

# Complex Plants:

Chapters 22, 23 and 25



Ted-Ed Agriculture



# 22-1 Seed Plants



○ Benefits to plants of living on land are:

*1. Abundant Sunlight for Photosynthesis*

*2. Free movement of carbon dioxide and oxygen*

# Problems encountered by life on land are:

- 1. Water and nutrients available only from the soil.*
- 2. Evaporation*
- 3. Tissues must be held upright*
- 4. Reproduction must occur without water.*



# Seed plants - designed for life on land

Seed plants exhibit numerous *adaptations* that allow them to survive the difficulties of life on *land*. They evolved a variety of new adaptations that enabled them to live where *ferns and mosses* could not.



## II. Roots, Stems, Leaves

A. The three main organs in a plant are roots, stems and leaves.

Roots perform three jobs:

1. *They absorb water and nutrients.*
2. *They anchor plants*
3. *They hold plants upright*

B. Stems hold a plant's leaves up to the sun.

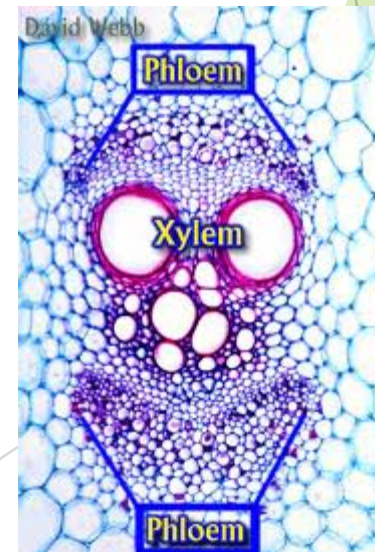
C. Leaves are vital to the process of photosynthesis.

# III. Vascular Tissue

Tall plants face a challenge, water must be lifted from roots to leaves and compounds produced in leaves must be sent to the roots.

A. Xylem is responsible for carrying water and nutrients up. They have thick cell walls so also provide strength to the woody parts.

B. Phloem carries the products of photosynthesis from one part of the plant to another.



## IV. Reproduction Free From Water

- The seed plants you see around you are members of the sporophyte generation.
- Flowers and cones are the reproductive structures where the gametophyte generation of the seed plant develops.
- Male gametophytes are called pollen grains. Pollen grains are carried to the female gametophyte so no water is required.
- Seeds protect the zygotes of seed plants. They are surrounded by a seed coat so can wait until conditions are right

# 23-5 Leaves

The leaves of green plants are the world's oldest solar energy collectors. Leaves are also the world's most important manufacturers of food.





# I. Leaf Structure

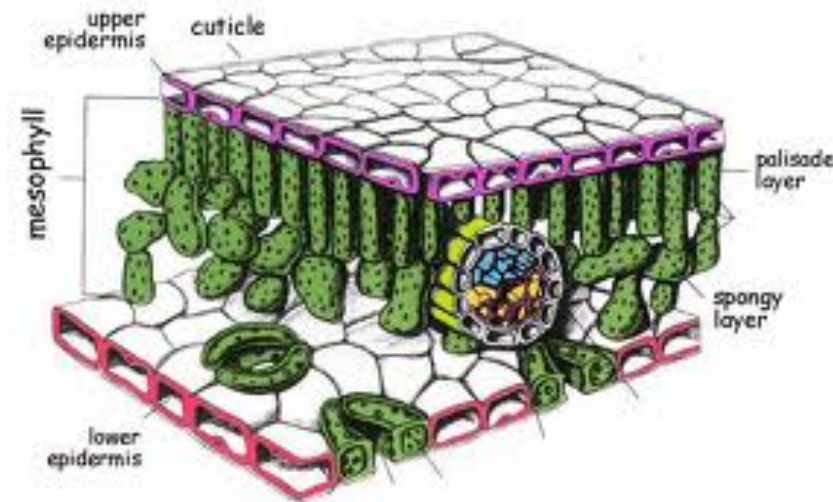
A. Leaves consist of two parts: the blade and the petiole.

B. Blades are adapted to the specific environments in which they live.

Adaptations range from simple to compound.

Leaves contain specialized tissues such as:

1. *Epidermal Cells*
2. *Inner layers of parenchyma cells*
3. *Vascular tissues*



## II. Epidermis: Controlling Water Loss

- A. Epidermal cells are *tough* and do not contain *chloroplasts*.

Together with the *Cuticle*, this layer protects delicate leaf tissue by slowing down the loss of *water* through *evaporation*.

- B. BUT, plants still need to “breathe” just as we do. They need to:
1. *Exchange  $CO_2$  for  $O_2$  during photosynthesis.*
  2. *Exchange  $O_2$  for  $CO_2$  in order to function (like us).*



C. Leaves must stay moist to carry out these gas exchanges. Seed plants solve this problem by balancing their need for gas exchange with water conservation. They use small openings called stomata. Stomata are generally located on the undersides of leaves.

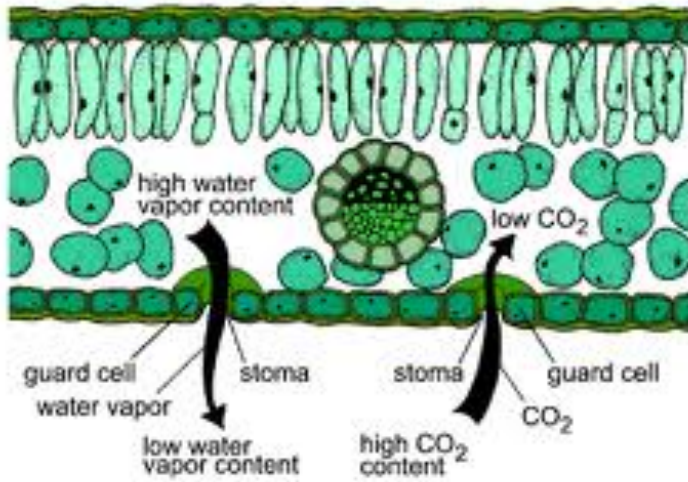
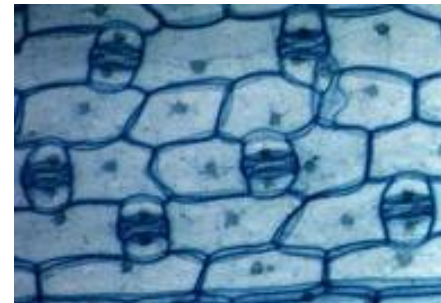
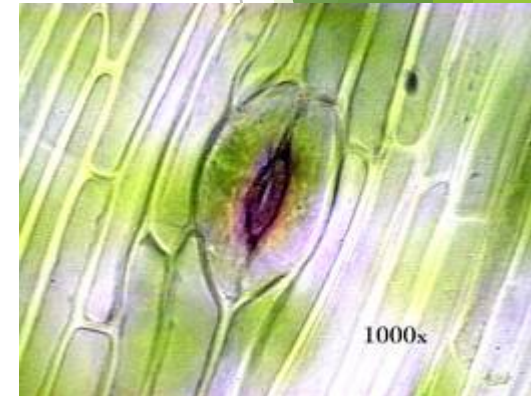


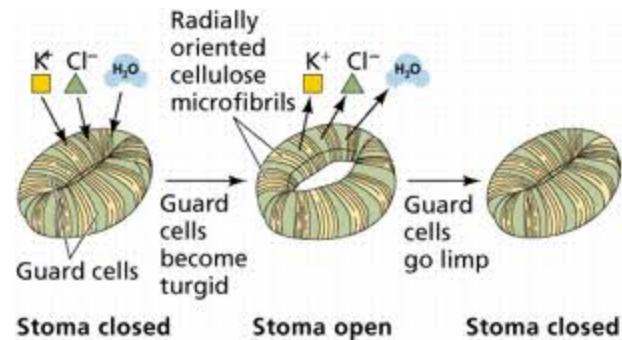
Figure 25. Stomata open to allow carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) to enter a leaf and water vapor to leave.



D. The specialized cells on either side of a stoma are called guard cells.

When water pressure is high, the cells are forced into a curved shape, opening the stoma.

When water pressure is low, the cells spring together and close the stoma.



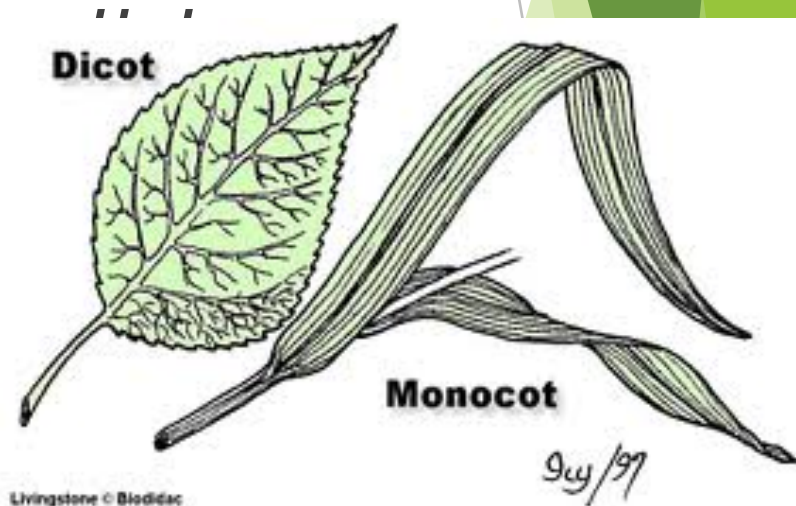
E. Each type of plant has guard cells that balance water loss against the need for  $CO_2$ .

### III. Vascular tissues: The Veins of a leaf

- A. Vascular tissue in leaves is directly connected to the vascular tissues of stems.

In monocot leaves, veins run parallel

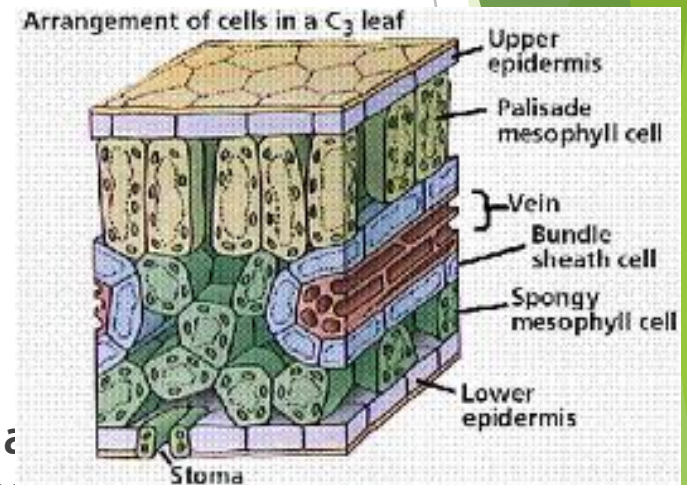
In dicot leaves, they have different patterns.



## IV. Mesophyll Tissue: The food factory of the leaf

A. Most leaf tissue is called mesophyll. This is separated into two layers:

1. *Palisade layer*
2. *spongy mesophyll*



B. The surfaces of the mesophyll layer are exposed to the atmosphere. Gases can enter and leave the cells easily. A substantial amount of water is still lost to the outside through evaporation.

# 25-1 Cones & Flowers as Reproductive Organs

## I. Introduction

### A. Sexual Reproductive Organs

1. Gymnosperms have cones



2. Angiosperms have flowers



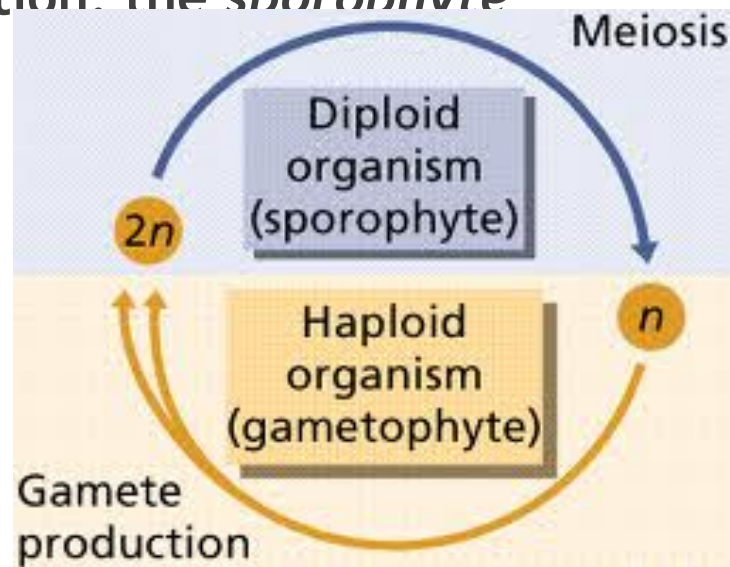
## B. Review: Plant Life Cycles

1. Two generations

a) diploid ( $2n$ ) sporophyte

b) haploid ( $1n$ ) gametophyte which produces male and female gametes

2. Fusion of gametes forms a zygote that grows into the next generation, the sporophyte





## C. Sizes in Seed Plants

1. Dominant generation (the one that is large & obvious) = sporophyte
2. Gametophyte is hidden in the cones/flowers

## D. Advantages of Cones/Flowers

1. Enable seed plants to reproduce without standing water
2. An adaptation that helps them survive: *the dry conditions of life on land*

# 22-2 Evolution of Seed Plants

## I. Gymnosperms

Gymno means naked, sperm means seed.

There are three classes of gymnosperms:

### 1. *Cycads*



### 2. *Ginkgoes*



### 3. *Conifers*





Reproductive structures are called cones.

Male cones produce male gametophytes called pollen.



Female cones produce female gametophytes called eggs



- Cycads are palm like plants. They only grow in tropical and subtropical places.



- Ginkgoes are represented by one species, *Ginkgo biloba*. It is a living fossil.



## II. Conifers

Are the most abundant gymnosperms today.

A. The leaves are called needles. Conifers appear to be “evergreen” because older needles drop off but are gradually replaced.



B. Male cones, or pollen cones, and female cones, or seed cones, contain the very small gametophytes.

In the Spring, pollen cones release millions of dustlike pollen grains to be carried by the wind. These land on seed cones and fertilize them. The zygotes grow into seeds on the scales of the seed cones.



*from .....* 25-1 Cones & Flowers as  
Reproductive Organs

II. Life Cycle of Gymnosperms

A. Pine Tree Example

1. Tree grew from a zygote contained in a seed
2. It is the diploid ( $2n$ ) sporophyte generation
3. Seedling matures, makes two types of cones:
  - a) Male: contain microsporangia that produce pollen (male gametophyte)
  - b) Female: contain megasporangia that produce ovules (female gametophyte)

## B. Process

1. Pollen grains (from male cones) carried by wind
2. Female cones make a sticky secretion that traps pollen
3. Grain splits open, grows a pollen tube, which contains sperm
4. Pollen tube grows into the ovule, located in female cone
5. Sperm break out of the tube and fertilize egg in the ovule
6. Zygote grows into an *embryo*
7. Embryo is encased in a package; now called a seed
  - a) seed = embryo plant + food supply for growth



