

stems



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GROUPS OF STEMS

- Erect / upright
- Underground stems
- Climbing stems

Underground stems

These are stems that remain under the ground

Groups of underground stems

❖ Stem tubers

❖ Bulbs

❖ Rhizomes

❖ corms

STEM TUBERS

These are underground storage stems

Examples of stem tubers include

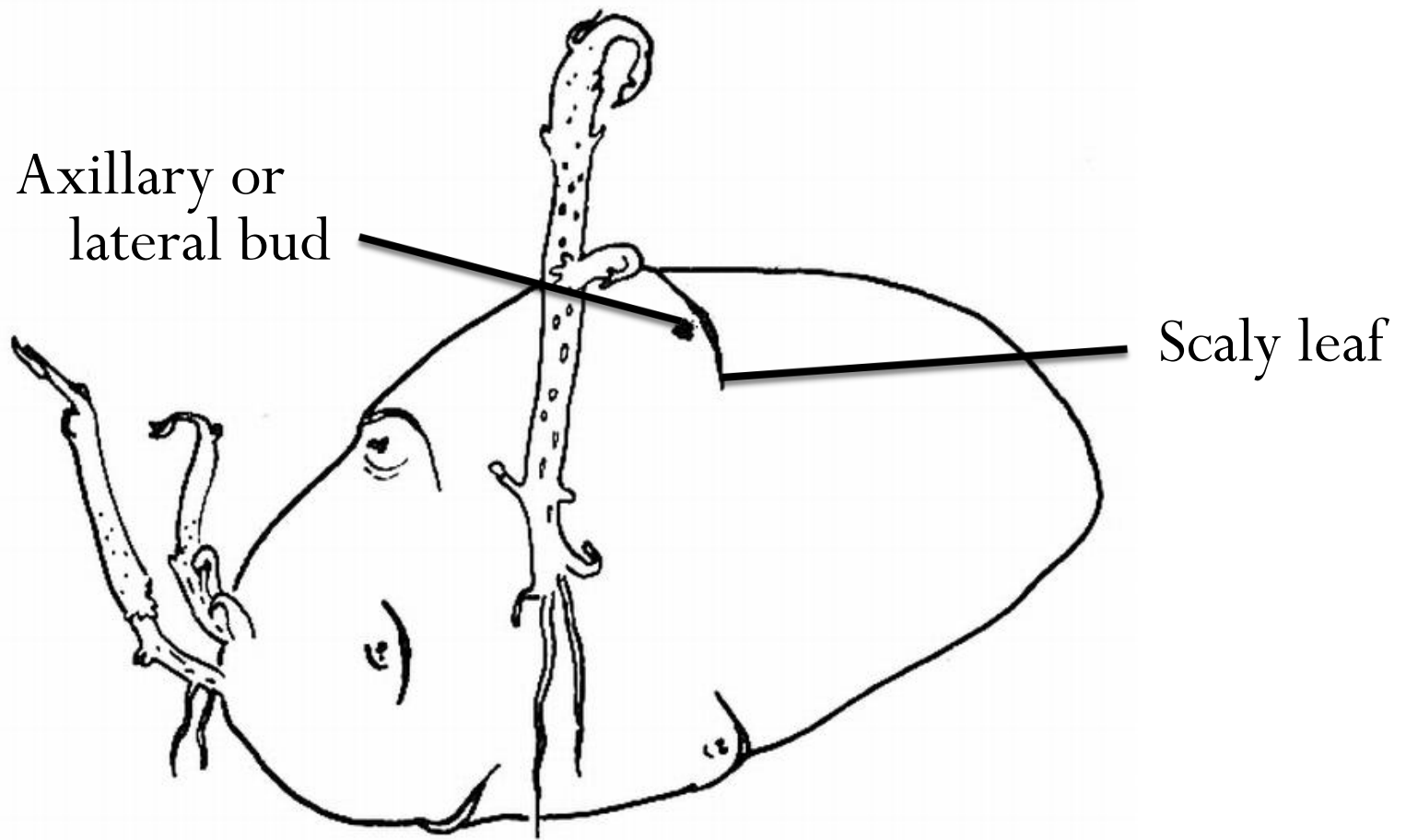
❖ Irish potato

❖ White yam

Irish potato



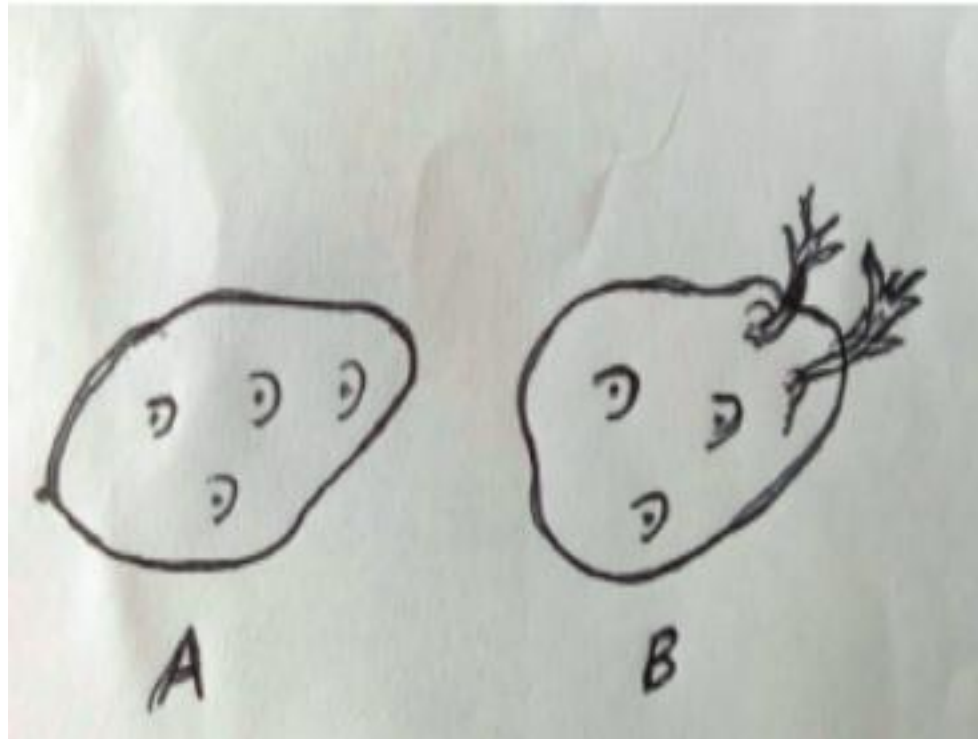
Irish potato



Functions of each part

Axillary bud or lateral bud

It grows into a shoot system

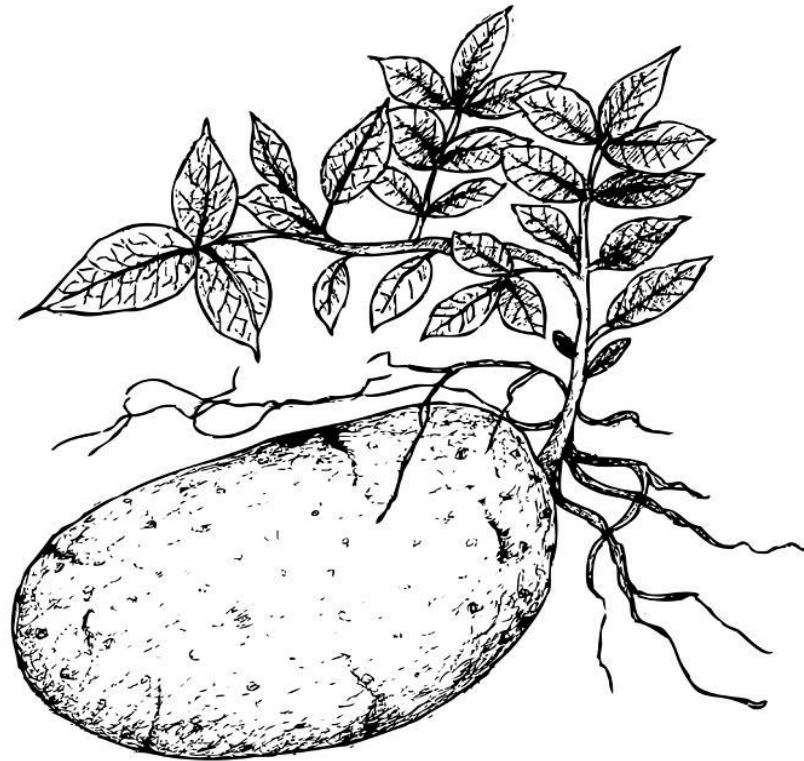


Functions of each part

Scaly leaf

Protects the lateral bud

The Irish potato is propagated by means of stem tubers



Potato



White yam



NB

The sugar cane plant stores its food in the stem but it is not a stem tuber



NB

The sugar cane stem is not a stem tuber because its stem is not **underground**

Remember stem tubers are **underground** storage stems

Sugar cane



Nodes and internodes



internode

node

ACTIVITY

What are stem tubers?

Give any two examples of plants that store their food in the stem

Why is a sugar cane stem not grouped under stem tubers yet it stores its food in the stem

stems



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