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CONCEPT TUTORIALS



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Ch-2 Sexual Reproduction in flowering plants

Flower :- Flower is a modified condensed shoot.

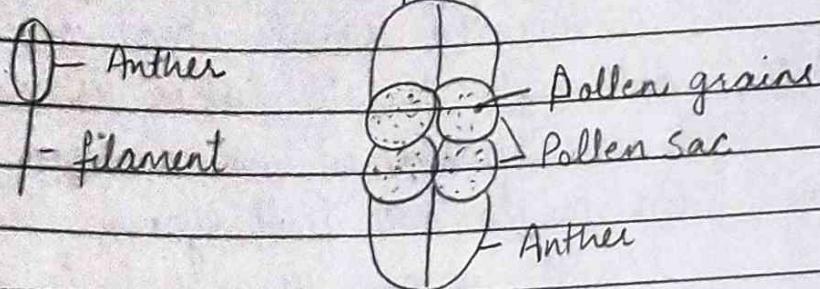
Flower has four parts:-

- (1) Calyx (2) Corolla (3) Androecium (Male)
- (4) Gynoecium (female)

Calyx and corolla are non essential parts of flower.

Androecium and Gynoecium are essential and reproductive part of flower.

Androecium :- It consists of stamen. Each stamen consists of a cylindrical, thread like filament and a broad terminal bilobed anther. At Each lobe of anther has two pollen sacs



Layers of anther :- The outer layer is epidermis. second layer is endothecium, one to three middle layers, inner layer is tapetum.

Role of tapetum :- During microsporogenesis, the cells of tapetum provide various hormones, enzymes, amino acids and nutritive materials.

The main functions of Tapetum are:-

1. Transportation of nutrients
2. Secretion of enzymes and hormones
3. Production of Visch bodies, which helps in thickening of exine

4. Secretion of oily material (Pollenkit)
 5. Secretion of special proteins.

Microsporogenesis:- During the development of the microsporangium, the cells of sporogenous tissue may divide in various planes and finally separate from each other to function as microspore mother cells. Some of the microsporocytes or mother cells degenerate and provide nourishment to others.

The surviving microsporocytes are connected with each other and each microsporocyte develops an internal layer of Callose. The microsporocytes then divide by meiosis and give rise haploid microspores by the process called Cytokinesis.

Pollinium:- All the microspores of an anther lobe remain united to form pollinium.

Dehiscence of Anther:- Mature pollen sac dries up and become powdery. The tapetum becomes absorbed. The anther dries up. All the pollen sacs of an anther forms a single chamber. All the layers of anther will break.

Microspore and pollen grain:- Microspore or pollen grain are haploid, uninucleate, minute spores produced in large numbers as a result of meiosis in microspore mother cells inside the microsporangium.

Pollen grain has two layers :- (a) exine (b) intine. The pollen grains consists of a yellow sticky material called Pollenkit. This helps in the pollen grains to attach with insects for pollination.

The branch of biology which deals with the study

of pollen grains called Palynology.

Development of male gametophyte :-

- It has two phases:-

1. Pre-pollination development

2. Post-pollination development

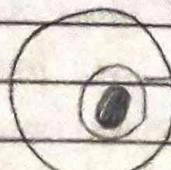
Pre-pollination development :-

The wall of microspore continues to differentiate. Microspore nucleus then divides mitotically into two daughter nuclei. These are two unequal nuclei. The smaller one named generative cell and larger one vegetative cell (tube cell)

In majority of angiosperms, the pollen grains are shed from the anther at this bicelled stage. but in some cases, the generative cell further divided into two male gametes.

Post-Pollination development :- The pollen grains are transferred to the stigma by the process called pollination. On the stigma, the pollen grains absorb water and swell within a few minutes. The vegetative cell enlarges and comes out through on the apertures in the form of pollen tube.

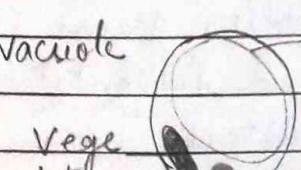
The vegetative tube nucleus and generative cell (2 male gamete) migrates into the pollen tube. The tube nucleus has no important function and may degenerate.



(A)



(B)

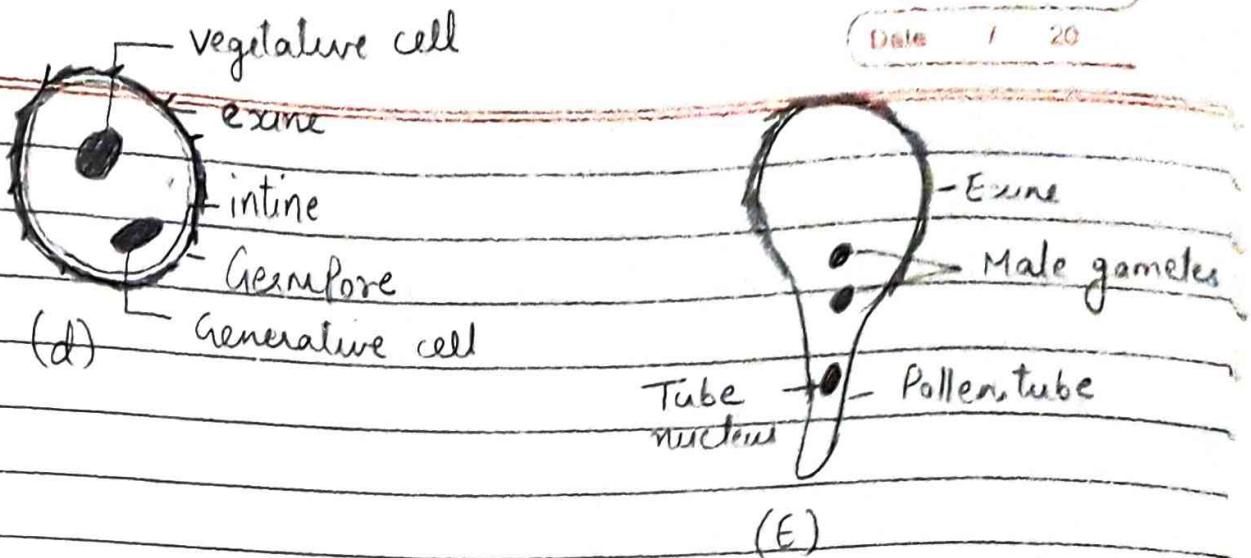


Vegetative cell

vacuole

generative cell

(C)



The Carpel :- A carpel consists of ovary, style and stigma

Structure of ovule :- ovule develops into a seed after fertilization.

Parts of ovule :- (1) Funiculus :- It is the stalk like structure which attaches the ovule to the placenta.

(2) Hilum :- It is the point of attachment of the body of the ovule with the funiculus.

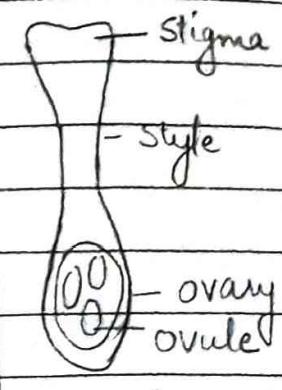
(3) Raphe :- It is the longitudinal ridge formed by oblique lengthwise fusion of funiculus with the body of ovule in a anatropous ovule.

(4) Nucellus :- It is the mass of parenchymatous tissue surrounded by integuments. It provides nourishment to the developing embryo.

(5) Embryo sac :- It is the female gametophyte which contains the egg apparatus.

(6) Integuments :- These are outer coverings of ovule & provide protection to the developing embryo.

(7) Micropyle :- It is a narrow pore or passage formed in the projection of the integuments through which the tube enters into ovule.



(8) Chalaza :- It is the place of origin of the integuments or the basal swollen part of the nucellus.

TYPES OF OVULES :- (1) Orthotropous ovule

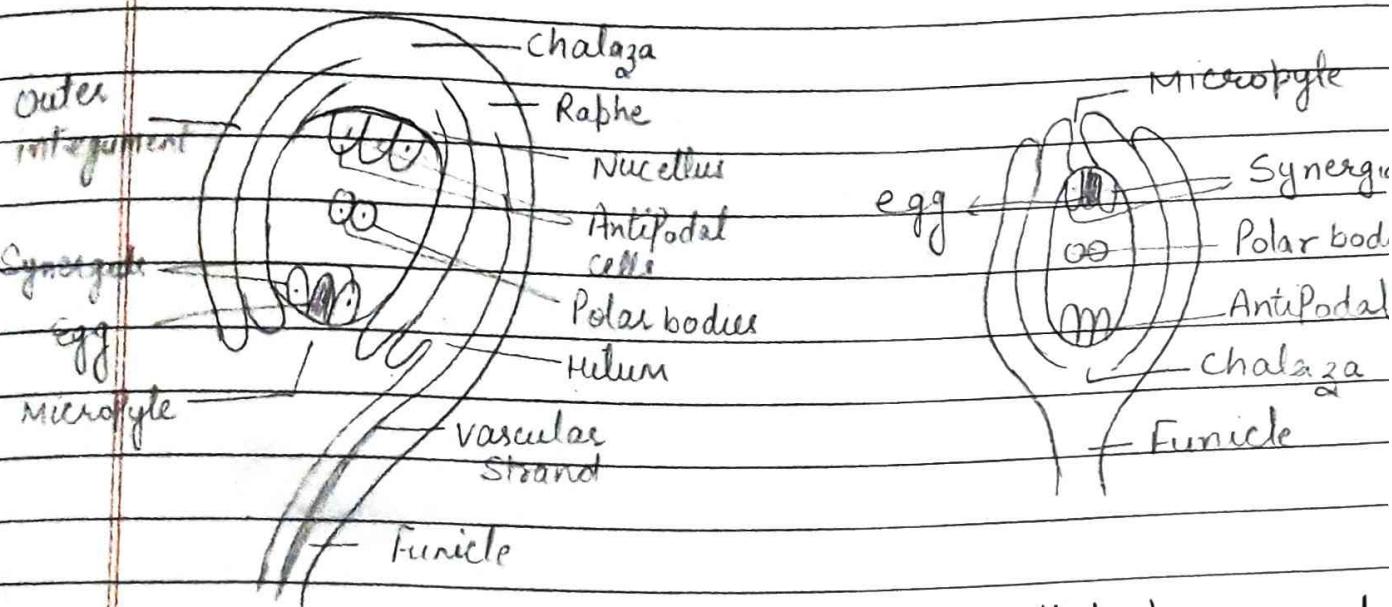
(2) Anatropous ovule

(3) Hemitropous ovule

(4) Campylotropous ovule

(5) Amphitropous ovule

(6) Circinotropous ovule



Orthotropous ovule

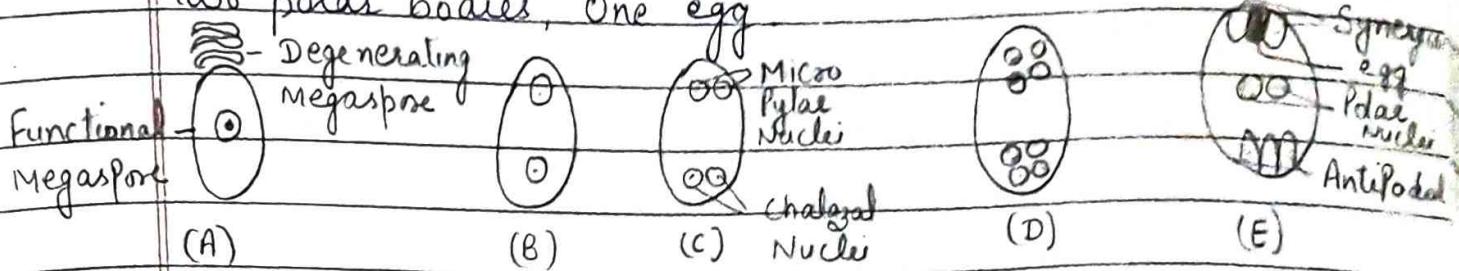
Anatropous ovule

Megasporogenesis and Development of Female Gametophyte
Formation of mega-spores from megasporangium mother cell is called megasporogenesis.

The diploid megasporangium mother cell enlarges in size and divides by meiosis to form a tetrad of four haploid megasporangia. The chromosome number remains half. The four megasporangia lies in a linear tetrad structure.

But only one megasporangium situated towards chalazal end remains functional. Other three cells ~~are~~

degenerate and finally disappears. The functional haploid megasporangium enlarges in size and shows mitotic divisions and give rise to eight-nucleate embryo sac. These eight cells produce three antipodal cells, two synergids, two polar bodies, one egg.



POLLINATION:- Transfer of pollen grains from the opened anther of the stamen to the receptive stigma of the carpel is called pollination.

Types of pollination:-

- (1) Self pollination
- (2) Cross pollination

Self pollination:- Self pollination involves the transfer of pollen grains from the anthers of a flower to the stigma of the same flower or genetically similar flower.

Types of Self pollination:- (A) Autogamy:- It is a kind of pollination in which the pollen from the anther of a flower are transferred to the stigma of the same flower. It occurs by three methods:-

- (a) Cleistogamy:- Some plants never open. These flowers are known as cleistogamous flowers. e.g. oxalis, violets. These flowers are bisexual, colourless and do not secrete nectar.
- (b) Homogamy:- Anthers and stigmas of the bisexual flowers of some plants mature at the same time. This

is known as Homogamy.

(c) Bud Pollination - Anthers and stigmas of the bisexual flowers of some plants mature before the opening of the buds to ensure self-pollination.

[B] Geitonogamy :- It is a kind of pollination in which the pollen from the anthers of one flower are transferred to the stigmas of another flower borne on the same plant.

Advantages of Self Pollination :-

1. Chances of pollination are more
2. Self-pollination maintains purity of the race and avoids mixing
3. It needs not to produce a large number of pollen grains
4. Flowers need not to possess devices such as large and showy petals etc.

Disadvantages of self pollination :-

1. Offsprings continuously gets weaker after every generation
2. Less chances of the production of new species and varieties.

CROSS POLLINATION :- It involves pollination transfer of pollen grains from the flower of one plant to the stigmas of flower of another plant. It is also called xenogamy.

Reasons of cross-Pollination :- (1) Hermogamy :- Flowers possess some mechanical barrier to avoid self pollination.

(2) Dichogamy :- Pollen and stigmas mature at different times.

- (3) Self incompatibility - when pollination fails to take place.
- (4) Male sterility - The pollen grains of some plants are not functional.

Agents of Cross Pollination :-

(1) Anemophily (wind pollination) :- Mode of pollination is wind.

Character :- (1) Flowers are small, colourless, odourless and nectarless.

(2) Calyx and Corolla are either reduced or absent.

(3) When flowers are unisexual, male flowers are more abundant than female flowers.

(4) In bisexual flowers, the stamens are generally numerous.

(5) Pollen grains are small, light, dry, dusty and sometimes winged.

(6) The flowers are well exposed in the air.

(7) The Stigma are large, well-exposed, hairy, feathery.

(2) Hydrophily (water-pollination) Mode of pollination is water.

Character :- (1) Flowers are small, colourless, odourless and nectarless.

(2) Calyx, Corolla and other floral parts are unwetted.

(3) Pollen grains and stigma are generally unwetted.

(4) The stigma are long and sticky.

Example of water-pollination :- Vallisneria

It is a submerged fresh water plant. It is a

Mature male flowers are abscised from the spadix

float on the surface of water. The mature female flowers also float on the water surface, but remain attached to the female plants with the help of long stalks. The male flowers come close to female flowers where anthers burst to release the pollen.

Pollination occurs on the surface of water.

[3] Entomophily [Insect Pollination] :- Mode of pollination are insects.

Characters:- (1) The flowers are usually large, brightly coloured and showy to attract insect pollination.

(2) Small flowers bloom in bunches to attract the insects.

(3) The outer surface of pollen grains may be rough, spiny or sticky.

(4) Pollen grains of certain flowers are edible. Many insects visit these flowers to eat their pollens or to carry them.

(5) Some flowers produce heavy fragrance to guide the moths.

Example of Entomophily :- Salvia

Salvia is two lipped or bilobed. The lower lip provides platform for the visiting insect and the upper lip is fertile lower lip is sterile. When the insect visits on lower lip, the upper lip bends itself on the insect and shelter pollen grains on the insect. Pollen grains deposited upon the back of the bee. So, bee helps in pollination.

[4] Oenithophily - [Bird Pollination] Mode of pollination is birds.

Characters:- 1) The flowers are usually large in

size

- (2) The flowers are brightly coloured
- (3) The flowers produce abundant watery nectar
- (4) They are usually scentless

[5] **Chiropterosophily [Bat Pollination]** Mode of pollination is bat.

Character :- 1) Flowers are large in size

- 2) Flowers have dull in colour and produce a strong scent
- 3) Flowers have pollen kit

Advantages of Cross Pollination :-

1. Cross pollination brings about genetic recombination and produce new varieties
2. It results in healthy and stronger offsprings
3. Variations caused due to cross pollination may result in production of disease resistant plants
4. It results in production of seeds in self-sterile plants.

Disadvantages :- 1. Cross pollination is not economical.

2. Cross pollination is uncertain because a factor of chance is always involved
3. It involves addition of some undesirable characters or loss of important characters.

POLLEN PISTIL INTERACTION :- When pollination takes place, the pollen grain secretes some enzymes like glycoproteins, lipids etc and the Stigma also secretes enzymes like Carbohydrates, lipids, proteins

etc when there is interaction between the chemicals of pollen grains and chemicals of stigma, then there is formation of pollen tube takes place. This is known as pollen-pistil interaction.

Self Incompatibility :-

The Stigma of a particular plant receives a number of pollen grains, either from same type or from others. The pollen grains belonging to right mating type germinate on stigma, develop pollen tube and bring about fertilization. The pollen grains belonging to other types will be discarded (destroy).

If a pistil carrying functional female gametophyte gets pollinated with right mating types of pollen grain, but fails to set seeds due to inability of their gametes to fuse with each other, this phenomenon is called Sexual Incompatibility. (self incompatibility)

Emasculation and Bagging:- Removal of stamens or anthers or killing of pollen grains of a bisexual flower without affecting the female reproductive systems (organs) is called Emasculation.

The Emasculated flower is immediately enclosed in a bag to avoid pollination by any unwanted pollen. This process is known as bagging.

Fertilization:- Fusion of male gamete with the female gamete to form a diploid zygote is known as Fertilization.

Siphonogamy :- In angiosperms, the male gametes are carried to the egg by a pollen tube. This process is called Siphonogamy.

Entry of Pollen tube into the ovule :-

After reaching the ovary, the pollen tube enters the ovule.

Pornogamy :- If the pollen tube enters through micro-pylar end.

Chalazogamy :- If the pollen tube enters through Chalaza.

Mesogamy :- If the pollen tube enters through integuments.

Most common entry of entry of pollen tube is through micro-pylar end.

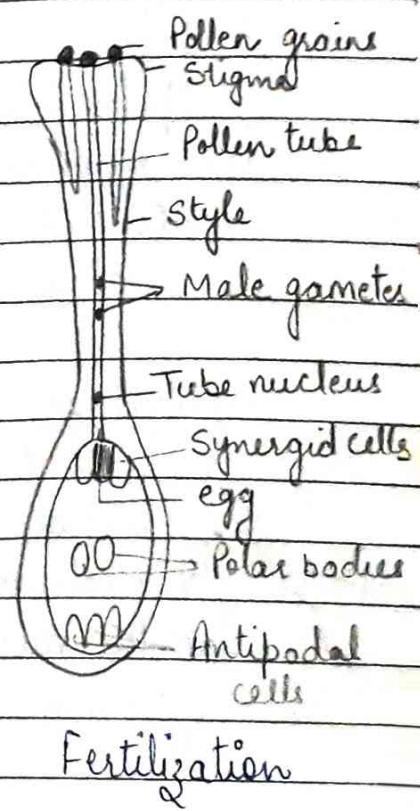
The tip of the pollen tube enters into one synergid. This synergid starts degenerating.

Pollen tube releases 2 male gametes into the embryo sac.

Double Fertilization Triple fusion :-

In angiosperms, One male gamete fuses with egg to form diploid zygote. This process is known as syngamy or generative fertilization. This diploid zygote finally develops into embryo.

Other male gamete fuses with two polar bodies and form Primary Endosperm Nucleus (PEN). This is called triple fusion or vegetative



fertilization.

The two acts of fertilizations constitute the process of double fertilization.

⇒ One male gamete + egg = zygote (diploid)

⇒ One male gamete + 2 Polar bodies = PEN
Primary Endosperm Nucleus.

Post Fertilization changes → Soon after fertilization, the flower begins to lose its shine. The petals, stamens and style either fall or wither away.

Four Major changes takes place after fertilization

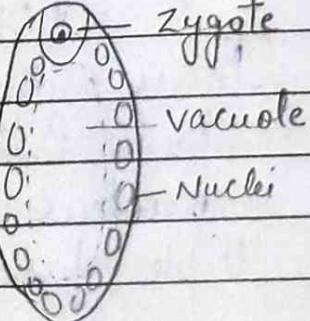
1. Development of Endosperm from Primary Endosperm nucleus.
2. Development of Embryo from diploid zygote.
3. Development of seed from ovule.
4. Development of Fruit from ovary

[A]

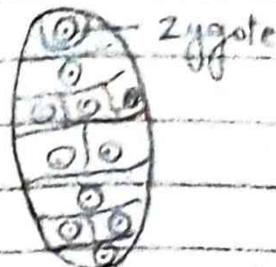
Development of Endosperm → Endosperm is formed from triple fusion of one male gamete and two polar bodies. Endosperm is of three types :-

- (a) Nuclear
- (b) Cellular
- (c) Heteroblastic

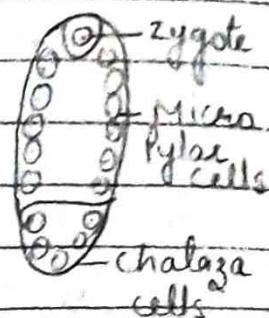
Nuclear Endosperm → In this type, the PEN divides by repeated mitotic free nuclear divisions without the formation of walls. A big central vacuole develops and pushing all the nuclei to the peripheral cytoplasm.



Cellular endosperm - In this type, P.E.O. is divided longitudinally as well as transversely with cell wall.



Helobial Endosperm: This is the intermediate between Nuclear and cellular endosperm. Embryo sac is divided transversally into two unequal parts. Larger side is in micropylar end and smaller is in chalaza end. There is mitotic free nuclear division. A big central vacuole develops in the embryo sac. The nuclei lies peripherally.



Helobial →
Endosperm

[B] Development of Embryo : → In dicots Dicotyledons :-

(1) In dicots, the zygote enlarges in size and divides by a transverse division into two unequal cells. The larger basal cell is called suspensor cell lies towards micropylar end and smaller terminal cell called embryonal cell lies towards chalazal end.

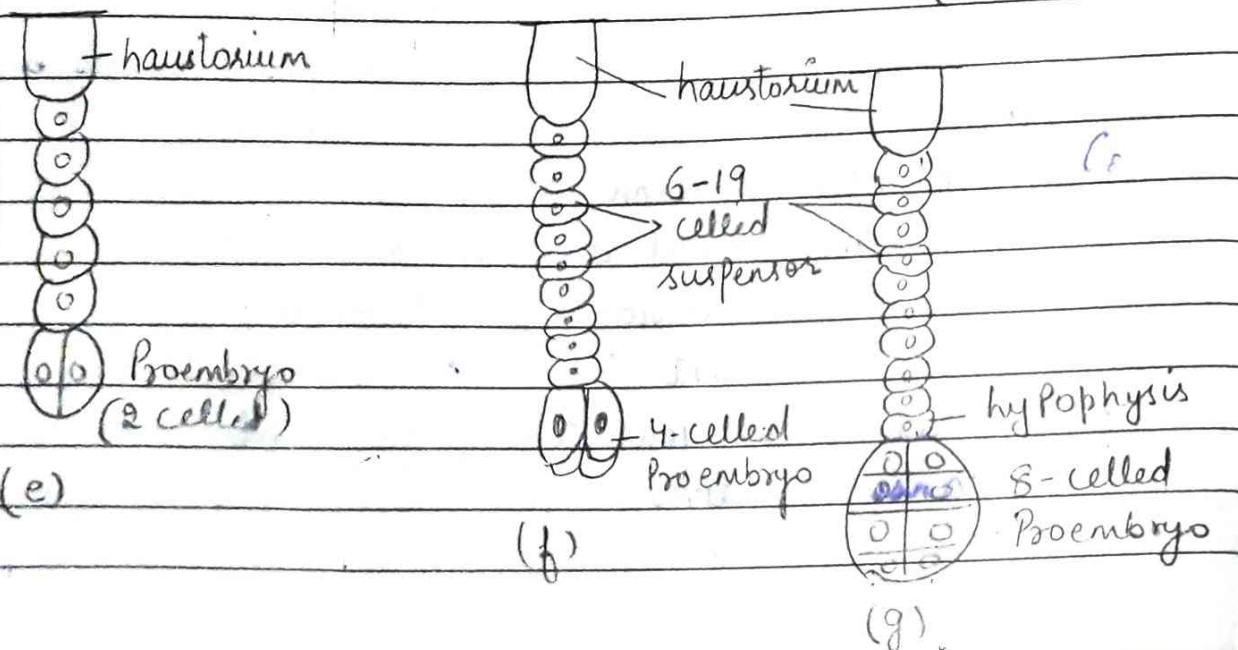
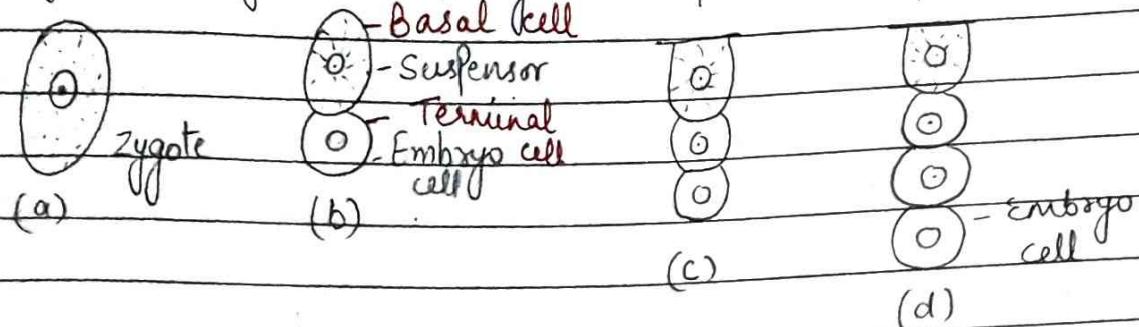
(2) The basal suspensor cell divides by transverse division and the terminal embryonal cell divides by longitudinal division.

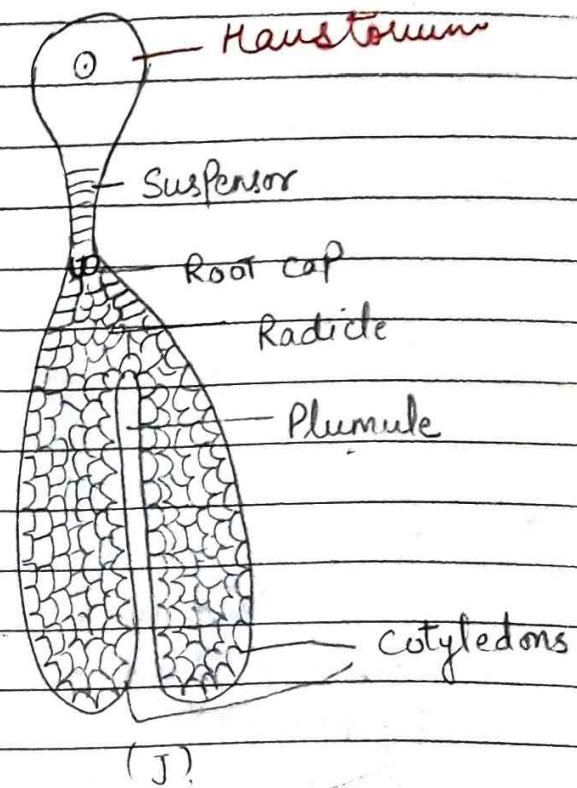
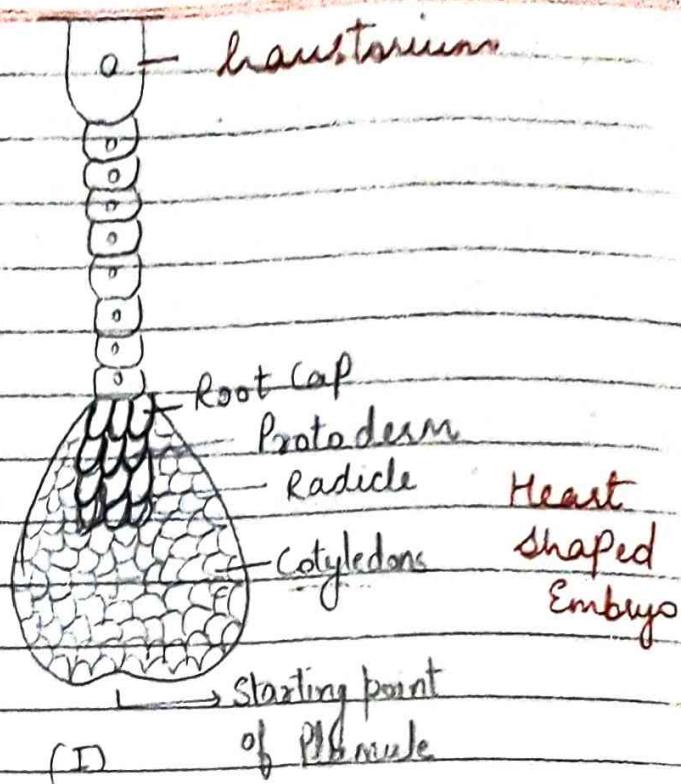
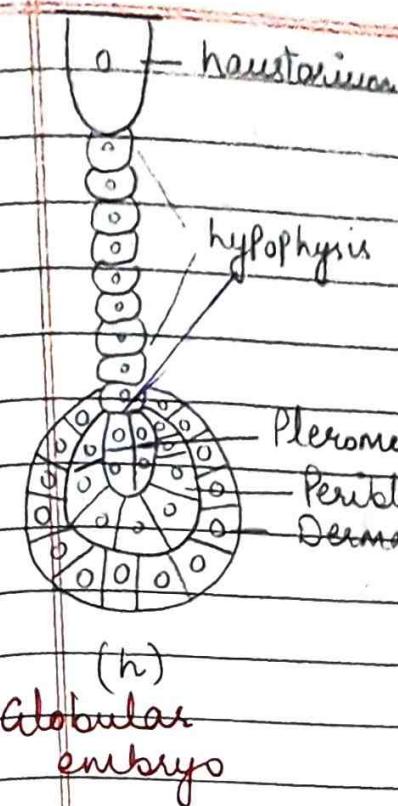
(3) Transverse division divides the cell into two cells and the longitudinal division forms seven to eight cell.

(4) Preembryo divides longitudinally forming four celled quadrant stage.

(5) Each of the four cells of quadrant stage divides by transverse division to form eight celled octant Stage.

- (6) Eight cells of octant stage divides into outer cell and inner cell. Eight celled octant now becomes sixteen celled.
- (7) Outer cell layer divides to form embryonic surface layer or epidermis and inner cells divides to form ground meristem and procambium of cotyledons, hypocotyl and plumule.
- (8) The suspensor cell at terminal end is called hypophysis.
- (9) The hypophysis divides by transverse and longitudinal divisions to form three tiers of cells. The inner tier forms root protoderm and radicle. Middle tier forms and outer tier forms root protoderm and root cap.
- (10) At this stage embryo is known as proembryo. This is transformed into embryo with the development of radicle, plumule and cotyledons.
- (11) Cotyledons grows rapidly and few cells forms plumule

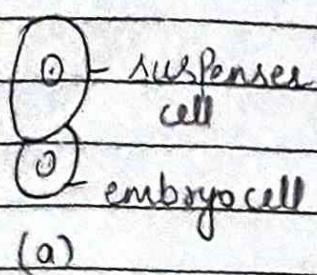




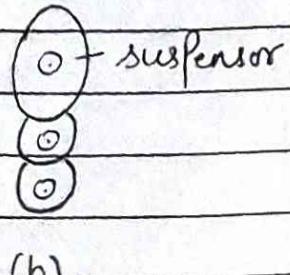
Monocot Embryos :- (1) Zygote divides by transversally to form upper large cell and lower smaller cell called as embryonal cell
 (2) upper cell remains undivided
 (3) Embryonal cell will divide transversally to for

3-celled Proembryo

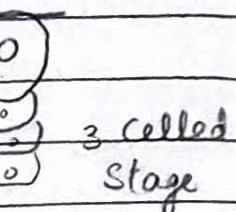
- (4) The lower most cell of proembryo which is toward chalazal end divides many times to form a single terminal Cotyledon.
- (5) The middle cell divides many times, to form part of suspensor, plumule, radicle etc.
- (6) Mature monocot embryo has single terminal Cotyledons, lateral plumule and a radicle.



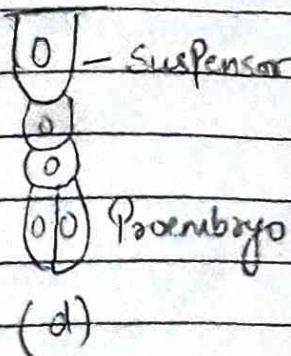
(a)



(b)



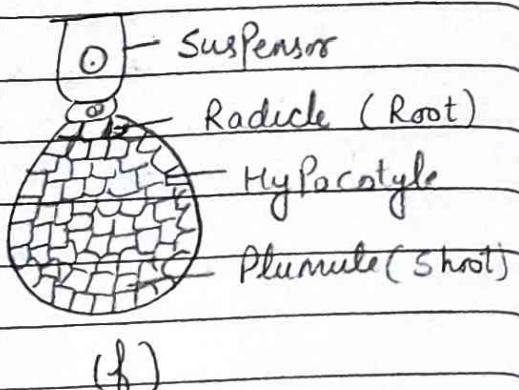
(c)



(d)



(e)



(f)

[c]

Development of seed from ovule :-

Seed is a fertilized ovule. It contains embryo, reserve food material and is very well protected by one or two seed coats. In angiosperms, seeds are present inside the fruit.

Seeds are of two types which store food in endosperm or albuminous seeds e.g. wheat, onion, corn etc.

Seeds in which the endosperm is used up are called exalbuminous e.g. Pea, bean, gram etc.

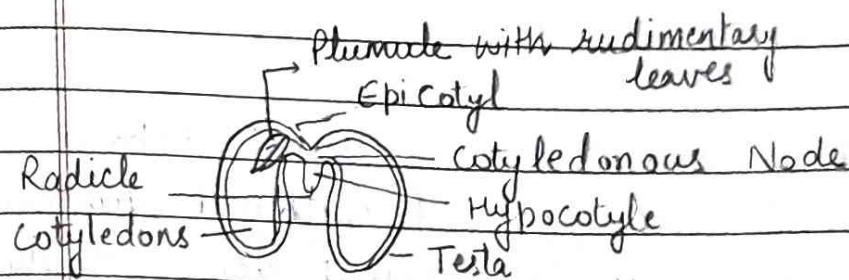
These are also called non-endospermic seeds.

Perisperm:- The nucellus (central part of ovule) is generally used up during the development of embryo but in some cases, it remains outside the endosperm in the form of a thin layer, called perisperm.

Testa and Tegmen:- The outer seed coat is testa and the inner integument, if persists forms the tegmen.

The micropyle remains in the form of a fine pore on the surface of seed.

Dormancy:- The condition of seed when it fails to germinate even though the environmental conditions is called dormancy.



Dicotyledonous Seed.

Pericarp and seed coat



Monocot Seed

(D) Development of fruit from ovary:- Fruit is developed from ovary. The wall of the ovary is transformed into pericarp (fruit wall).

Types:- Two types of fruits are there:-

(1) True fruit :- The fruit derived from the ovary. no other part involved in the formation of fruit. These are called True fruits e.g. Mango, Banana, Grapes, Tomato etc.

(2) False Fruit :- The fruit derived from ovary along with other accessory floral parts are called false fruits e.g. Apple, Fig etc.

Parthenocarpic Fruits :- Some plants are able to produce fruits without fertilization. Such fruits are known as parthenocarpic fruits. They are seedless or contain non-viable seeds.
e.g. - Citrus, Pineapple etc.

Apoliosis :- It is also called asexual reproduction. In this, seeds are formed without fusion of gametes. Embryos may be formed from diploid cell of nucellus.

Apospory :- Formation of embryo from any other cell of embryo sac without fertilization.

Polyembryony :- The presence of more than one embryo in the seed is termed as polyembryony.

Microsporogenesis

- It is the meiotic formation of haploid microspores.
- Diploid microspore mother cell undergoes meiosis.
- Micospore tetrad is tetrahedral.
- It is found in microsporangium.
- All the spores of tetrad are functional.

Megasporogenesis

- It is the meiotic formation of haploid megasporangium.
- Diploid megasporangium mother cell undergoes meiosis.
- Megaspore tetrad is linear.
- It is found in megasporangium.
- Only one spore is functional among the spores of tetrad.

Hypocotyl

- It is the portion of an embryonal axis that lie below cotyledon in an embryo.
- It terminates with radicle.

Epicotyl

- It is the portion of an embryonal axis that lie above the cotyledon.
- It terminates with plumule.

Coleoptile

- It is a conical protective sheath that encloses the plumule in the monocot seed.
- It comes out of soil and turns green.
- It performs photosynthesis.

Coleorhiza

- It is undifferentiated sheath that encloses the radicle and root cap in a monocot seed.
- It remains inside the soil and is non green.
- It does not perform photosynthesis.

Integument

- It is an outermost covering of an ovule.
- It is thin and living.
- It is a part of pre-fertilization tissue.

Testa

- It is the outermost covering of a seed.
- It is thick and dead.
- It is the result of post fertilization changes in gynoecium.

Exine

- It is hard, outermost layer covering the pollen.
- Exine is made up of sporopollenin.

Intine

- It is the inner layer of a pollen.
- Intine is made up of cellulose and pectin.

Radicle

- Radicle is an embryonic root.
- It is positively hydrotrophic.
- It is protected by protective sheath known as Coleorhiza.

Pleumule

- It is a site of emergence of the shoot.
- It is positively phototrophic.
- It is protected by a protective sheath called Coleoptile.

Perisperm

- It is the persistent remains of ovule in the seed.
- It is usually dry.

Pericarp

- It is the wall of fruit formed by ovarian wall.
- It may be fleshy or dry.

Perisperm

1. The residual and persistent nucellus is a perisperm.
2. For example, black pepper and sugar beet

Endosperm

1. After triple fusion, the central cell of an embryo sac becomes primary endosperm cell and develops into an endosperm.
2. For example, castor and groundnut

Gamopollany

1. Types of cross pollination where the pollen of flower are transferred to stigma of another flower located on same plant.
2. It does not induce genetic variation.

Xenogamy

1. Type of cross pollination where pollens of flower get transferred to the stigma of a flower present on another plant.
2. It induces genetic variation into the progeny.

Wind Pollinated flowers

1. These flowers have well exposed stamens in order to achieve complete dispersion of pollen grains. Flower possess large feathery stigma to trap the air borne pollens easily.
2. Pollen grains are light and non sticky that facilitates easy transport from one place to another.

Insect Pollinated flowers

1. The flowers are clustered into an inflorescence. There is a need of pollinating agents such as insects like flies and beetles.
2. Flowers are large and colorful, so as to attract insects and are rich in nectar.

Parthenogenesis

1. When single gamete undergoes development to form a new organism without fertilisation, it is the process of parthenogenesis.
2. e.g. Whiptail lizard

Parthenocarpy

1. Parthenocarpy is the process of formation of fruit from unfertilized ovules. The fruit produced is seedless.
2. e.g. banana

Albuminous seed

1. Residual endosperm retains a part of endosperm that is not completely consumed during the development of an embryo.
2. e.g. Groundnut and Pea

Non-albuminous seed

1. There is no residual endosperm as it is completely consumed during the process of embryo development.
2. e.g. wheat and sunflowers

Male Gametophyte

- (1) The male gametophyte of angiosperms is derived from the microspore which is produced inside the pollen chamber of anthers.

- (2) Generally the microspores are shed at maturity and transferred from anthers to stigmae.

- (3) The mature male gametophyte is 3-celled.

1. All the 3 cells are functional.

Female Gametophyte

- (1) The female gametophyte of angiosperms is derived from megasporangium which is formed inside the nucellus of ovule.

- (2) The microspores are not shed from the ovules.

- (3) The mature female gametophyte is 7-celled.

- (4) Out of 7, only egg and 2 polar nuclei are functional.

Self Pollination

- It is the transfer of pollen grains from the anther of a flower to the stigma of either the same or genetically similar flower.
- Self pollination can occur in cleistogamous flowers.
- External pollinating agents are not required.
- It results in the production of pure line offsprings.

- These are not produced.
- e.g. Rice, wheat, pea, Potato, Brinjal etc.

Cross Pollination

- Cross pollination is the transfer of pollen grains from the anther of a flower to the stigma of genetically different flowers.
- Cross pollination can occur only when the flowers open.
- External pollinating agents are required.
- It results in the production of zygotes with a higher degree of heterozygosity.
- These produce plants having variations.
- e.g. Maize, Turnip, Carrot, apple, Banana etc.

Imp. Questions

- Name the phase all organisms have to pass through before they can reproduce sexually?
Ans. Formation of gametes through gametogenesis
- A bilobed, dithecaous anther has 100 microspore mother cells per microsporangium. How many male gametophytes this anther can produce?
Ans. They can produce 1600
- At Further development of microsporangia give rise to the formation of:
Ans. Pollen sacs.
- The innermost wall layer of the microsporangium consisting of dense cytoplasm with more than one nucleus
Ans. Tapetum.

(5) Q:- The mature pollen grain contains two types of cells. Which are they?

Ans: Vegetative cell and Generative cell.

(6) Q:- Majority of angiosperm species shed the pollen grain at the stage of ?

Ans: Two celled stage

(7) Q:- Give an example of a plant that came to India as a contaminant and is a cause of pollen allergy.

Ans: Carrot grass.

(8) Q:- Where is placenta situated?

Ans: In the ovarian cavity

(9) Q:- Why do the pollen grains of Vallisneria have a mucilaginous covering?

Ans: In Vallisneria, the male flowers are present on the surface of water. In order to protect pollen grain from getting wet mucilaginous covering is present over them.

(10) Q:- During double fertilization, the primary endosperm cell develops into ?

Ans: An endosperm

(11) Q:- The flowers of brinjal is referred to as chasmogamous while that of beans is cleistogamous. How are they different from each other?

Ans: Flowers of brinjal are similar to flowers of other species where anthers and stigma are exposed. Such flowers are called chasmogamous. The flowers of bean, on the other hand, remain closed to ensure self pollination. Such flowers, which remain closed so that cross pollination does not occur, are called cleistogamous.

Q:- What is seed dormancy? Give its two advantages.

Ans:- Seed dormancy is the condition of seed when it fails to germinate even though the environmental conditions usually considered favourable for germination of seed are provided.

Advantages :- (1) Dissemination of seeds at desired time

(2) Adaptation of successful seed germination under fav. conditions.

(13) Q:- Banana is a parthenocarpic fruit whereas oranges show polyembryony? How they differ from each other?

Ans:- Banana fruits are seedless. Such fruits are called parthenocarpic i.e. produce embryos without fertilization. The seeds of oranges have many embryos of different size and ~~and~~ shape. The orange seeds develop many embryos due to polyembryony.

(14) Q:- If you squeeze a seed of orange you might observe many embryos of different sizes. How is it possible Explain.

Ans:- In orange seed, embryos originate by adventive embryony from diploid cells of nucellus or integuments and are thus in large number inside a seed.

(15) Q:- In angiosperms, zygote is diploid while primary endosperm cell is triploid Explain?

Ans:- An unusual form of reproduction is seen in flowering plants in which one sperm nucleus fuses with an egg to form a zygote. Simultaneous fusion of the second male gamete with the polar nuclei, resulting in a primary endosperm nucleus, which is often triploid.