Botany 1

Plant Morphology

1st year Physical and Chemical sciences - Botany

Prepared by: Dr. Azza Misk

External features of flowering plants:

Most plant consists of two parts:

- 1. Shoot System: which lies above ground and is characterized into the Stem, leaves, flower, fruits.
- 2. Root System: which lies in most plants in the underground where the root carries the secondary roots and rootlets.

External features of flowering plants Corchorus olitorius





The Seed

- <u>Seed:</u> A fertilized ovule. It consists of; a young *Dicot* plant called the Embryo in dormancy; feeds on a variable amounts of Endosperm (seed is <u>Endospermic</u> where it appears small in size) or none (seed is <u>Exendospermic</u> where it appears fleshy and large); and protective layers Testa. It has only one scar that represents the Hilum.
- <u>Embryo</u>: It consists of one (Monocot) or two (*Dicot*) leaves Cotyledons; primary root Radicle; primary shoot Plumule.
- <u>Types of Seeds</u>:
 - <u>Endospermic (*Albuminous*) Seed:</u> A young embryonic plant with reserve food material to supply the developing embryo in its early stages of germination where it is kept outside the embryo in a separate tissue known as Endosperm. The seed is usually <u>small</u> in size.
 - <u>Exendospermic (*Exalbuminous*) Seed:</u> A young embryonic plant with no endosperm where the seed is <u>large</u> and the reserve food is stored in the cotyledons.
- <u>Grain:</u> A fertilized ovary. It consists of; a young embryonic *Monocot* plant; two scars : one represent the point of attachment to the style and the other is the point of attachment to the receptacle (Hilum).
- *<u>Micropyle</u>*: a hole where the seed obtain its water.
- *<u>Caruncle</u>* : a spongy tissue above the Micropyle
- <u>*Testa*</u> : Protective layers covering the embryo.
- <u>Types of Germination</u>:
 - 1. <u>Hypogeal</u>: Elongation of the Epicotyl.
 - 2. *Epigeal*: Elongation of the *Hypocotyl*



First Term

radicle -

cotyledon

Eipogeal Germination

hypogeal (adj) of the kind of germination (1) in which the cotyledons (1) remain below ground. Their stored food is used up in the early growth of the epicotyl (1) and the hypocotyl (1).
seedling (n) a young plant growing from its seed. It is usually called a seedling until it loses its cotyledons (1).

Conditions necessary for germination:

• <u>Internal</u>: (Concerning the Seed):

Vitality of the Embryo: It depends on the dormancy period of the embryo, seed storage in dry silos (water content of the seed is 1%). Some need long dormancy periods, short or no dormancy at all; it is according to the seed type and nature:

- 1. Testa Hardness
- 2. Incomplete growth of the embryo.
- **3.** Genetic factors
- <u>External</u>: (Concerning environmental conditions):

1. Humidity (Water Content)	2.Oxygen	
3.Temperature	4. Light	

• <u>Other Factors</u>: *i.e.* mechanical removal of the Testa by:

1. Oxygen	2. Radiation	
3. Acids	4. High Temperature	

5. Mixing the host seeds with parasite seeds

Changes occurring in seed during germination:

Seed changes during soaking in water:

- <u>Physical</u>: 1. Increase in Size 2. Breakage of *Testa*
- <u>Chemical</u>:
 - 1. <u>Catabolism</u>: the dissolution of the solid complex reserve food material to simple one through enzymatic activity.
 - 2. Enzymatic Activity:

Starch	Diastase	Monosaccharide sugar
Protein	Protease	Amino acids
Lipids	Lipase	Triglyceride acids + Glycerin

• <u>Vitality</u>:

Physiological Activity:

- 1. The protoplasm turns from gel to sol (semi-solid).
- 2. Cells get turgid (enlarged)
- **3.** Growth of the radicle and then the plumule.
- 4. The seed becomes a seedling by forming its 1st foliage leaf.

Stages of Germination

- <u>1st Stage:</u> Swelling of seed and removal of *Testa*.
- **<u>2nd Stage:</u>** Growth of Radicle.
- <u>**3rd Stage:</u>** Growth of Plumule.</u>
- 4th Stage: Formation of the first foliage leaf.

How a plant grows from a seed

Examples of Dicotyledonous Seeds and seedlings

radicle

Examples of Monocotyledonous Seeds and seedlings

Roots

• **Function:**

1. Absorption

2. Anchor

3. Storage

• <u>Root forms</u>:

- 1. Smooth.
- 2. Whitish or yellowish in color
- 3. Tapering towards the end.

<u>Root Structure:</u>

- 1. <u>Growing apex</u>: A root cap protecting the delicate meristemtic cells (of growing point at the tip of the root) from injury. The root cap (Calyptra) is slimy to allow the root to slide easily in its course. It is continuously torn away and renewed from the underlying meristem.
- 2. <u>Elongation zone</u>: A bare zone next to the growing zone. The increase in length of the whole root takes place in this region.
- 3. <u>Absorption Zone</u>: limited area of length and life-span (that does its function for a few days and then dies out). They are covered by numerous root hairs.
- <u>Root can be characterized by the presence:</u>
 - 1. Bare zone: It lacks any root hairs.
 - 2. Permanent Zone: lateral roots are produced in succession, the youngest being the nearest to the root hairs. Root branches are almost always endogenous.
- Root Forms:
 - 1. Primary Root: Originates from the embryo (radicle). It is divided into:

a. Normal Tap Root: Smooth, whitish or yellowish in color and tapering towards the end.

b.Tuberous Root: It's thickened for storage, examples:

- Conical: *i.e.* Carrot
- Fusiform: *i.e.* Radish
- Napiform: *i.e.* Turnip

- 2. Adventitious Root: It arises from any parts of the plant *i.e.* stems and leaves. It is mostly found in *Monocots*. It is divided into:
 - **1. Fibrous roots**

2. Prop roots

5. Aerial roots

3. Storage roots

6. Haustoria

- 4. Climbing roots
 - 7. Pillar roots

- 8. Contractile roots
- 9. Respiratory roots

Stems

• Morphology of different Stems

Definition:

It's a leaf-bearing axis. It arises from the plumule. In the majority of plants, the stem, the leaves, buds, flowers and fruits collectively constitute the Shoot System.

Function:

- 1. It carries leaves, buds and flowers.
- 2. It conducts the Xylem and Phloem sap.

Types of Stems:

- 1. Aerial
- 2. Subterranean (underground)

Nature of the Stem:

- **1.Woody or Herbaceous**
- 2. Erect or Weak (Prostrate, twining or runner)
- 3. Long or dwarf

T.S. in Stems:

- 1. Solid
- 2. Hollow

Stem Outline:

- 1. Circular
- 2.Flattened

3. Angular

Surface:

- 1. Smooth
- 2. Rough
- 3. Hairy or Prickly

Branching:

- 1. <u>Apical</u>: Dichotomy
- 2. <u>Axillary</u>:

1. <u>Monopodium</u>: The apical bud retains permanently its capacity for active growth and the branches develop from axillary bud which remain lateral and subordinate to the main axis and again branch in the same manner.

2. <u>Sympodium</u>: Frequently the apical bud is transformed into a flower or tendril which ends its career. The axillary bud of the terminal leaf continues the growth of the axis forming one or more internodes which are terminated by another flower or a tendril and so on.

Stem Modifications:

• <u>Aerial</u>:

1. <u>Leafy stems</u>: Leaves are reduced to mere scales. Leaf's function is taken over by modified flat branches containing chlorophylls tissue.

- 1. <u>Cladode</u>: Asparagus
- 2. <u>Phylloclade</u>: *Ruscus*
- 2. <u>Juicy Stems</u>: Opuntia
- 3. Thorny Stems: Zilla spinosa, Alhagi

- 4. <u>Stem Tendrils</u>: Vitis
- <u>Subterranean</u>: In addition to perennation, they serve for food storage and also for vegetative reproduction. Types of which:
 - 1. <u>Rhizome</u>: Cyperus

- 2. <u>Corm</u>: Colocasia
- 3. <u>Bulbs&Bulbils</u>: Onion and garlic
 - 4. <u>Tubers</u>: potatoes

Buds

- Divided into:
 - 1. Principal Bud: The largest in size.
 - 2. Accessory Bud: Additional buds.
- <u>Types according to seasons:</u>
 - 1. Summer Bud: Green and small in size

2. Winter Bud: Brown covered by scale leaves and are larger in size.

• **Position:**

- 1. Terminal: At the Apex of the stem
- 2. Axillary: At the axis of the leaf.
 - <u>Cladode</u>
 - <u>Phylloclade</u>

Leaves

Leaf parts

- <u>Definition:</u> They originate as lateral protuberances just behind the growing point. They arise in regular succession at the tip of the axis. They are exceedingly variable in form, but the most common ones are green-colored, flat and broad to allow maximum exposure to the sun rays.
- Function:
 - 1. Photosynthesis
 - 2. Anabolism
 - 3. **Respiration**
 - 4. Transpiration
- Leaf Composition:
 - 1. Leaf Base
 - 2. Leaf Stalk (Petiole)
 - **3.** Leaf Blade (Lamina)

1. Leaf Base:

It is the part next to the stem at the node. It usually serves to protect the bud.

• Enlargement:

<u>It appears as a more or less marked enlargement at the base of the leaf which facilitate the movement of the leaf. Types of which are:</u>

1.Ordinary

2.Pulvinus

3.Sheathed

• <u>Stipules:</u>

They frequently developed from the leaf base, forming a pair. Types of which are: 1.Exstipulate

- 2.Stipulate:
 - Hairy
 - Foliaceous
 - Tendrillar

- Adnate -Ochreate

- Spinous

Leaf parts 1. Leaf Base (Stipules)

3. <u>Leaf Stalk (Petiole):</u>

- 1. Petiolate
- 2. Subsessile
- 3. Sessile

- 4. Leaf Blade:
 - Forms of Leaf Blade (Lamina):
 - 1. <u>Simple</u>: One continuous or slightly divided surface.
 - 2. <u>Lobed:</u> Incomplete deep divisions, divided into a number of lobes connected by an undivided portion (not reaching the midrib). Lyrate, Runcinate.

- 3. <u>Dissectified:</u> Complete deep divisions (Close to the midrib).
- 4. <u>Palmate:</u> They are palm-like. If the incisions are less than half the distance between the margin and the midrib *i.e.* Palmatified, but if they are more than half *i.e.* Palmatisect.
- 5. <u>Pinnate:</u> If incisions are less than half the distance between the margin and the midrib *i.e.* Pinnatified, if they are more than half *i.e.* Pinnatipartite, but if incisions are so deep reaching the midrib *i.e.* Pinnatisect.
- 6. <u>Compound</u>: The divisions are so independent that they appear as distinct leaflets born on a common stalk (Palmately or Pinnately), (Bifoliate, Trifoliate, Paripinnate, Imparipinnate), or the leaflets of compound leaves themselves exhibit subdivision called *Pinna* (Bipinnate, Tripinnate).

Lamina

1. Base Of Lamina:

Symmetrical, Asymmetrical or Auriculate

Shape Of Lamina:

Acicular, Tubular, Lanceolate, Ovate, Oblong, Spathulate, round, Reniform, Sagitate, Hastate, Lorate, Cordate, Lyrate, etc...

3. Leaf Vennation:

1. Reticulate

2.Parallel:(Longitudinal or Transverse)

4. Margin Of Lamina:

Entire, Ciliate, Spinous, Serrate, Dentate, Crenate, Sinuate, etc...

5. Apex Of Lamina:

Obtuse, Acute, Caudate, Acuminate, Aristate, Retuse, Emarginate, Mucronate, Notched, Apiculate, etc...

Leaf Insertion

- 1. Radical
- 2. Cauline

Leaf Arrangement (*Phyllotaxis*):

1. Dwarfed: Carrot

2. Alternate

4.Opposite decussate

5.Whorled

1. Evergreen plants

2. Deciduous plants

Leaf forms

- <u>Cotyledonary leaves</u>: *Epigeal* germination
- <u>Prophyllus</u>: Fava beans
- Scale leaves: Onion & Rhizomes
- Foliage leaves: Photosynthesis
- Floral leaves:

1. <u>Leaf Modifications:</u>

- <u>Spiny leaves:</u> Berberis, Parkinsonia
- Fleshy (Storage) leaves: Zygophyllum

- <u>Leaf tendrils:</u> Lathyrus decoratus
- <u>Phylloclade (leafy petiole):</u> Zygophyllum, Acacia
- Insectivorous leaves: Drocera

REFERENCES

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- 4. Megahed *et al.*(1996). General Botany. Anglo Press. 7th edition.
- 5. Afiffy et al. (2004). General Botany. Dar El Fikr El Araby Pub.
- 6. Kamel et al. (2005). Basics of Plant Sciences. Dar El Fikr El Araby Pub. 2nd edition.
- 7. Plant Atlas (2010).

GRADING

- 1. Student activities & attendance (5 marks): 2 lab notebook+2quiz+1attendance
- 2. Practical exam: 10 marks
- 3. Final written exam: 60 marks

TEACHING HOURS

- 1. Lectures: 2 hours
- 2. Lab: 2 hours