.S. old normal root (a part cellular).

T.S. Coralloid Root

It is similar in many aspects to the normal root except a few variations as given below :

1. It is circular in outline and the outermost layer is epiblema. But at maturity cork as well as cork cambium develop. Root hair are normally absent.

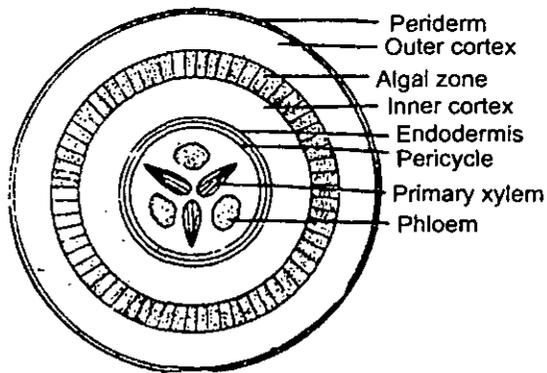


Fig. 9. Cycas. T.S. coralloid root (diagrammatic).

2. Cortex is parenchymatous and divisible into outer cortex and inner cortex having a middle algal zone (Fig. 9, 10).

Following algae and bacteria have been reported from algal zone ;

- (i) *Nostoc punctiforme*,
- (ii) *Anabaena cycadeae*,
- (iii) *Oscillatoria*,
- (iv) Members of Bacillariophyceae (diatoms),

(v) *Bacteria*, such as *Pseudomonas* and *Azotobacter*.

3. Details of endodermis, pericycle and vascular bundles are same as in normal root. Xylem is exarch and triarch.

4. Normally, secondary growth is absent (fig. 9, 10).

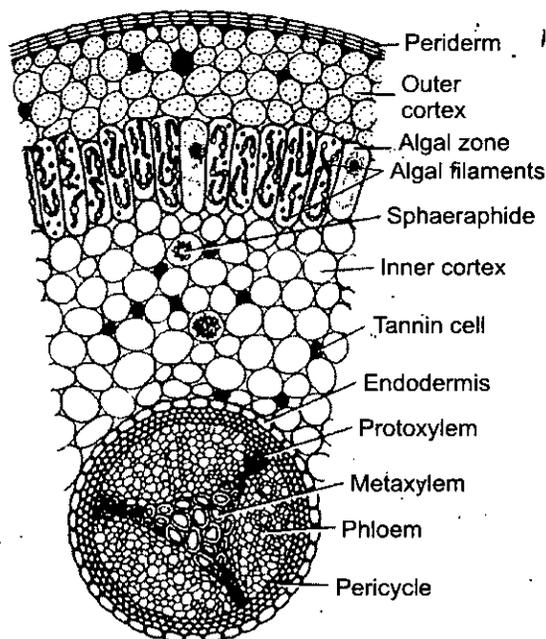


Fig. 10. *Cycas revoluta*. A part of T.S. coralloid root.

T.S. Stem (Young)

1. It is wavy or irregular in outline.

2. Outermost layer is the epidermis, which consists of compactly arranged thickwalled cells. Due to the presence of persistent leaf bases and woody scales, the epidermis is irregular and sometimes not very clear (Fig. 11).

3. Cortex is very large, parenchymatous and contains many girdle traces and mucilaginous ducts.

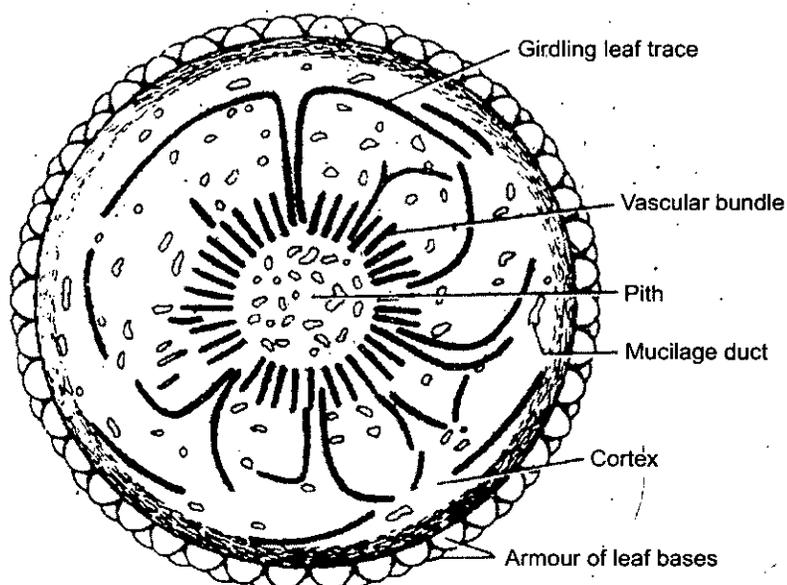


Fig. 11. *Cycas*. T.S. stem (young).

4. Each mucilaginous duct remains bounded by many epithelial cells or secretory cells.
5. Endodermis and pericycle are not very clear.
6. The vascular cylinder is *ectophloic siphonostele* and many vascular bundles are arranged in a ring. Each vascular bundle is conjoint, collateral, open and endarch.
7. Xylem consists of tracheids and xylem parenchyma. There is no vessel.
8. Outside the xylem is the phloem which consists of sieve tubes and phloem parenchyma.
9. Companion cells are absent.
10. In the centre of the stem is present pith.
11. Many mucilage ducts are present in the pith.

T.S. Stem (Old)

1. Secondary growth is present.
2. A thick outer periderm followed by large parenchymatous cortex, having numerous leaf traces and mucilaginous ducts, are present in the old stem.
3. Vascular strands are present in the form of rings (Fig. 12) Medullary rays are common.

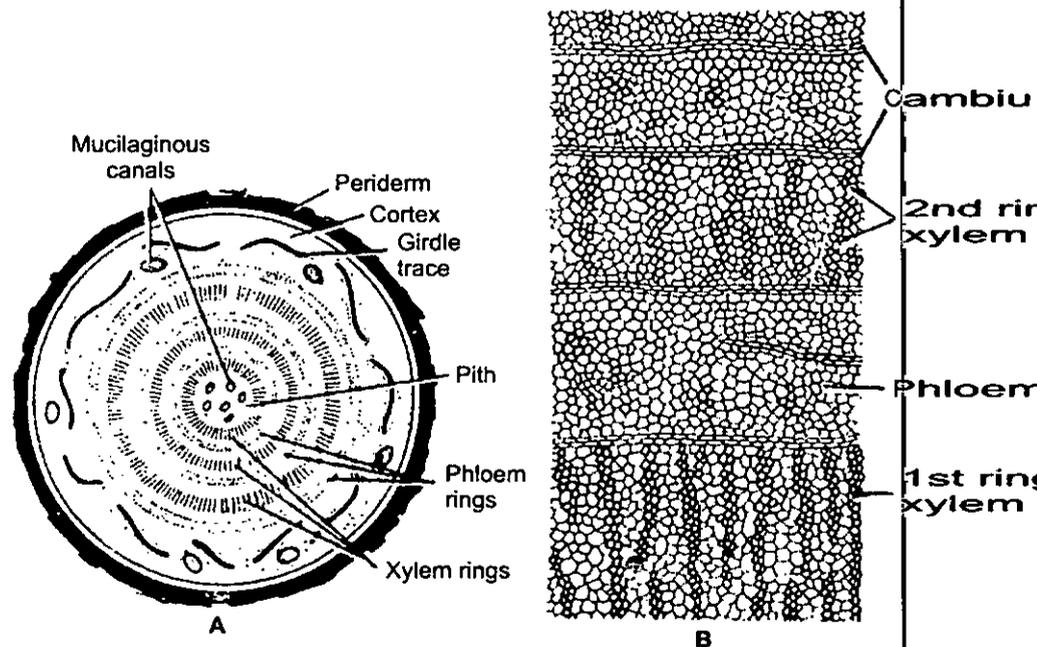


Fig. 12. *Cycas*. (A) T.S. old stem (diagrammatic); (B) T.S. old stem (a part cellular).

4. The number of vascular rings is variable from 2 to 14 in different species, showing polyxylic condition.

Other details are similar to those of young stem, discussed earlier.

T.S. Rachis

1. It is rhomboidal, biconvex or roughly cylindrical in outline, if the section passes through the base, middle or apex of the rachis, respectively.
2. Two arms are present on rachis, one on each side. These are the bases of leaflets, which arise from the rachis (Fig. 13).

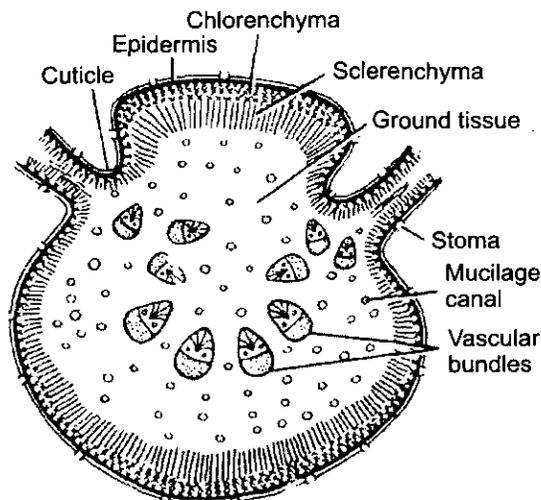


Fig. 13 *Cycas*. T.S. rachis (diagrammatic).

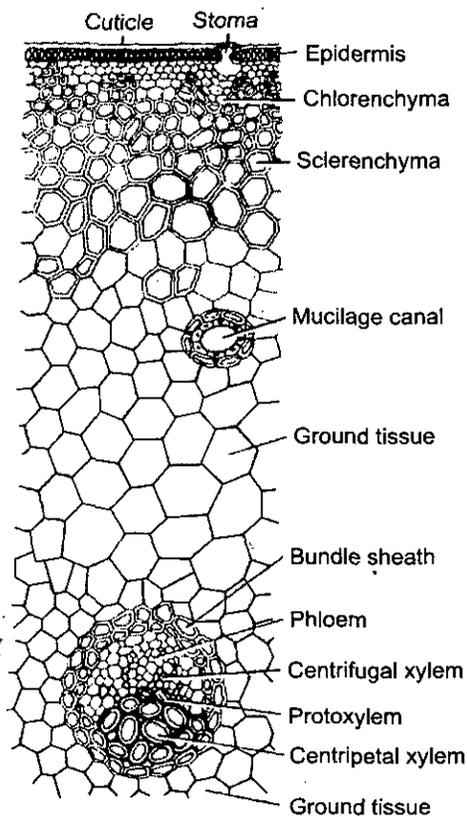


Fig. 14. *Cycas revoluta*. A part of T.S. rachis.

3. The outermost layer consists of thick walled epidermis which is heavily cuticularized.

4. The continuity of epidermis is broken by many sunken stomata present on upper as well as lower sides of rachis.

5. Below the epidermis are present chlorophyll-containing cells of chlorenchyma, followed by thick-walled sclerenchymatous region (Fig. 14).

6. Sclerenchyma is four to six-layered.

7. Below the sclerenchyma is present a large region of ground tissue consisting of thin-walled parenchymatous cells. In this region are present many mucilaginous canals and vascular bundles.

8. Each mucilaginous canal is a double-layered structure consisting of an inner layer of epithelial cells surrounded by an outer layer.

9. Vascular bundles are arranged in omega (Ω)-shaped manner (Fig. 13).

10. Each vascular bundle is conjoint, collateral and open, and remains surrounded by a bundle sheath.

11. In vascular bundles, the xylem is present towards inner side consisting of tracheids and xylem parenchyma with no vessels. It is separated from the phloem by the cambium. The xylem is *diploxylic*, i.e., consisting of centripetal and centrifugal xylem (Fig. 14).

12. Phloem is present on outer side and consists of sieve tubes and phloem parenchyma with no companion cells.

Vascular bundles show different structures at different levels of rachis starting from the base to the apex with regard to their diploxylic nature as under :

(a) Vascular bundles at the Base of Rachis

1. Only centrifugal xylem is well developed (Fig. 15A).
2. Its protoxylem faces towards the centre showing endarch condition.
3. Centripetal xylem is not developed.

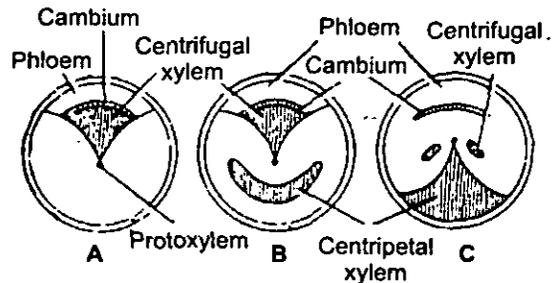


Fig. 15. *Cycas*. Diagrammatic representation of vascular bundles of rachis at different levels. (A) At the base; (B) In the middle; (C) At the apex.

(b) Vascular Bundles in the Middle of Rachis

1. Centripetal xylem as well as centrifugal xylem are present showing diploxylic condition (Fig. 15B).

2. Centripetal xylem is present just opposite to the protoxylem of the centrifugal xylem.

(c) Vascular Bundles at the Apex of Rachis

1. Centripetal xylem is well-developed, triangular and exarch (Fig. 15C).

2. Centrifugal xylem is much reduced and present in the form of two patches, one on each side of the protoxylem elements of centripetal xylem.

3. At the extreme tip, the centrifugal xylem is totally absent.

T.S. Leaflet of *Cycas revoluta*

1. It can be differentiated into a swollen midrib portion and two lateral wings.

2. The wings are curved downward or revolut at the margins (Fig. 16).

3. Outermost layer consists of thick-walled epidermis surrounded by a layer of cuticle.

4. Upper epidermis is a continuous layer while the continuity of lower epidermis is broken by many *sunken stomata*.

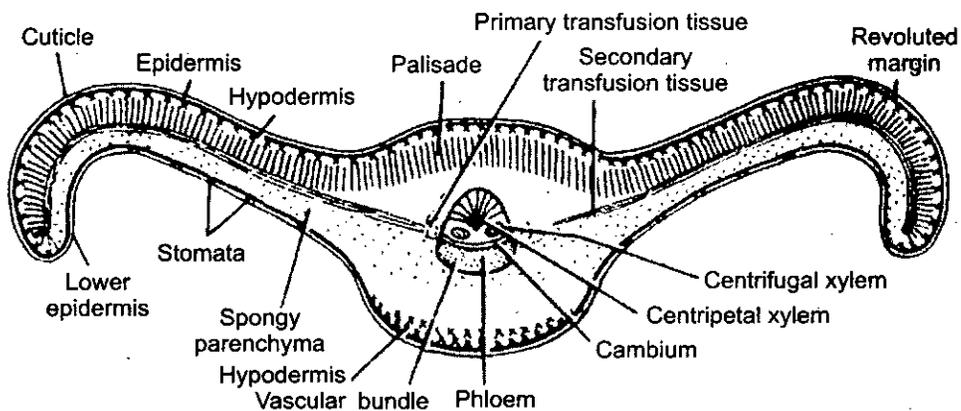


Fig. 16. *Cycas revoluta*. T.S. leaflet (diagrammatic).

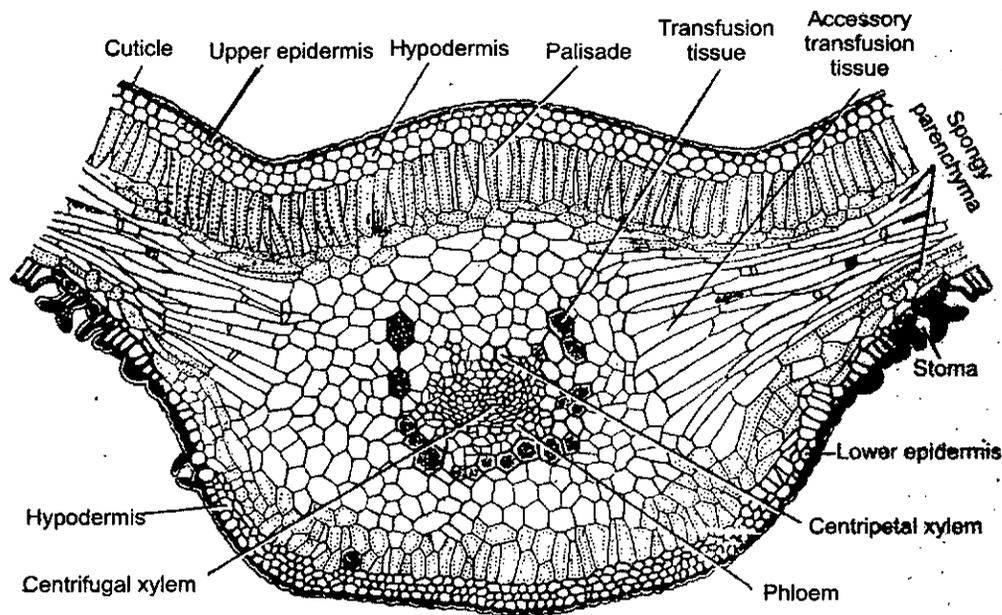


Fig. 17. *Cycas revoluta*. T.S. leaflet (a part cellular).

5. Below the upper epidermis is present the sclerenchymatous hypodermis which is more cells thick in the midrib region.

6. Hypodermis is absent below the lower epidermis, except in the midrib region.

7. Mesophyll is differentiated into *palisade* and *spongy parenchyma* (Fig. 17).

8. *Palisade* is present in the form of a continuous layer below the sclerenchymatous hypodermis. Cells of the palisade are radially elongated and filled with chloroplast.

9. *Spongy parenchyma* is present only in the wings directly above the lower epidermis. The cells are oval, filled with chloroplast and are loosely arranged having many intercellular spaces, filled with air.

10. Few layers of transversely elongated cells are present in both the wings (blades) just in between the palisade and spongy parenchyma. This is *secondary transfusion tissue*.

11. *Primary transfusion tissue* present just on either side of the centrally located vascular bundle.

12. A single vascular bundle is present in the midrib portion of the leaflet.

13. The *vascular bundle* is conjoint, collateral and open. It is *diploxylic*. The triangular centripetal xylem is well-developed with endarch protoxylem. Centrifugal

xylem is represented by two small groups on either side of protoxylem. Phloem is arc-shaped and remains separated from the cambium. Each vascular bundle is surrounded by a bundle sheath.

14. The portion of the midrib in between the palisade layer and lower hypodermis region is filled with parenchymatous cells, of which some cells contain calcium oxalate crystals.

T.S. Leaflet of *Cycas circinalis*

It resembles very much with the *Cycas revoluta*, discussed above, except following distinctions :

1. The margins of wings are straight and not revolute.
2. The upper side of the midrib is much everted out.
3. Stomata, which are present on lower epidermis, are not much sunken.
4. Hypodermis in wings is present only at the corners.
5. Palisade is present only in the wings and not in the midrib region.

Structures of vascular bundle, spongy parenchyma and other details are similar to *Cycas revoluta*.

REPRODUCTIVE STRUCTURES OF CYCAS

1. Plants are strictly dioecious.
2. Male structures are in the form of a compact conical body called *male strobilus* or *male cone* (Fig. 18).

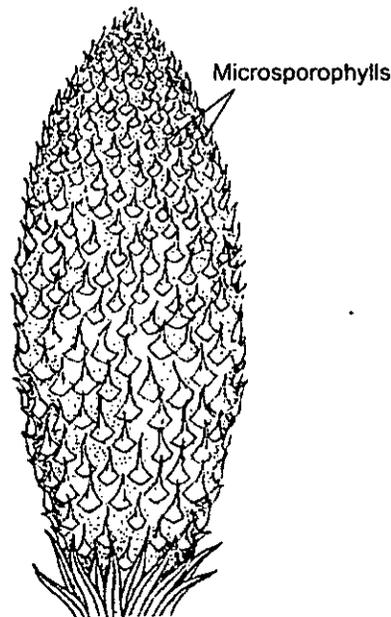


Fig. 18. *Cycas*. A male cone.

3. Female structures are not present in the form of compact cones but they are loosely arranged and called megasporophylls.

Male Cone

1. It is very large (Fig. 18), conical or ovoid structure, reaching sometimes upto 0.5 metre in length.
2. In the centre of each male cone is present a cone axis, which is clearly seen in L.S. (Fig. 19).

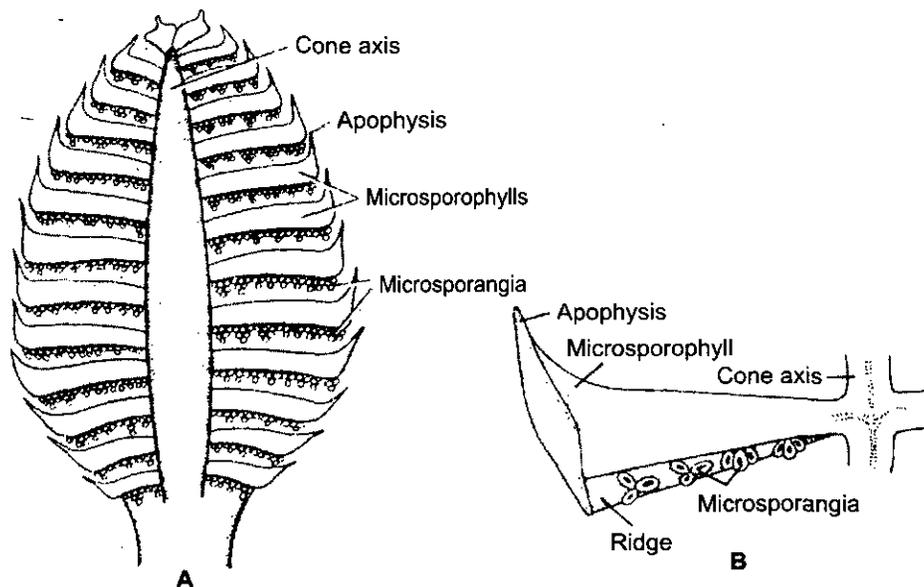


Fig. 19. *Cycas*. (A) L.S. male cone; (B) L.S. through a single microsporophyll with cone axis.

3. On the cone axis are attached many leafy structures at right angle. These are called microsporophylls.

4. At the base of the male cone are present many young leaves.

5. All the microsporophylls in the male cone are fertile, except a few at the base and a few at the apex.

Microsporophylls, Microsporangia and Microspores

Separate a microsporophyll from the male cone and observe the shape and arrangement of microsporangia on its lower surface.

1. Microsporophylls are flat, leaf-like, woody and brown-coloured structures with narrow base and expanded upper portion.

2. Upper expanded portion becomes pointed and is called apophysis.

3. Narrow base is attached to the cone axis with a short stalk.

Each microsporophyll has two surfaces : an adaxial or upper surface and an abaxial or lower surface.

4. *On the adaxial surface* is present a ridge-like projection in the middle and an apophysis at the apex (Fig. 20).

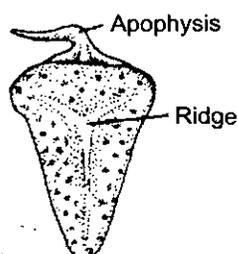


Fig. 20. *Cycas*. A single microsporophyll (adaxial surface)

5. *On the abaxial surface* are present thousands of microsporangia in the middle region in groups of 3 to 5. Each such group is called a *sorus* (Fig. 21A).

6. In between these groups are present many hair-like structures (Fig. 21B).

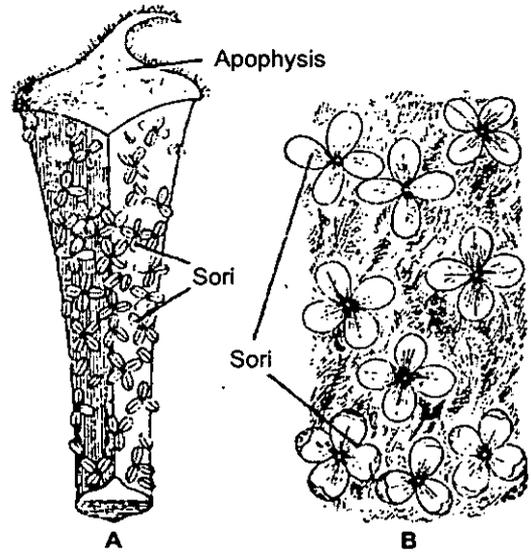


Fig. 21. *Cycas*. (A) Abaxial surface of a microsporophyll; (B) Groups of sori enlarged.

7. Each microsporangium is an oval or sac-like structure with a short stalk and encloses many *microspores* or *pollen grains*.

8. Each pollen grain is a rounded, uninucleate structure, surrounded by a thick exine and inner thin (or thick on lateral sides) intine.

T.S. Microsporophyll

Cut transverse section of microsporophyll, stain in safranin-fast green combination, mount in glycerine and study :

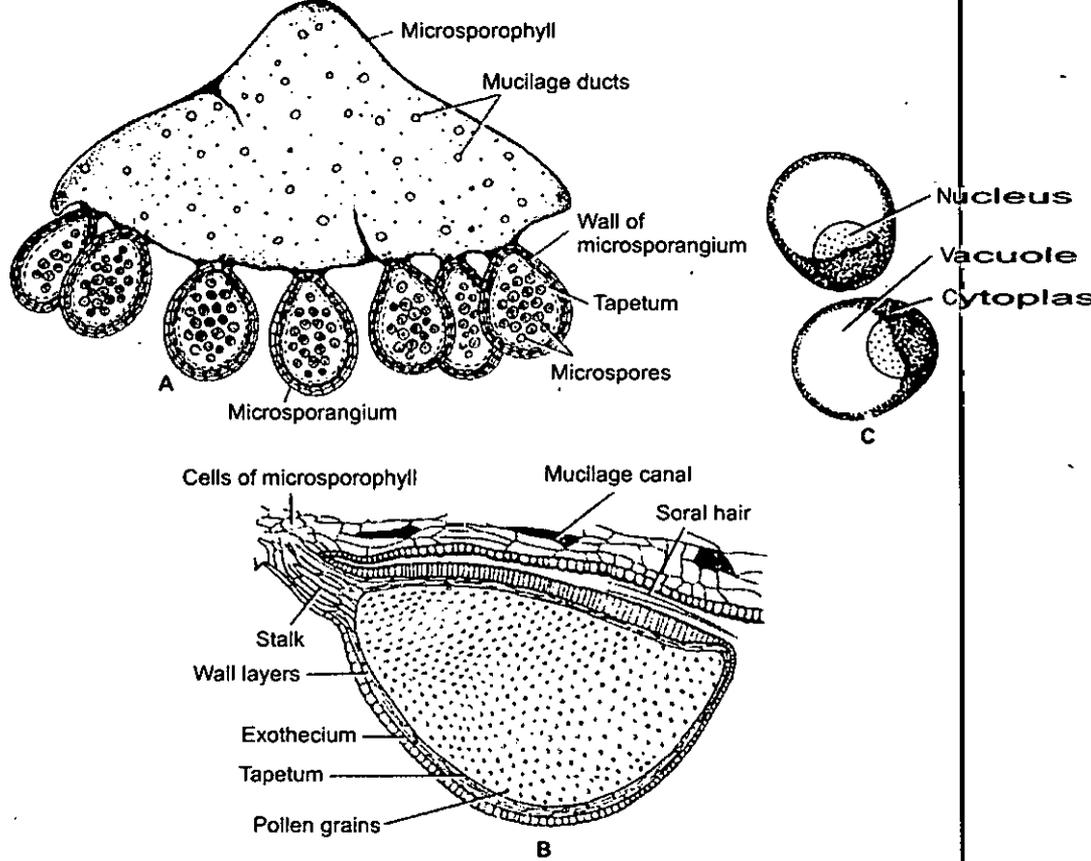


Fig. 22. *Cycas*. (A) T.S. microsporophyll; (B) An enlarged mature microsporangium cut longitudinally; (C) Two ungerminated pollen grains.

1. Many microsporangia (Fig. 22) are present on abaxial side.
2. Each shortly-stalked sporangium is surrounded by many layers with the innermost layer of tapetum. Many pollen grains are present in each sporangium.
3. Many mucilaginous canals and vascular bundles are present in the microsporophyll.

Female Reproductive Organs

There is no true female cone or strobilus. Female reproductive organs are present in the form of *megasporophylls* (Fig. 23).

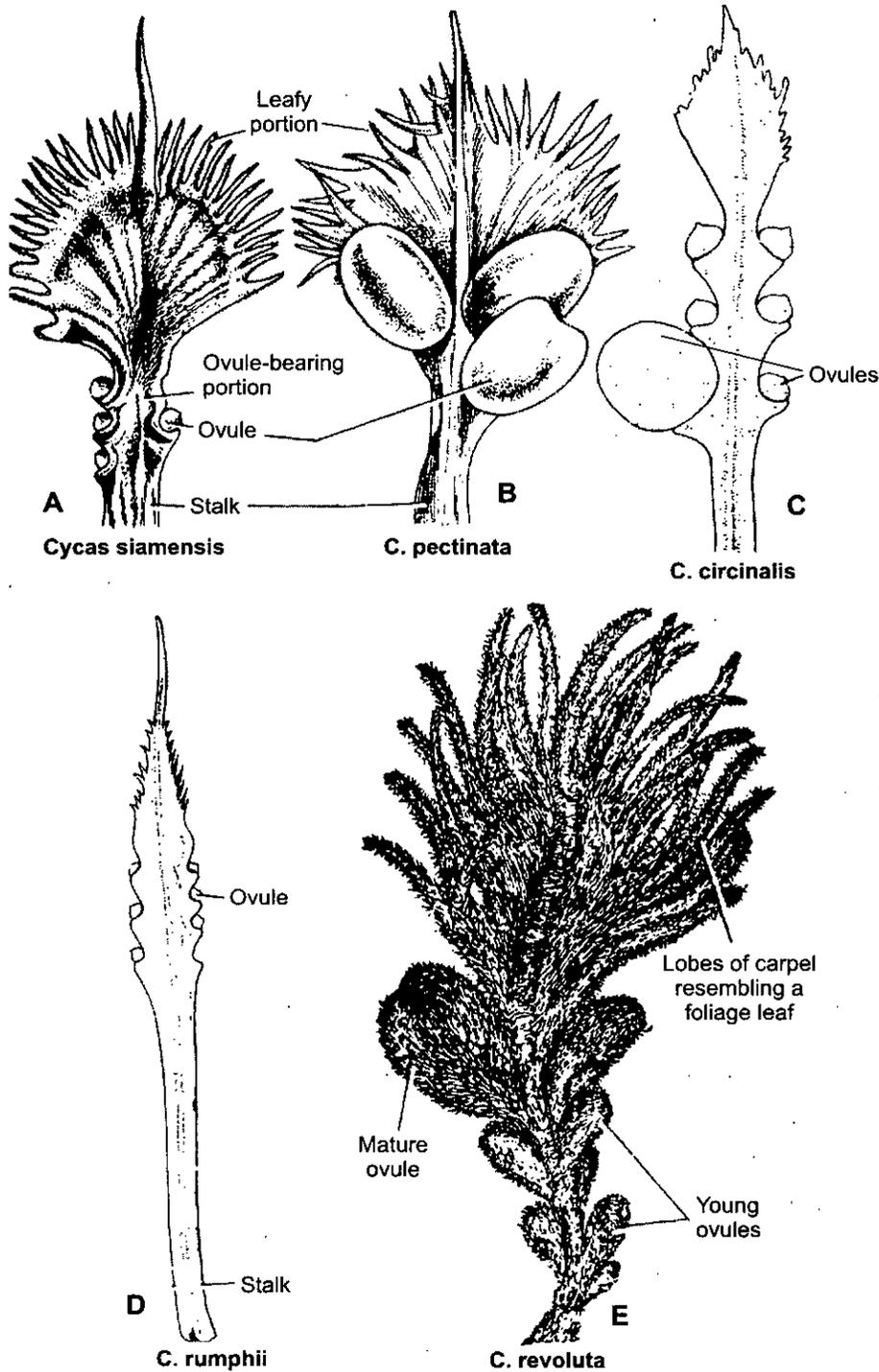


Fig. 23. *Cycas*. Megasporophylls of five different species of *Cycas*.

Megasporophylls

Observe the specimens of megasporophylls of different species and note the following features :

1. Like foliage leaves, megasporophylls are spirally arranged at the apex of stem, very large number, and thus appear like a rosette.
2. They are loosely arranged in acropetal succession without showing any effect apical meristem.
3. They are formed once in a year in the mature plant.
4. Each megasporophyll is considered as a modification of foliage leaf and reaches to 20 cm or more in length.
5. Each megasporophyll is a flat body consisting of an upper dissected or leafy portion and a lower stalk. On stalk, the ovules are arranged in two rows.
6. Megasporophylls are covered by many yellow or brown-coloured hair.
7. The ovules are green when young but at maturity they are fleshy and orange or red-coloured structures.
8. The ovule of *C. circinalis* is the largest amongst the living gymnosperms measuring about 6 cm in length.

External morphology of megasporophyll is different in different species of *Cycas* with regard to the number of ovules and the dissected nature of the upper portion.

(A) Megasporophyll of *Cycas rumphii*

1. The pinnae are reduced in size (Fig. 23D).
2. The number of ovules is 4 to 6.
3. The base of the megasporophyll is covered by scaly leaves.

(B) Megasporophyll of *Cycas revoluta*

1. Upper part is much dissected and pinnate (Fig. 23E).
2. Tip of each pinna is generally acute.
3. The size of megasporophyll ranges between 15 to 20 cm.
4. The number of ovules is 2 to 12.

(C) Megasporophyll of *Cycas circinalis*

1. The upper part is not much dissected.
2. The margin of the upper part is serrate (Fig. 23C).
3. The ovule is largest amongst the living gymnosperms.

(D) Megasporophyll of *Cycas siamensis*

1. The leafy portion is much dissected.
2. Few upper pinnules unite to form a solid structure (Fig. 23A).
3. The number of ovules is only two.

L.S. Mature Ovule

1. The ovule (Fig. 24) is orthotropous and unitegmic.
2. The single integument is very thick and covers the ovule from all the sides except at mouth-like opening called micropyle.
3. Single integument consists of following three layers (Fig. 24 A) :
 - (a) Outer, green or orange, fleshy layer called *sarcotesta*;
 - (b) Middle, yellow, stony layer called *sclerotesta* and;

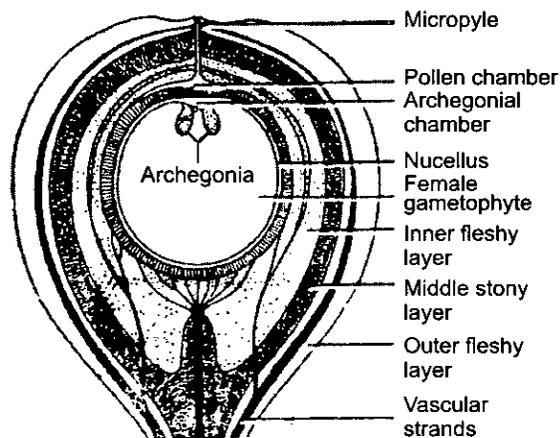


Fig. 24. *Cycas*. L.S. ovule showing two archegonia and female gametophyte.

(c) *Inner, fleshy layer.*

4. Integument remains in close association with the nucellus.

5. The nucellus develops the nucellar beak in the micropylar region.

6. In the nucellar beak is present a hollow small cavity or chamber called *pollen chamber*.

7. In the centre of the ovule is present a female gametophyte, in which an *archegonial chamber* develops just below the pollen chamber.

8. Two *archegonia* are present in the female gametophyte near the archegonial chamber.

9. Ovule gets vascular supply by the vascular strand in the outer and inner fleshy layers. There is no vascular supply for middle stony layer.

L.S. Seed

1. Ovule, as a whole, develops into the seed after fertilization.

2. It is very large, ovoid or globose in shape and attains a size of 2.5 to 5 cm.

3. Seed is red to orange-coloured structure.

4. Only one embryo is present in each mature seed.

5. Two cotyledons (Fig. 25) are present in the embryo.

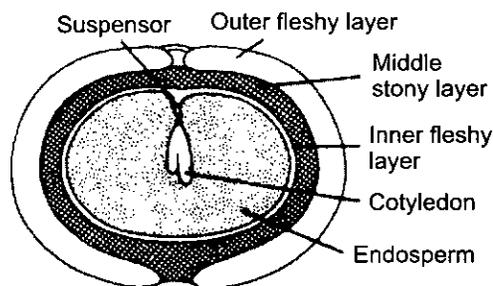


Fig. 25. *Cycas*. L.S. seed.

6. Embryo remains surrounded by the endosperm.

7. Endosperm stores a considerable quantity of food material for the growth of embryo.

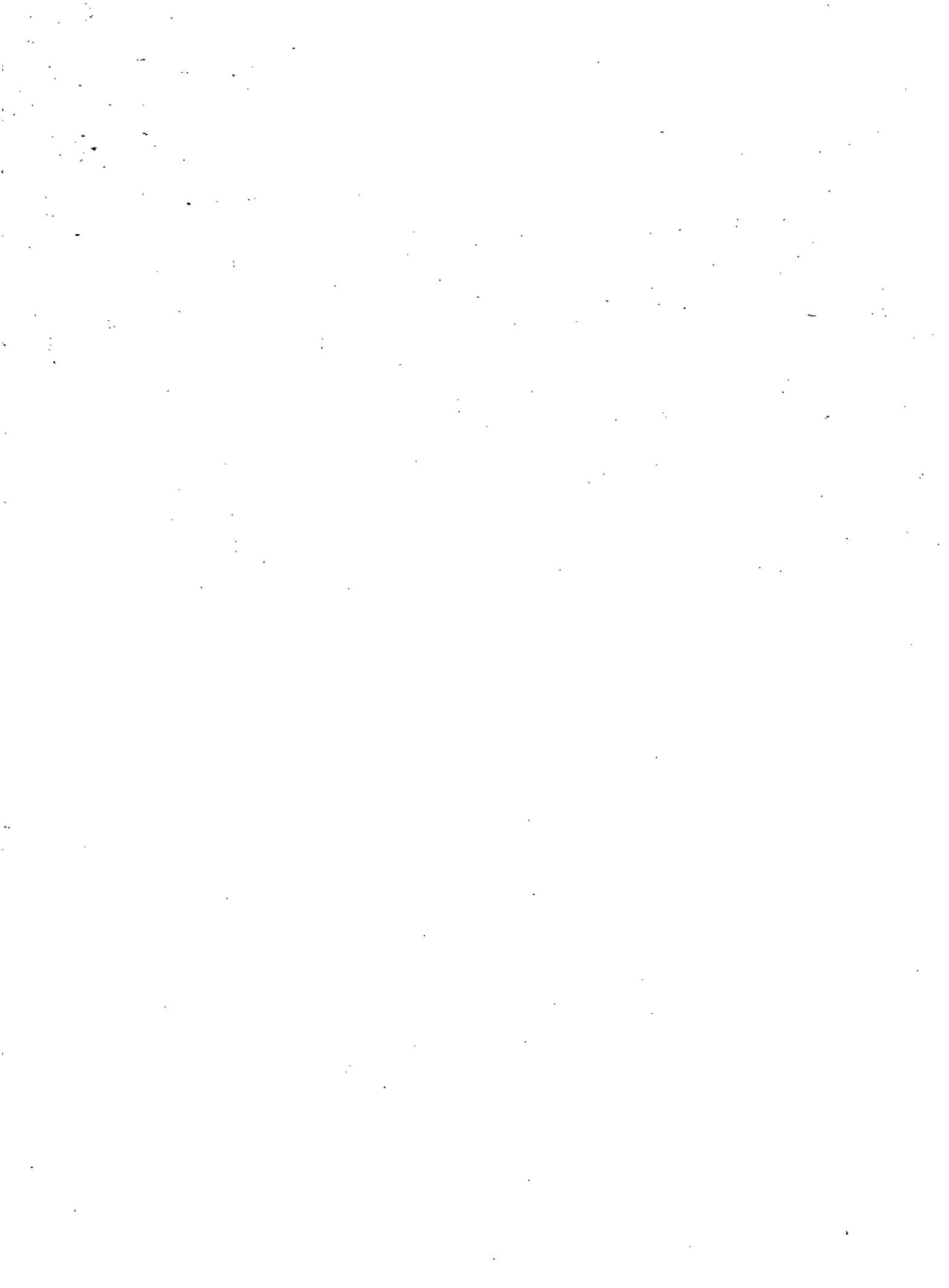
8. Seed remains covered by an outer thick fleshy layer, middle stony layer and the innermost papery layer.

Identification

(a) (i) *Sporophytic plant body is differentiated into roots, stem and leaves.*

(ii) *Ovules are naked.*

- (iii) Xylem lacks vessels.
 - (iv) Phloem lacks companion cells.
 - (v) Plant unisexual. Gymnosperm.
- (b) (i) Leaves large, frond-like.
- (ii) Wood monoxyle.
 - (iii) Dioecious plants with motile male gametes.
 - (iv) Seeds show radial symmetry. Cycadopsida
- (c) (i) Plants are not large trees.
- (ii) Stem unbranched and covered by leaf bases.
 - (iii) Plant is palm like.
 - (iv) Young leaves are circinate coiled.
 - (v) Mucilage canals are present both in pith as well as cortex.
 - (vi) Ovule is orthotropous and unitegmic. Cycadales
- (d) (i) Coralloid roots are present.
- (ii) Leaves large, pinnately compound and circinate coiled when young.
 - (iii) Leaf-like megasporophylls. Cycadaceae
- (e) (i) Roots are of two types-normal and coralloid.
- (ii) Leaves are of two types-foliage and scaly.
 - (iii) Foliage leaves are circinate coiled, when young.
 - (iv) Male cones are very large, occur rarely and singly.
 - (v) Diploxylic vascular bundle in leaflets.
 - (vi) Leaf-like megasporophyll contains orthotropous and unitegmic ovules.
 - (vii) Embryo contains two cotyledons. Cycas



B.Sc. ZBC-104

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