

Unit V

BRYOPHYTA

General Character of Bryophyta

- * Bryophyta = Moss plants. This word was used by Braun. Schimper placed them in separate division.
- * They are placed in b/w Thallophyte & pteridophyte since they resembles with algae in some character living in water & in some aspects with pteridophyte having terrestrial habitat.
- * The vegetative parts are adjusted to the terrestrial habitat & in the sexual rep. the flagellate antherozoids require water (moisture), so in the plant kingdom they are described as "amphibious plants".
- * They are the 1st embryophytes without vascular tissues.
- * They grow in moist, shady places. Some grow on rock & bark. Some are epiphytes.
- * In Bryophyte plants there are two stages.

A) Gametophyte:

- * It is a haploid, autotrophic, long lived plants.
- * plant body is a dorsiventral thallus (Riccia, Marchantia, Anthoceros) or Root, stem & leaf like gametophore (Funaria, Polytrichum).
- * plant body contains parenchyma of 3 types