

Sexual reproduction in flowering plants

The structure of a perfect flower :-

- Flower is the main reproductive organ of an angiospermic plant.
- The flower is connected to the main plant by a stalk called pedicel.
- Flower with bract are called bracteates and without bract are called ebracteate
- The terminal and swollen part of the axis of the flower is the receptacle or thalamus .
- If the leaves are present on the pedicel , they are called Bracteoles

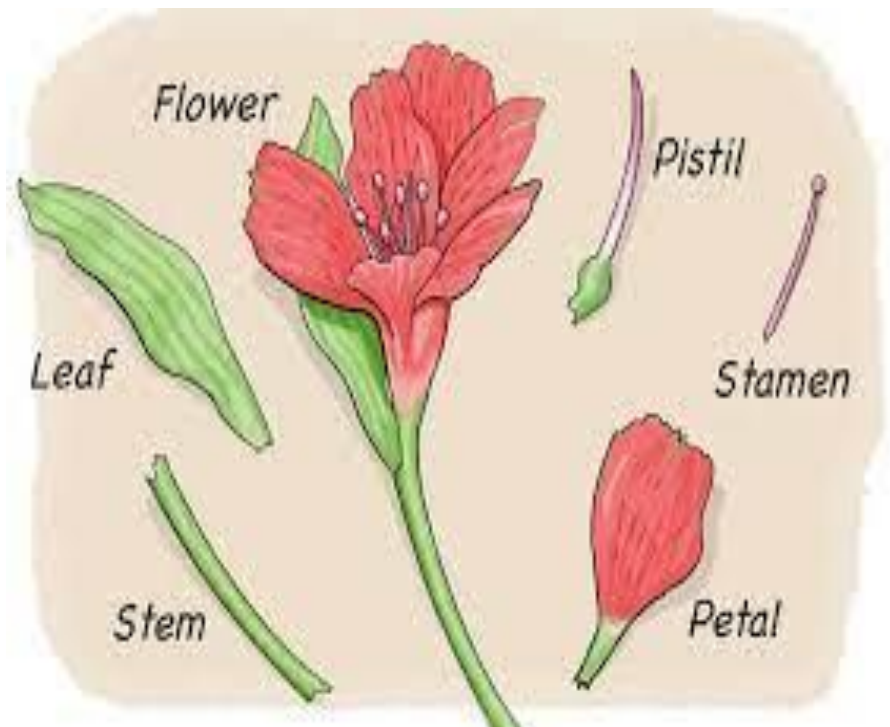
Calyx:-

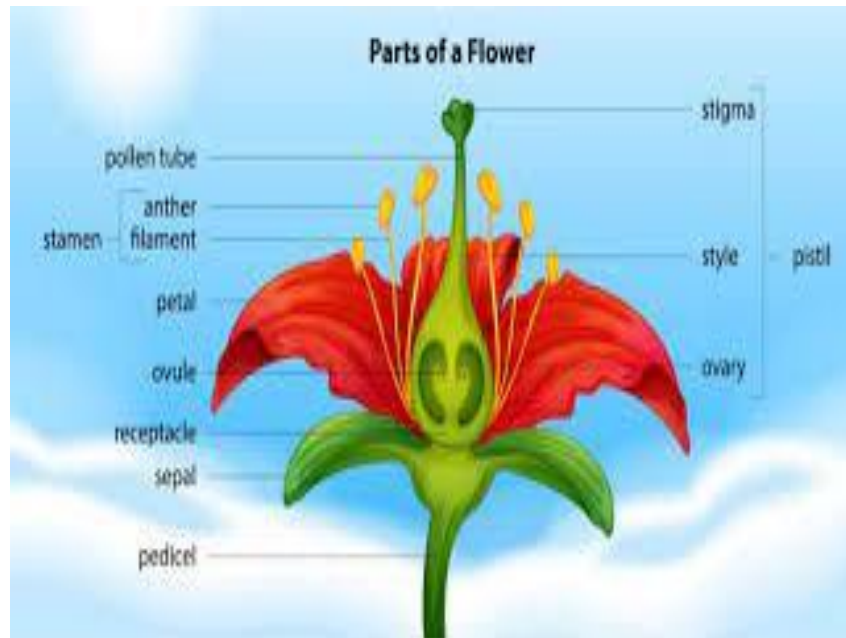
- A sepals is a part of the flower of angiosperm
- Usually green, sepals typically function as protection for the flower in bud and often as support for the petals when in bloom
- Collectively the sepals are called the calyx, the outer most part that form a flower
- These are essential green in colour
- Sepals are usually leaf like in texture and primarily serve to protect the flowering bud.
- When sepals appear like petals they are known as petaloid.

Corolla:-

- petals are modified leaves that surround the reproductive part of flower

- They are often brightly coloured or unusually shaped to attract pollination.
- Together all of the petals of a flower are called corolla.
- Corolla with free petals is called polypetalous and that united or fused petals called gamopetalous
- When calyx and corolla can't be distinguished with each other they are known as perianth and each individual is known as tepals





Androecium;-

- It is the male whorl consisting of stamen.
- Each stamen consist of an anther, filament and connective .
- It helps in production of microspore i.e pollen grain containing male gametes within the lobes .

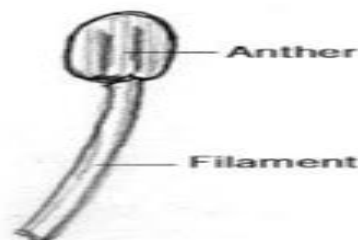
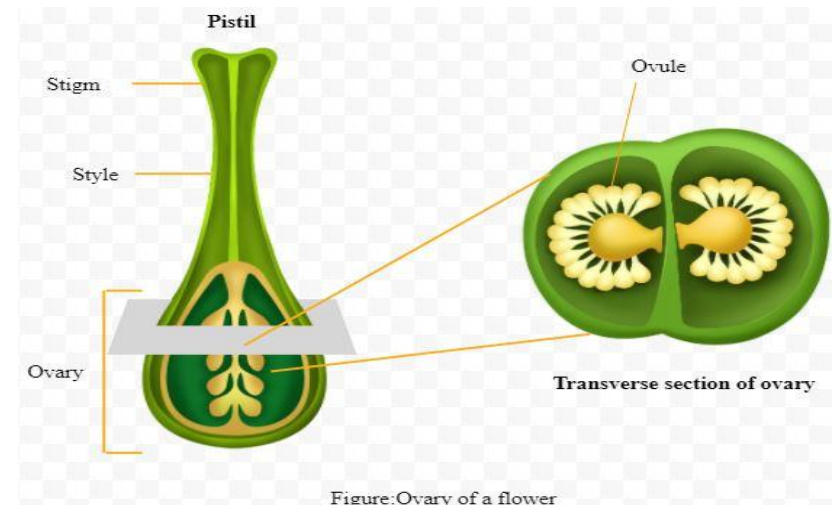


Fig: Diagram of a stamen.

Gynoecium:-

- Gynoecium is most commonly used as a collective form for the part of flower that produce ovules and ultimately developed in to the fruit and seed.
- It is the female reproductive whorl.
- An individual appendages is called carpel or pistil. It contain three part i.e. stigma style and ovary
- The stigma is usually at the tip of style and is the receptive surface for the pollen grain.
- Ovary is the enlarge basal part on which lies the elongated tube ,the style
- The style connect the ovary to the stigma. Each ovary bears one or more ovules attached to a flattened cushion like , placenta
- Having the carpels of the gynoecium separate the butter cup is apocarpus.
e.g.-*Lotus and Rose*
- When carpels are fused together, syncarpus.
e.g.-*Brinjal and Hibiscus*

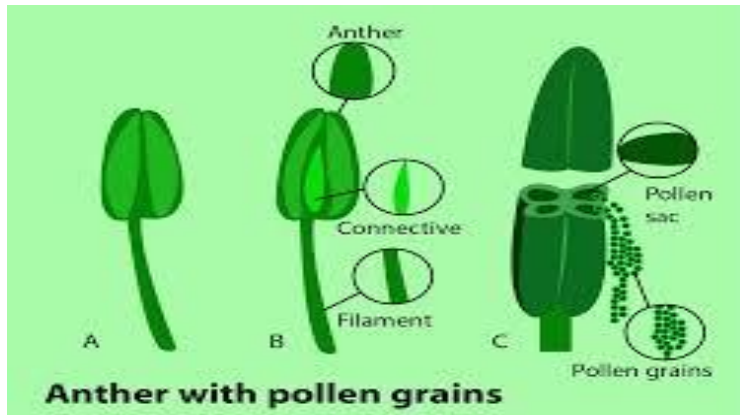


Development of male gametophyte :-

- Microspore is the first cell of male gametophyte. It involves formation of microsporangium and development of male gametophyte at pre-pollination and post-pollination events.

Stamen:-

- It is the male reproductive unit of angiosperm.
- It consists of two parts i.e.-
 - The long and slender stalk called filament.
 - The terminal bilobed structure called anther.
- The anther and filament are connected by a connective.



Structure of an Anther:-

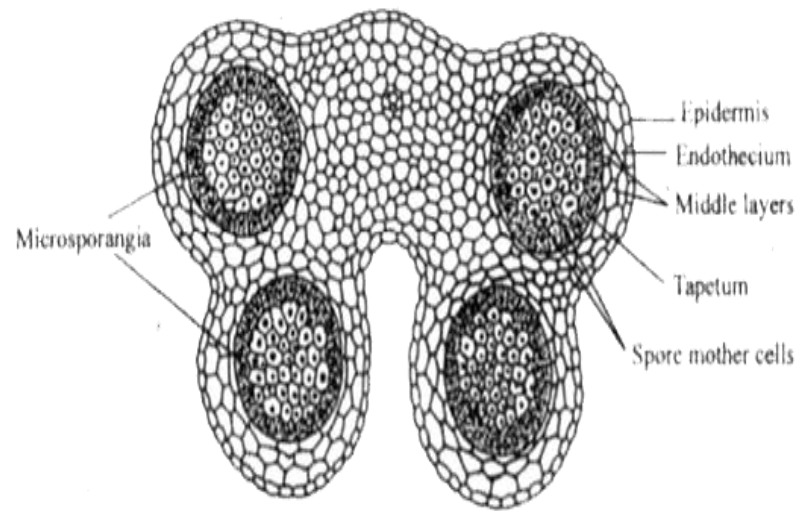
- It is composed of a long tube called filament, and has a pollen producing structure at the end. This oval-shaped structure is called the **anther**.
- It produces the male gametophyte known as pollen.

- A typical angiosperm anther is a bilobed structure with each lobe having two thecae and separated by a longitudinal groove running lengthwise.
- In a cross-section, the anther is a four-sided (tetragonal) structure consisting of four microsporangia located at the corners, two in each lobe.
- Later the microsporangia develop and become pollen sacs which are packed with the pollen grain.

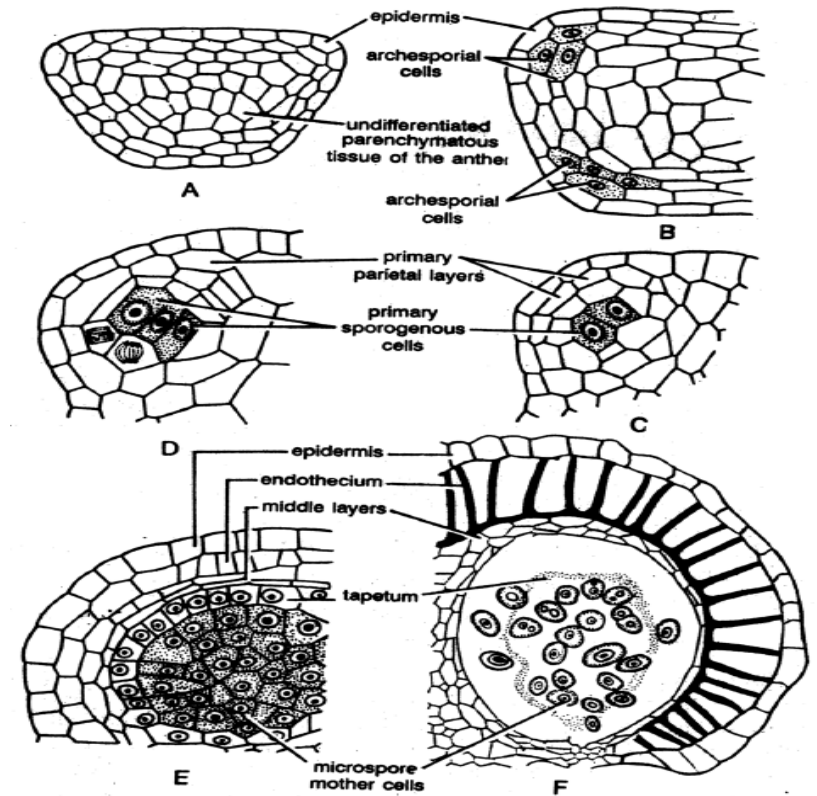
Formation of Microsporangium:-

- Microsporangia are sporangia that produce microspores and give rise to male gametes.
- Microsporangia occur in all plants that have a heterosporic life cycle.
e.g. Spike and Mosses

- A typical microsporangium is surrounded by four wall layers:
 - Epidermis
 - Endothecium
 - Middle layer
 - Tapetum
- The outer three layers are protective in function and help in dehiscence of anther to release pollen grain.
- Tapetum (inner most layer) nourishes the developing microspore or pollen grain and the cells of tapetum possess dense cytoplasm and generally have more than one nucleus.
- When the anther is young, a group of compactly arranged homogeneous tissue occupies the centre of each microsporangium.



- A young anther possesses a homogeneous mass of hypodermal cells bounded by epidermis. After some time, this homogeneous mass appears like a tetra-angular mass.
- In the inner side of this epidermis, some cells at each angle contain a prominent nucleus and abundant protoplasm; they are called archesporial cells.



A-F. Development of microsporangium:
A - E. Successive stages of the development of microsporangium; **F.** A mature pollen sac in a transverse section.

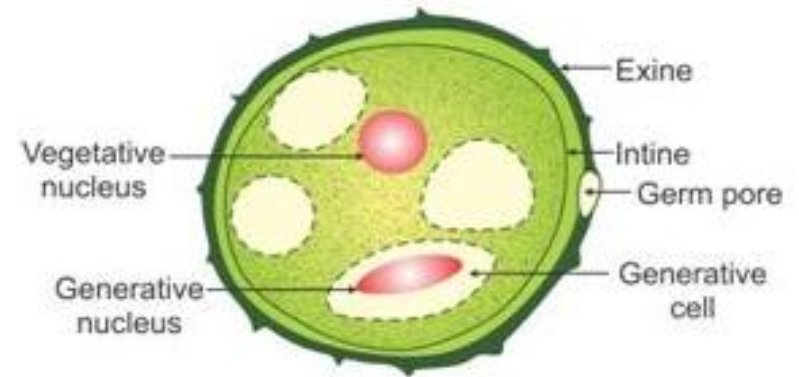
- These cells undergo periclinal division to form an outer parietal cell and an inner sporogenous cell.
- The parietal cell divides by anticlinal and parietal division to form a 2-5 layered microsporangial wall.
- The sporogenous cell either directly functions as a microspore mother cell or goes through some mitotic cell division and then functions as a microspore mother cell.

Microsporogenesis:-

- Each cell of the sporogeneous tissue is potential pollen mother cell (PMC) or microspore mother cell and can give rise to microspore mother cell
- A diploid cell in the microsporangium called a microsporocyte or a pollen mother cell undergoes meiosis and give rise to four haploid microspore.
- Each microspore develop into a pollen grain.

The microspore (pollen Grain)

- It is a haploid uni-nucleated and minute spore produced in large number by meiosis in the microspore mother cell.
- They vary in their size, shape, colour, design, etc from species to species
- Pollen grain are generally spherical measuring about 25-50 micrometer in diameter.
- It has two layered , outer hard layer exine (made up of sporopollenin). Inner soft layer intine .
- Pollen grain have prominent distal aperture for germination called germ pore where sporopollenin is absent.
- In the pollen grain a yellowish viscous and sticky substance presence that called pollen kit.



L.S of Pollen grain

Formation of male gametophyte:-

➤ Pre –pollination Development

- Development of male gametophyte start in pollen grain while still present in the microsporangium or pollen sac.
- The nucleus of pollen grain grows in size moves to one side near the wall and divided mitotically to form a vegetative cell and generative cell.
- A layer of callos developed around the generative cell. Later on the callos dissolved and the naked generative cell comes lies freely in the cytoplasm at the tube cell.

➤ Post-Pollination Development

- On reaching the stigma pollen grain absorb water and nutrients from the stigmatic secretion through it's germ pore and the tube cell enlarge.
- In the generative cell the nucleus divide mitotically to form two male nuclei which become surrounded by a thin cytoplasmic sheath and appear as distinct non-motile male

gamete

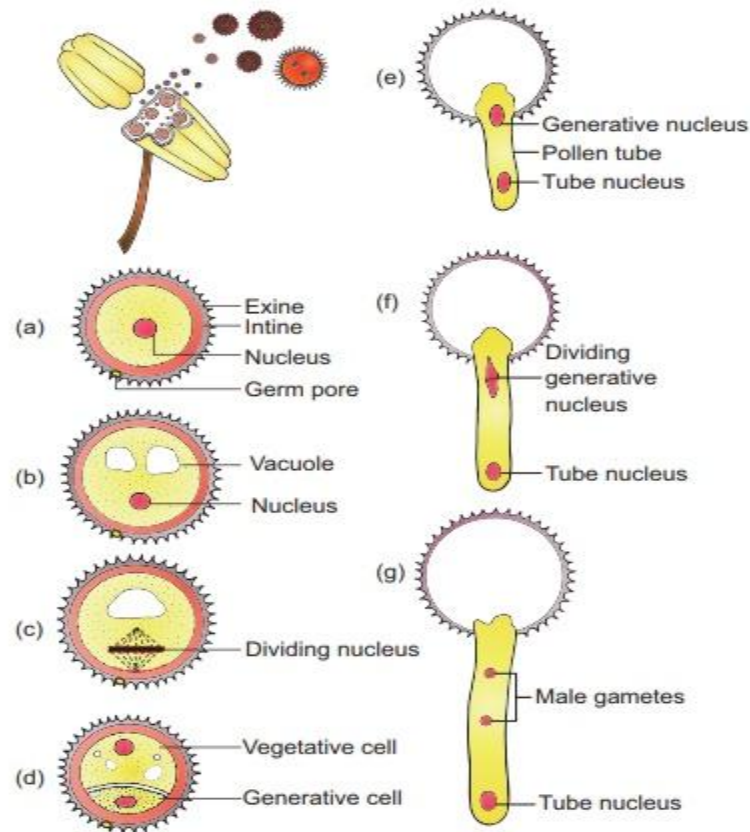


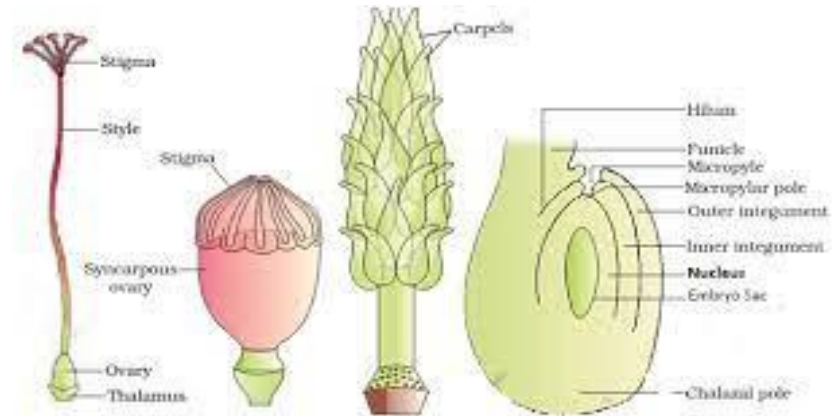
Figure 1.6 Development of male gametophyte

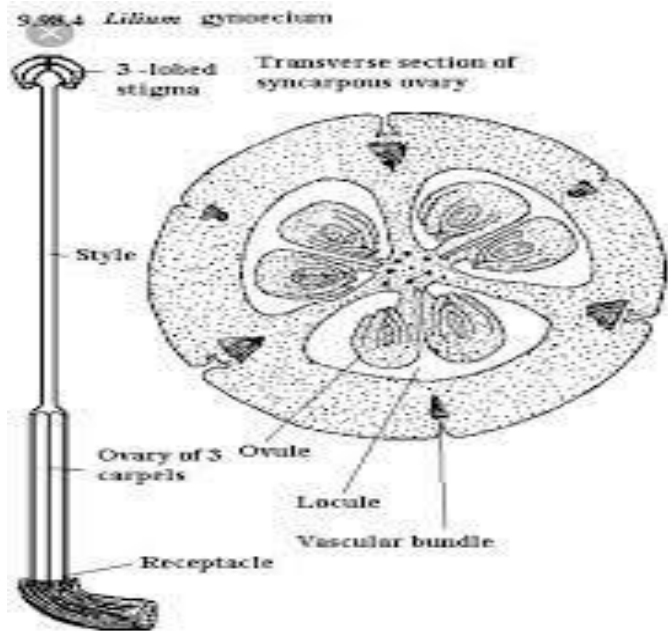
Development of Female gametophyte:-

- Megaspore developed in to a female gametophyte containing a haploid egg.
- The process of formation of female gametophyte is called mega gametogenesis.
- This process involves pistil which is the female reproductive part.

Pistil :-

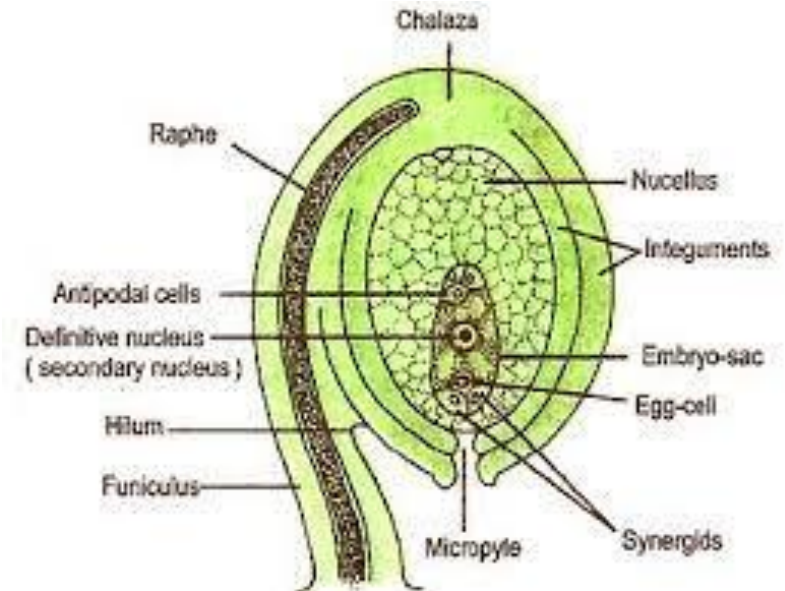
- It is the female organ of a flower which receive the pollen and produce seed.
- It is otherwise known as gynoecium which consist of stigma, style, ovary.
- Pistil may be syncarpus or may be apocarpus.
- The mode of arrangement of ovule along the placenta in the cavity of the ovary is known as placentation.





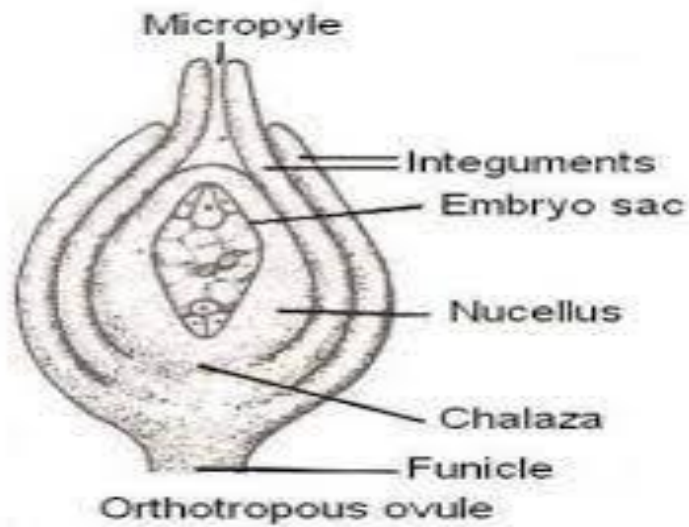
Megasporangium:-

- The ovule is an integumented megasporangia within which the megaspore formation take place by meiosis division.
- It is attached to the placenta by means of a stalk called funicle. it develops into a seed after fertilization.
- The junction between an ovule and funicle is called hilum.
- Each ovule has one or two protective envelopes called integument which encircle the ovule except at a tip where a small opening called micropyle is located.
- The basal part of an ovule just opposite to micropyle is called chalza .
- Enclosed within the integument is a mass of cell called nucellus.
- An ovule has generally a single embryo sac or female gametophyte develop from a megaspore through reductional division and located within the nucellus.



Structure of ovule

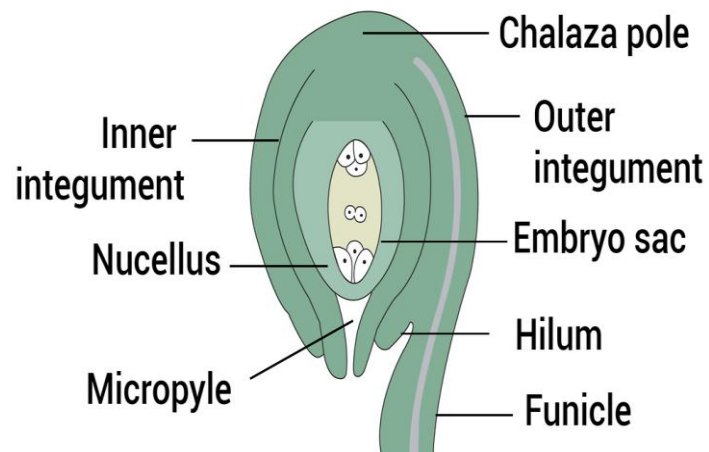
- Depending upon the shape and orientation, the ovule of angiospermic plant is following type :-
 - Orthotropus ovule / Atropous ovule**
In this type the micropyle ,chalaza and funicle are in straight line. Eg.-*Piper*



II. Anatropous ovule:-

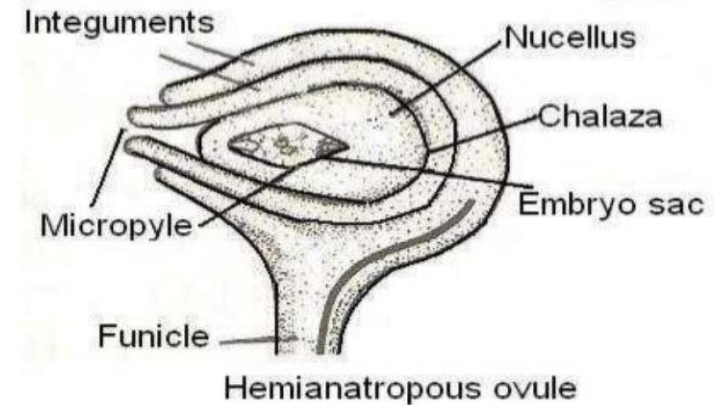
In this type body of ovule is completely inverted.

Eg. *Helianthus*



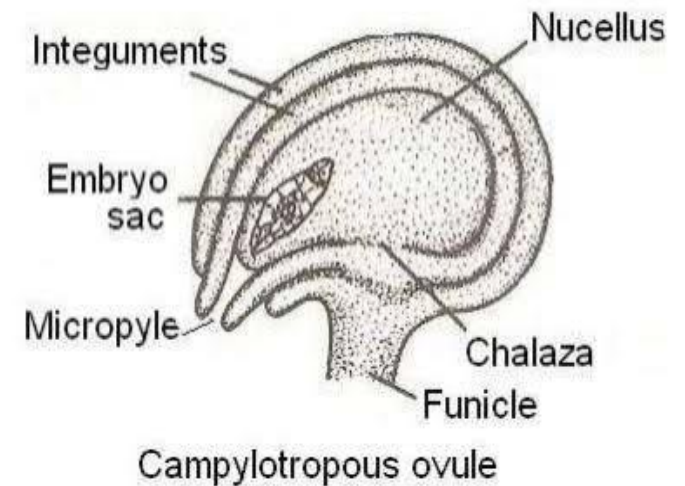
III. Hemianatropous ovule;-

In this type the ovule turns at the angle of 90° upon the funicle. Eg. *Butter cup*



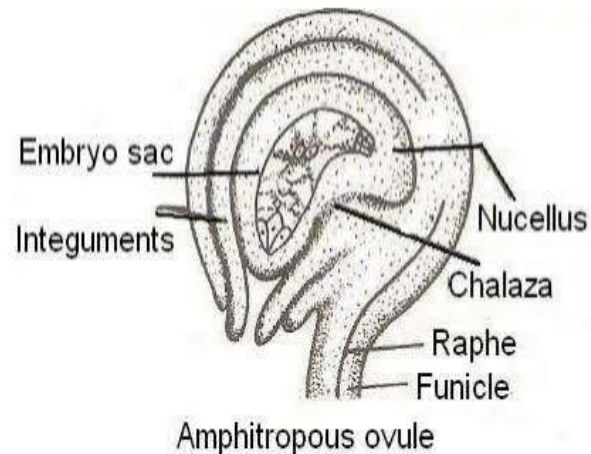
IV. Campylotropous ovule:-

In this type the ovule is curved more or less at right angle to funicle. Eg.: *Legumes*



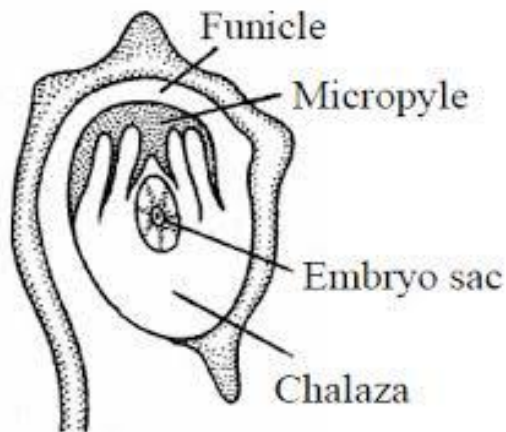
V. Amphitropous ovule:-

In this type embryo sac becomes curved like horse-shoe. Eg. *Salvinia cuculata*, *lemna*



VI. Circinotropus ovule:-

In this type funicle completely surround the body of the ovule. Eg. *Opuntia*



- Each ovule is attached to the placenta by a slender stalk called funicle.
- The point of attachment of the body of the ovule to its stalk or funicle is known as hilum.

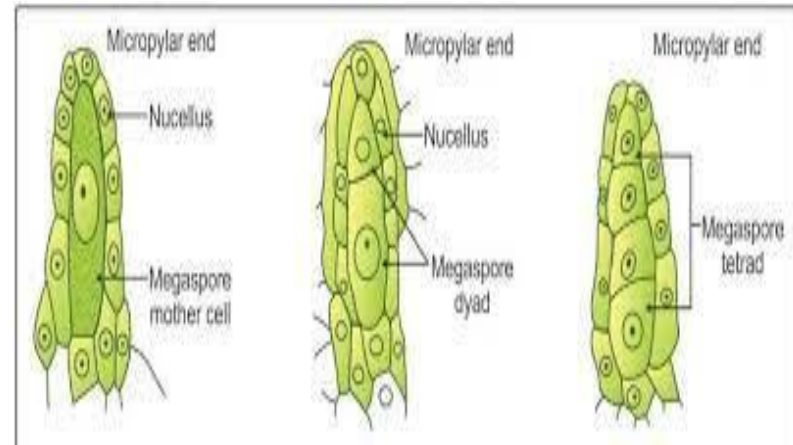
- The inverted ovule, the part of funicle remain attached beyond the hilum alongside of the ovule forming a sort of ridge called raphe.
- The ovule contain a mass of thin walled parenchymatous cell called nucellus.
- The nucellus is protected by one or two multicellular coats called integument.
- The basal portion of the nucellus from where the integument appear is called chalaza.

Development of ovule:-

- The development of ovule start with the formation of primordium on the placenta first periclinal division occurs which are followed by anticlinal division which cause enlargement of the protruberance.
- An archesporial cell gets differentiated by acquiring size and dense cell.
- This is followed by initiation of formation of outer and inner integument.
- These integument enclosed the central part of the ovule which is parenchymatous mass of cells.
- This region get differentiated to form mature nucellus enclosing a female gametophyte
- At the end the ovule consist of integuments and nucellus which posses embryo sac .

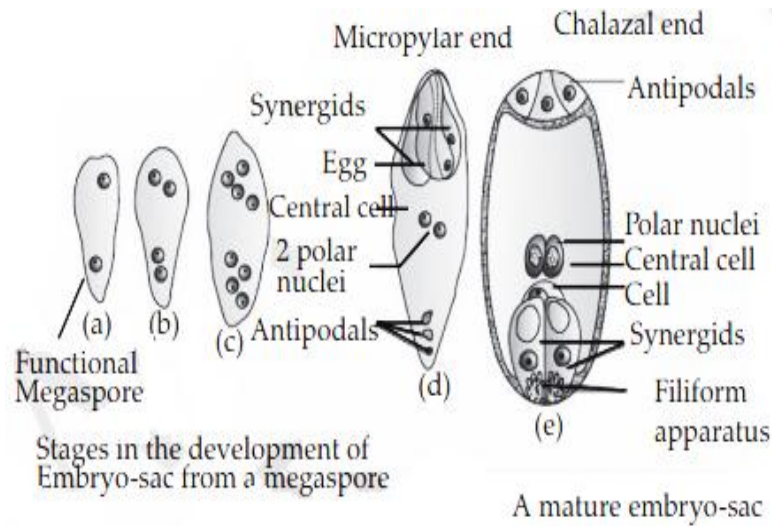
Megasporogenesis:-

- The process of formation of megaspore from megaspore mother cell is called as megasporogenesis.
- The functional megaspore forms female gametophyte or embryo sac.
- The nucleus of megaspore divided into two four and finally eight daughter nuclei. Four of which are located at each pole.
- It occurs inside the nucellus of developing ovule of angiosperm.
- The process begins very early when nucellus is not completely surrounded by the integument.
- The megaspore mother cell enlarges in size and divides by meiosis to form a tetrad of four haploid megaspores.



Megagametogenesis:-

- The functional megaspore develops into the female gametophyte or embryo sac.
- The megaspore nucleus divides mitotically to form two, four, and finally eight daughter nuclei.
- Out of the eight nuclei, four nuclei remain in the micropylar end and the rest four are in the chalazal end.
- The one nucleus from each group migrates to the center to form two polar nuclei.
- The remaining three at the chalazal end of the embryo sac form the antipodal cell.
- On the other hand, the remaining three nuclei at the micropylar end become surrounded by cytoplasm and form three cells which constitute the egg apparatus.
- The egg apparatus consists of two lateral cells called synergids and a centrally placed egg or oosphere.
- The two polar nuclei soon fuse to form a fusion nucleus or secondary nucleus.



Pollination

- Pollination is the transfer of pollen grain from anther to receptive stigma of the same or different flower.
- When the pollen grain are shed from the mature anther of a stamen ,they are disseminated by various abiotic or biotic agencies and finally some of them may reach the receptive stigma of a pistil, either of same or different flower.
- Depending on the nature of transfer of the pollen grain , the pollination is of two types

A. Self pollination

B. Cross pollination

Self pollinatuion:-

- Self pollination the transfer of pollen grain from an anther to the receptive stigma of the same flower or to the stigma of another flower of the same plant
- It involves pollination between genetically similar flower
- Self pollination usually takes place in monoecious plant bearing both male and female flowers.
- It may also occurs in plants bearing bisexual flower in which both male and female sex organ mature almost at the same time.
- Self pollination is up to two types i.e.

❖ Autogamy :-

- it is the transfer of pollen grain from the anther of a flower to the stigma of same flower .

Eg.wheat, rice, pea

❖ Geitonogamy:-

- It is the transfer of pollen grain from the anther of a flower to the stigma of another flower borne on the same plant .
- Flower may be unisexual or bisexual

Self pollination devices:-

- The most effective contrivances or adaptation favouring self pollination are

❖ Homogamy –

it is a condition where both the sex organ of a bisexual flower mature at the same time.

❖ Cleistogamy—

It is a condition where bisexual flower never open to expose their sex organ and hence self pollination is obligatory in this case this flower are called cleistogamy flower.

❖ Chasmogamy—

It is the condition where bisexual flower are open and expose their sex organ only after their maturity.

Cross pollination:-

- Cross pollination is the transfer of pollen grain of one flower to the stigma of a different flower.

- Cross pollination also called allogamy and the transfer of pollen grain is performed with the help of external agencies .
- Such as water , wind, animals ,birds etc
- Different agencies helping in cross pollination and adaption of the lower to them are described ----

i. **Anemophily:-** it is the cross pollination conducted by the help of wind. Eg . coconut, palm, grasses and cannabis

ii. **Hydrophily:-** when pollination is conducted by water it is known as hydrophily. Eg. Hydrilla

- It is of two types

❖ **Hypohydrogamous** –(below the surface of water)

❖ **Epihydrogamous** –(over the surface of water)

iii. **Entomophily:-** it is the cross pollination conducted by the help of insect. Eg. Bougainvillea , Euphorbia

iv. **Ornithophily:-** it is the cross pollination conducted by birds is known as ornithophily.

v. **Chiropterophily:-** the flower are pollinated by bats is known as chiropterophily

Outbreeding devices:-

- Cross pollination is always advantageous for the plant over self pollination.
- A number of device developed in the plant to prevent self pollination

❖ Unisexuality :-

- the unisexual plant may be monoecious in which male and female flower are borne on the same plant.

Eg. Maize , ground nut

- Or may be in diecious in which the male and female flower are borne in different flower.

Eg.Papaya

- While most of the monoecious plant are cross pollinated as a rule all diaecious plant show cross pollination.

❖ **Self sterility:-** The pollen grain can not fertilized the ovule of the same plant because of the genetic factor. The pollen grain may not germinate on the stigma or if germinate the pollen tube may not reach the embryo sac due to some genetical factor.

❖ **Dichogamy:-** a condition in hermaphrodite flower in which the anther and stigma do not mature at the same time.

If the anther mature early to the ovule it is protandry

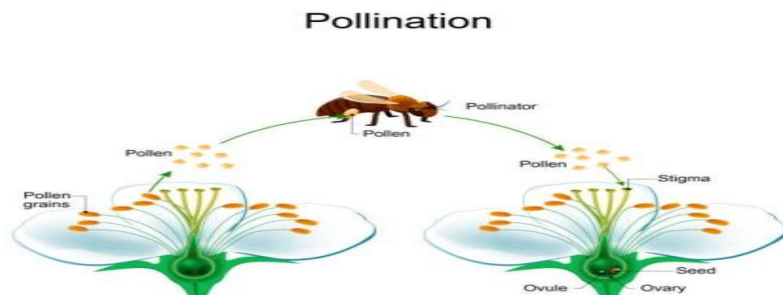
If the ovule mature early to the anther it is protogyny

❖ **Heterostyly:-** A condition in a flower with style and stamen are of different length.

❖ **Herkogamy :-** The pollen grain are not allowed to fall on the stigma of the same flower due to some barrier.

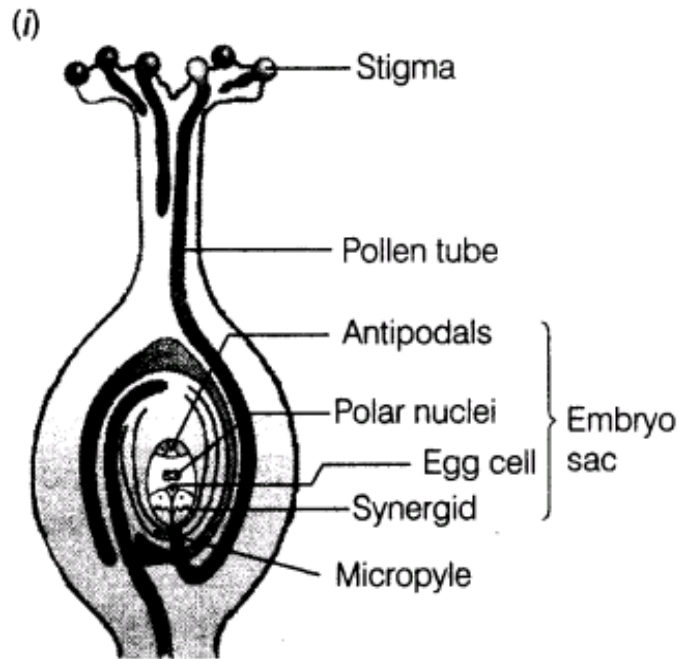
Pollen-pistil interaction

- All the events bearing from the loading of grain on the receptive stigma upto the entry of pollen tube into the ovule are collectively referred to as pollen pistil interaction
- However all the pollen which land on the stigma do not germinate as they are not compatible to it.
- If pollen from one species is landed on the stigma of another species they are rejected and not allowed to germinate.
- In most cases of cross fertilization species , the pollen of the same plant this ability of plant to reject it's own pollen or pollen from closely related plant is called self-incompatibility.
- Only the compatible pollen are accept by the receptive stigma and allowed to germinate on it. Then post pollination events leading to fertilization.
- The microspore formed pollen tube and the 2-non motile male gametes produce in the pollen tube and go through the stigmatic cells from stigma to the ovule of the ovary.
- The male gametes enters in to the embryo sac by the filiiform apparatus of the synergids
- The male gametes fuse with the egg nucleus this is called double fertilization
- The pollen tube enters into the embryo sac by one of the following routes
 - **Porogamy –**
It is the most common route for entry of pollen tube through micropyle.
 - **Chalazogamy—**
In this pollen tube enter through the chalaza



○ **Mesogamy—**

This is the condition in which the pollen tube enters through the integuments of ovule



Double fertilization

- The term fertilization was first coined by **Stars burger** . But the process of double fertilization was first observed by Nawaschin in 1898.
- After entering on one of the synergids the pollen tube releases the two male gametes into the cytoplasm of the synergids
- Double fertilization is of two type
 - **Syngamy—**

One of the male gametes moves towards the egg cell and fuse with its nucleus that process is called syngamy. It form diploid zygote .

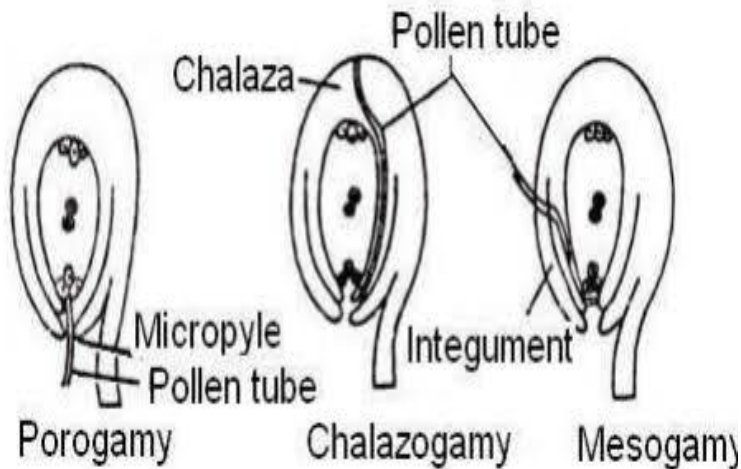
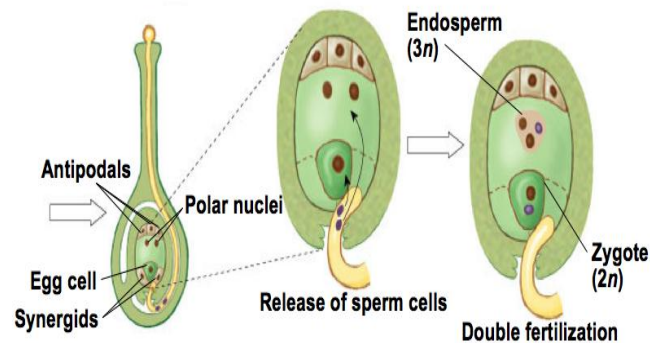
1sperm + egg cell-> zygote = syngamy

➤ **Triple fusion**

- The other male gametes moves towards the polar nuclei to fuse this fusion is called as triple fusion.
- It result in the formation of triploid primary endosperm
- After development it forms the endosperm
- Endosperm is therefore triploid in angiosperm it serves to provide nutrition to the developing embryo
- This all above process is known as double fertilization

1 sperm + 2 polar nuclei → primary endosperm =Double fertilization

Double Fertilization



Significance of double fertilization

- Double fertilization is necessary for the formation of viable seed, as it ensures the formation of endosperm together with the embryo
- Endosperm formed is essential for the proper growth of the embryo as it provides nourishment to the embryo.

Endosperm:-

- The endosperm in an angiosperm is the result of triple fusion and has $3n$ triploid.
- It provides the essential food to the developed embryo.
- The triploid nature of endosperm makes it genetically useless but it can serve as an excellent nutritive tissue. Thus the highly nutritive nature of endosperm in angiosperms makes them highly successful plants as they can provide a good deal of nutrition to their embryo.

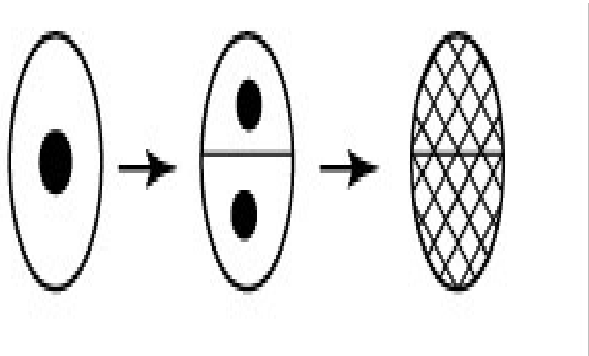
Types of Endosperm:-

- On the basis of its development, endosperm is classified into three main groups:
 - Cellular endosperm
 - Nuclear endosperm
 - Helobial endosperm

Cellular endosperm:-

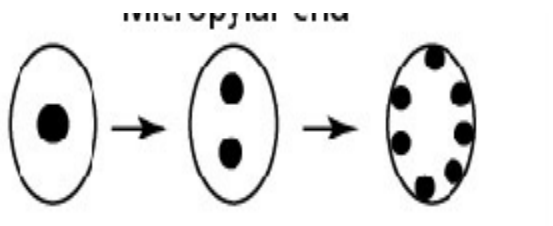
- In this case all the divisions of primary endosperm nuclei are mitotic and each division is followed by cell wall formation
- Therefore there is no free nuclear stage.

- This type of endosperm is cellular type of endosperm. Eg :-
Cucurbitaceae(cucumber, watermelon)
, Leguminaceae(soybean, common bean)



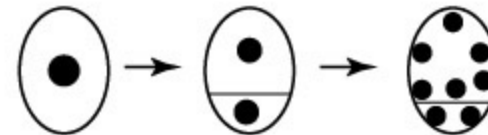
Nuclear Endosperm

- In this type the primary endosperm nucleus divides by free nuclear division.
- A large vacuole appears in the centre that pushes the nuclei towards the periphery.
- The wall formation may take place at a later stage when several hundreds of nuclei have been formed.
- This cytokinesis occurs from periphery and proceeds towards the centre.
- It is the most common type of endosperm eg. Wheat, rice, sunflower



Helobial Endosperm:-

- This type of endosperm is intermediate between nuclear and cellular type of endosperm development.
- It is so named because it frequently occurs in order helobials
- In this the first division of primary endosperm nucleus is followed by a transverse wall formation, resulting in an upper micropylar and lower chalazal chamber.
- Finally wall formation occurs in micropylar chamber while the chalazal chamber gets crushed and shows degenerated nuclei.



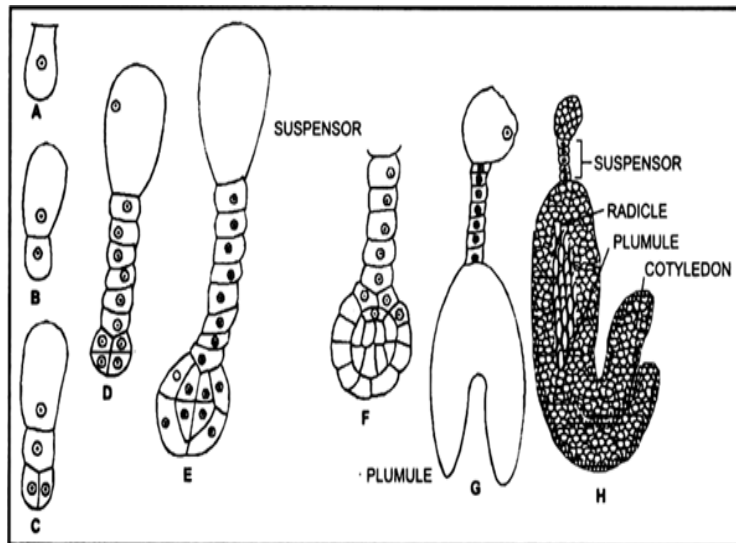
>Embryo and its Development <

- The fertilized egg cell or zygote now undergoes development to give rise to embryo.
- Although the mature embryo of dicots and monocots are different from each other there is no difference in their initial developments.

Development of Embryo

- Zygote divides by a transverse division forming two cells
 - i. Basal cell
 - ii. Terminal cell
- The basal cell divides by transverse division to form many cells arranged in a row. This structure is called suspensor.

- Suspensor pushes the embryo deep in to the endosperm so as to absorb maximum food.
- The lower most cell of the row is differentiated as hypophysis which gives rise to radicle.
- The terminal cell divides by two vertical and one transverse division to form eight cells. These are arranged in two tiers of 4 each.
- Upper tier gives rise to hypocotyl . the lower tier rise to epicotyl cotyledons and plumule.
- This entire structure is called proembryo.
- Now this structure grows further and becomes heart shaped.
- In dicots two cotyledons are formed but in monocots only one cotyledon develops .
- By the time the integuments of the ovule becomes hard and are called as seed coat and the entire ovule is now called as seed.
- When the seed germinates the cotyledons are used in providing nourishment , The radicle gives rise to shoot system.



Development of seed:-

- Double fertilization in angiosperm triggers the transformation of ovule into seed.

- The seeds are formed inside the fruit .

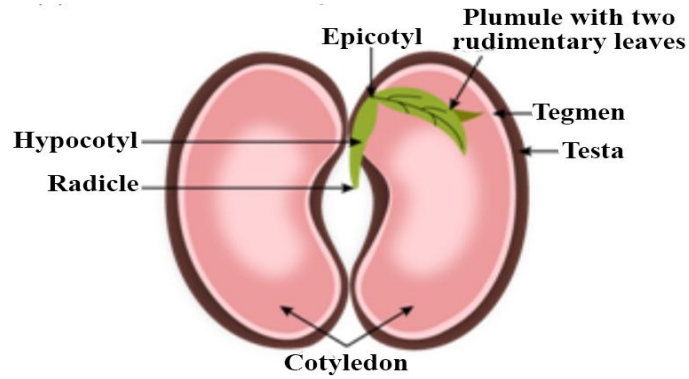
Formation of seed:-

- As a result of stimulus from fertilization a number of changes occur in the tissue outside the embryo sac leading to the formation of seed.
- The ovule increases greatly in size
- The integument dries up
- The outer one becomes hard or leathery and forms the outer seed coat known as testa while the inner one if persists forms the tegmen
- During development the nucellus is used up and totally disappears but in certain cases it persists in the form of a food storing thin layer and is known as perisperm.
- The endosperm may persist or may be used up by the embryo before seed formation leaving its remains only
- A scar is usually visible on one side of the outer seed coat
- It is known as hilum, and marks the point of attachment to the stalk with these changes the ovule changes into the seed and enters a period of dormancy while the ovary ripens into the fruit .

Structure of seed

- A typical seed consists of a seed coat ,cotyledons ,and an embryonal axis
- The seed coat is often double layer formed by the integuments
- The testa of both monocot and dicot have texture markings it may be provided with wings

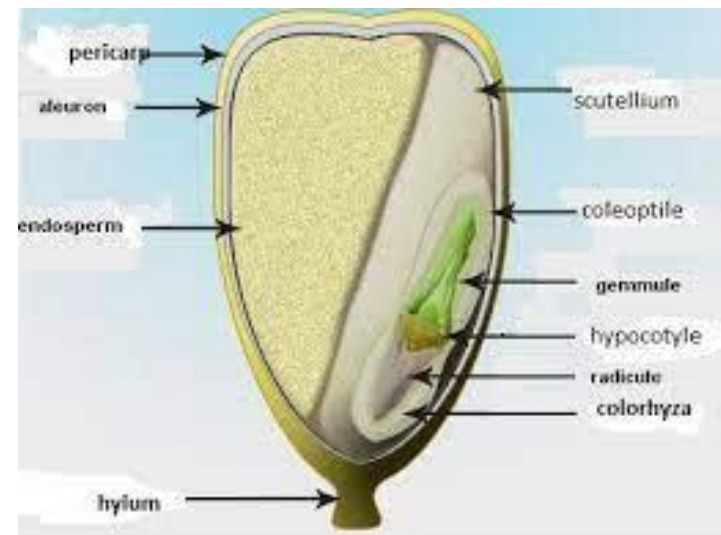
- If there is a single integument it is called unitegmic and in case of presence of two integuments it is called bitegmic



- The cotyledons are generally thick and swollen with food material.
- These are 1-2 in number and consist reserve food material.
- Micropyle remain as a small opening found on the seed coat which facilitates the entry of water and oxygen in to the seed.
- As the seed mature its water content is reduced and seed become relatively dry.
- The hilum mark the point of attachment to the stalk
- Sometimes the general metabolic activity of the embryo slow down and it may enter in to state of seed dormancy
- When favorable condition are available this seed germinates in to plant
- Seed may have different shape like kidney shape, spherical shaped etc. and also different in colour like brown, black, red etc
- The surface may be polished or may have wings

Types of seed:-

- Depending up on the presence or absence of endosperm the seed having copious amount of endosperm tissue are called albuminos seed
- Ex. Wheat , Maize, Cocunut, Sunflower etc
- Seed in which the endosperm is used up are non-albuminos seed . eg. Beans, pea, ground nuts
- In some seed remains of nucellus are present called as albuminos seed . eg. Black pepper , beat
- The monocot and dicot seed are named due to the number of cotyledons a seed have



Formation of fruit :-

- A fruit is formed after fertilization as a result of cell division and differentiation in the ovary i.e. ripen ovary formed a fruit.
- The stimulus of fertilization not only develop ovules in to seed but also bring about other changes in the flower

- Usually all the parts of the flower except the ovary . the ovary being to enlarge simultaneously with the development of seed and ultimately become the fruit .

Significance:-

- Fruit protect the seed from mechanical injury
- Fleshy fruit provide food to animals.
- It provides nutrition to it's own seedling and also consume by human

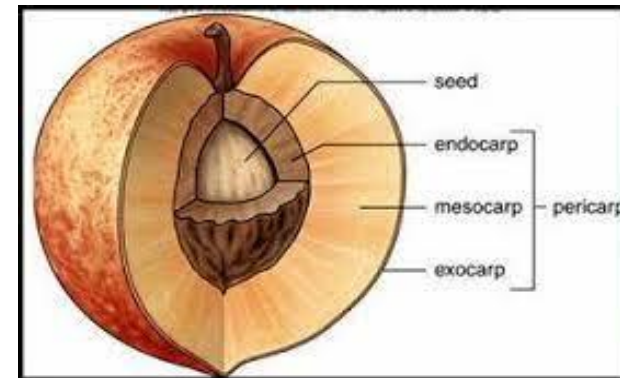
Types of fruit:-

- On the basis of function of fruit they are following types:-
 - a) True fruit
 - b) False fruit
- A true fruit is one which develops from a single ovary of a single flower with no other part outside the ovary . eg. Mango
- A fruit is false or spurious when other floral parts also take part in the formation of fruit. Eg.brinjal
- All aggregate and multiple fruits are false fruit resulting from inferior ovaries are false as the wall of such an ovary has a part of thalamus fused with it.
- Fruit of apple nand pears are false as the edible part is mainly fleshy thalamus.

Structure of fruit:-

- A fruit has a wall or pericarp which develops from the wall of the ovary. When well develops it shows three layers
 - a) Outer epicarp
 - b) Middle meso carp
 - c) Inner endocarp

- In mango the thin and fleshy part is the epicarp
- The sweet fleshy part is eaten constituents the mesocarp and the innermost hard zone that enclose the seed is the endocarp.
- The nature of these zone varies in different fruit.
- In dry fruits the pericarp is papery or woody and is not distinguishable in to three zone
- In apple the fruit develops from the fleshy talamus.



Development of Fruit:-

- During the development of flower, ovary is the last organ to differentiate at the time of flower opening all the parts of flower i.e.- sepals , petals, and stamen are matures but the ovary is partially matured.
- It is only after the stimulus of pollination that the ovary starts further development

Role of pollination in fruits Development:-

- Pollination has an important role in fruit development it contributes to fruit development in the following ways
 - It is essential for fertilization and ultimately for seed formation.

- It prevent abscission of ovary
- It stimulates the growth of ovary to become fruit.

Role of Seed:-

- It has been provide that pollen contains small amount of auxin. This auxin together with a limited amount of additional auxin present in the carpellary tissue can support only limited growth of ovary.
- Furthur growth of ovary in to fruits depend on the normal seed.
- Synthesis of auxin, gibberlines, cytokinines.it can be inferred that seed play a key role in fruit develop
- In the absence of seeds, fruit can be developed by applying small amount of auxin.

Ripening of Fruit:-

- Fruit ripening is the last event in development of fruit
- As soon as the growth of the ovary wall due to cell division and cell enlargement cause the fruit to be mature
- This is followed by fruit ripening.this stage is characteristics by the convection of starch in to sugar reduction in the concentration of acids and the production of esters.
- The breakdown of chlorophyll leads to changes in colour texture ,taste and flavour of the fruit.
- A mature fruit of mango is hard and green with its edible portion being white and sour.
- On ripening the mesocarp becomes yellow-orange ,juicy and sweet

Special mode of reproduction:-

- There are many cases where new plant can be produce in an unusual manner.
- There are three important methods by which new plant can be produce unusually are
 - i. Apomixis
 - ii. Polyembryony
 - iii. Tissue culture

Apomixis:-

- Almost all plant show clear alteration of generation from gametophyte to sporophyte and vice versa
- In angiosperm the sporophytic stage is highly dominant while the gametophytic stage is very short .
- Some time the deviation may occur in the life cycle of a plant from clear alteration of generation
- This deviation is referred to as apomixis.
- Apomixis may be defined as the substitution of normal sexual reproduction by another form of reproduction that's does not involve meiosis and syngamy plants showing this phenomenon are called apomixis.
- In this way apomixis does not involve sexual reproduction
- If on the other hand involve phenomenon like
 - Vegetative reproduction
 - Agamospermy

Vegetative Repproduction :-

- It is a kind of reproduction in which the plant does not produce gametes or some specialised structure for reproduction.

- Simply a vegetative part of the plant body get attached from the main body and develops in to a new plant
 - Natural methods
 - Artificial method

Agamospermy:-

- The formation of new plants asexually from unfertilized ovule or its parts is called agamospermy
- In other words the term agamospermy implies to the formation of seed by the asexual method or apomictic method
- Agamospermy usually involves following method
 - Parthenogenesis
 - Adventive embryoni

Parthenogenesis :-

- The direct formation of zygote from female gamete without any fertilization is known as parthenogenesis
- Parthenogenetic product may be haploid , diploid or polyploid.
- Parthenogenesis involves following subtypes
 - **Diplospory –**
 - *in this case the megaspore mother cell (2n) does not undergoes meiosis and directly start behaving as megaspore
 - *Thus megaspore is diploid and it gives rise to diploid embryosac
 - *The diploid egg cell of embryo sac start germination ,as zygote and gives rise to diploid embryo
 - **Apospory-**

*It involves the development of diploid embryo sac from a normal diploid cell of plant

*These sporophytic tissue may be of nucleus or of integuments etc.

*These diploid egg cell of embryo sac starts germination as zygote and gives rise to diploid embryo.

In both these cases, the embryo sac of female gametophyte is diploid which is an unusual feature

Adventive Embryoni-

- In this case the embryo develops inside the ovule from any tissue (2n) directly but not from the embryo sac.
- Thus in other words sporophytic generation directly gives rise to new sporophytic generation .
- The sporophytic tissue form a bud like structure that directly start behaving as an embryo , this is called sporophytic budding .
- Embryo sac does not form in this condition

Polyembryony- the occurrence of more than one embryo in a seed is called polyembryony.

- This was first discovered by A.V. Leeuwenhoek
- In genera each seed bears an embryo but sometimes there are found more than one embryo in a single seed
- It was first time observed in orange seed
- **On broad basis ,polyembryony is of two types.....**
- **Spontaneous** –it include naturally occurring polyembryony

Earnst in 1901 sub-divided spontaneously polyembryony in to two type I.E.- True and False polyembryony which is widely accepted by scientist

True polyembryony-

- In this extra embryos arise from the cells present in the same embryo sac or the cells surrounding embryo sac i.e. from nucellar cells or integumentary cells e.g. *Mangifera indica*
- From synergids e.g. *Sagittaria bergenia*
- From antipodal cells e.g. *Ulmus*
- From embryo itself

False Polyembryony-

- In this extra embryo arises from the cells of different embryo sac present in the same ovule e.g. *Bergenia*

The Process Of Polyembryony-

According to Brawn (1859) the polyembryony in angiosperms may arise by the following

- ❖ **Cleavage polyembryony –**

Embryos are formed due to cleavage or splitting of zygote . each splitted part develops in to embryo .

- ❖ **Mixed polyembryony-**

More than one pollen tube entering in a ovule and fertilising synergids

- ❖ **Adventive polyembryony –**

Diploid nucellus or integuments cell form embryos

- **Induced polyembryony –**

- ❖ Each viable cell of a plant can be converted into an embryo by providing suitable nutritional requirements and environmental conditions.
- ❖ Embryos formed in such a way are called induced polyembryony
- ❖ These may be haploid or diploid.
- ❖ Some of the species in which polyembryony is induced include carrot, wheat, grapes ,

Significance

- i. It provides uniform seedling like parents
- ii. Seedling develops better root system and show better yield.
- iii. Seedling are free from disease.

Parthenocarpy

- ❖ The formation of fruits without fertilization is termed as parthenocarpy. The term parthenocarpy was coined by Noll in 1902
- ❖ The parthenocarpic development of fruit may be the pollination stimulus or it may occur in unpollinated flower

- ❖ Seedling fruits should not be considered synonymous to parthenocarpic fruit because in seedless fruits the ovules may have been fertilised and later aborted
- ❖ There may be parthenocarpic fruit with seeds in them
- ❖ Auxin treatment are known to produce seeded parthenocarpic fruits in grapes, citrus etc.

Types of parthenocary-

Nitsch (1963) has recognised following three types of parthenocary

- i. **Genetic parthenocary**-Several cultivating plant have both seeded as well as seedless fruit . These seedless are formed parthenocarpically due to hybridisation or mutation e.g. *Cucurbita*
- ii. **Environmental Parthenocary**- Environment condition such as Fog, Frost, High temperature, Freezing interfere with the normal function of reproduction organs can bring about parthenocary in plants. E.g. *Capsicum*
- iii. **Chemically induced parthenocary** –
 Auxin and Gibberlines at low concentration have been succesfully used to induced parthenocary.
 Auxin treatment induced parthenocarpic fruits in citrus, grapes, watermelons, and pineapples
 Gibberlines are espically useful for inducing parthenocary

Parthenocary has great significance in horticulture industry because seedles fruit sre suitable either as consumption or in the preparation of jam an juice .

Further the parthenocarpic fruits have an increased proportion of edible parts than in normal fruits.

Significance-