

# Gametic embryogenesis.

## Unit III

### ① Androgenesis & Gynogenesis.

classmate

Date

Page

#### Introduction :-

- \* The ability to produce haploid plants is a tremendous benefit in genetic, plant breeding, plant physiology and embryology studies.
- ✓ \* Haploid plants can be produced by two methods:
  - 1) Androgenesis
  - 2) Gynogenesis.

Androgenesis :- Haploid production of plants through anther or microspore culture has been referred to as 'Androgenesis'.

Gynogenesis :- Haploid production of plants from ovary or ovule culture has been referred to as 'Gynogenesis'.

### Androgenesis

It is the formation of sporophyte from the male gametophyte on artificial medium. It is most commonly found in family Solanaceae and Poaceae.

The androgenesis immature pollen grains are induced to follow the sporophytic mode of development by various physical and chemical stimuli.

✓ There are two methods for in vitro production of androgenic haploids.

They are:

- 1) anther culture.
- 2) pollen culture.

## Anther culture

### → Introduction :-

- ✓ \* Anther culture is the process of using anthers to culture haploid plantlets.
- ✓ \* The technique was discovered by Guha & Maheshwari in 1964.
- ✓ \* This technique can be used in over 200 sps.

→ Source of anther :- Usually anther from the flower buds will give better response during androgenesis.

→ Pretreatment of anther :- The main pretreatments applied to anther culture are

- 1) Cold treatment :- In general, cold treatment between 3-6 degree C for 3-15 days gives good response. As a result, weak or non viable anthers are killed.

- 2) Hot treatment :- Plant in some species when subjected to 30°C for 24 hrs or 40°C for 1 hr stimulates embryogenesis.

\* Sterilization of flower buds was carried out in the Laminar Air Flow Cabinet.

⇒ Media and Growth regulators :-

\* Media :-

- MS ✓ \* Vary with species.
- MS ✓ \* MS media for anther culture.
- Growth R. ✓ \* The basal medium and combinations of growth regulators are also important factors.
- Agar ✓ \* Solidified with Agar.
- Agar ✓ \* Agar contains compounds inhibitory to some species.

\* Growth regulators :-

- Carbon source ✓ \* Complete nutrient medium.
- Sucrose ✓ \* 2-3% Sucrose is added.
- Ac. Charcoal ✓ \* Activated charcoal to agar medium is advocated.
- Aux Cyt ✓ \* Cytokinin is sometimes used with Auxin.

⇒ Stages of development :-

\* After inoculation, haploid plants develop from anther culture either directly or indirectly.

• 1) Direct androgenesis :-

- ✓ \* It is also called pollen derived embryogenesis.
- ✓ \* Pollen grains directly act as zygote.
- \* Similar to zygotic embryogenesis.
- \* At globular stage, the embryo is released.

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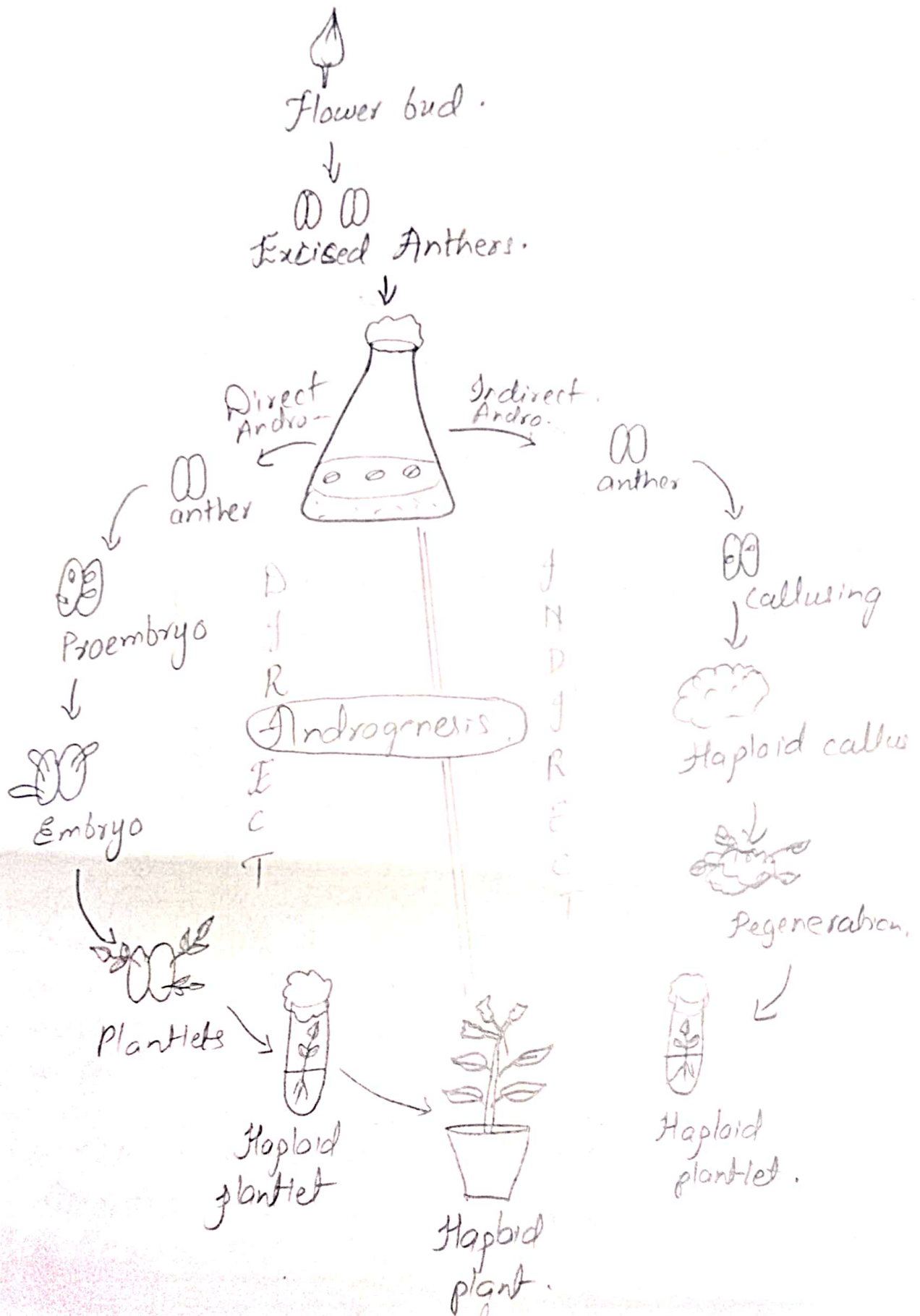
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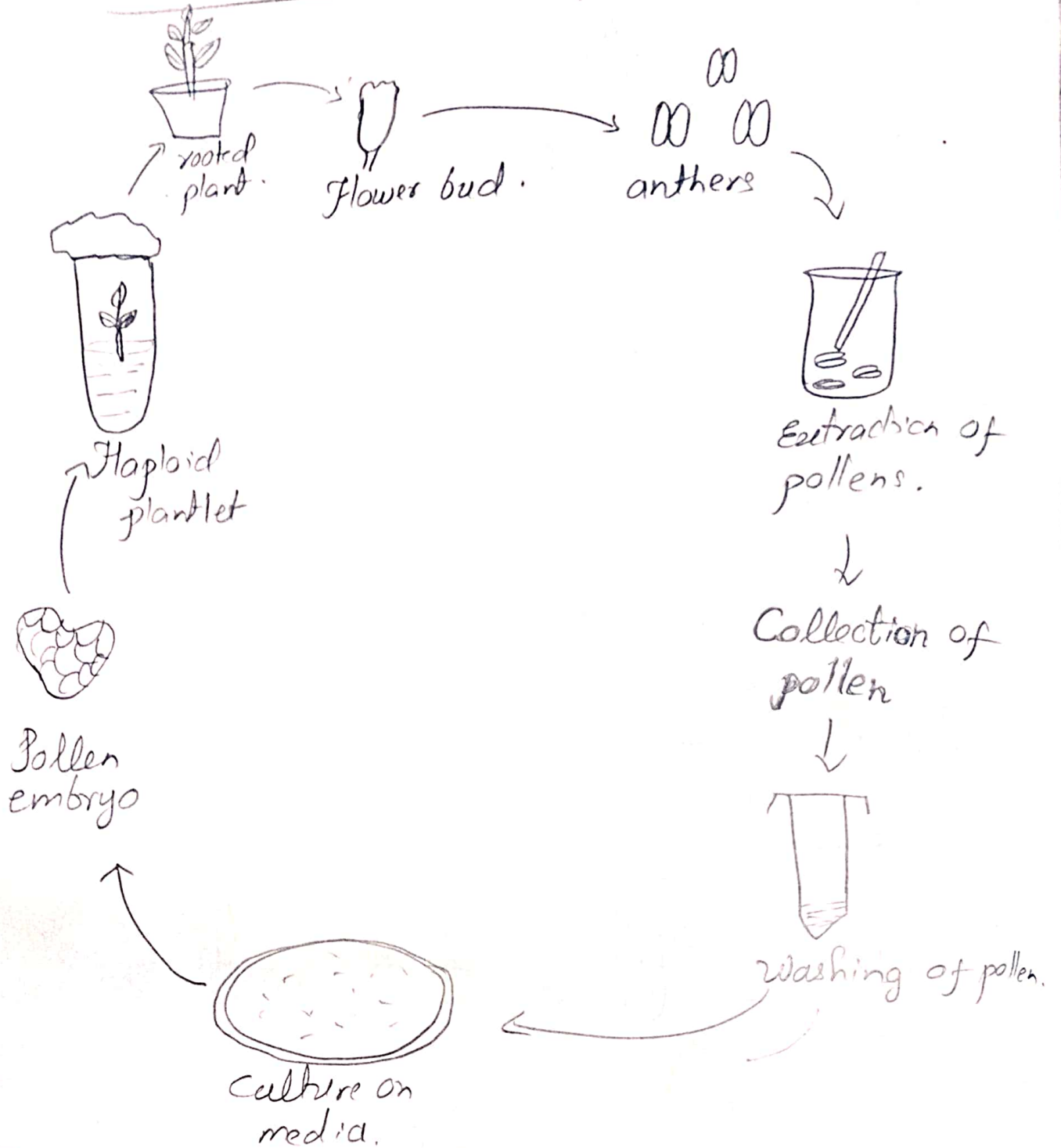
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# Androgenesis. [Anther Culture]



# Pollen culture



✓ \* The released embryo develop cotyledons, which ultimately gives rise to plantlets.

\* Eg:- Datura, Brassica campestris.

## 2) Indirect androgenesis :-

✓ \* In indirect androgenesis, the pollen grains divide erratically to develop callus.

✓ \* Callus tissue which is finally redifferentiate and forms haploid plantlets.

\* Eg. rice, wheat, tomato.

## Microspore culture

\* Anthers are collected from sterilized flower buds.

✓ \* The microspores are then squeezed out of the anthers by pressing them against the side of beaker with a glass rod.

\* Anther tissue debris is removed by filtering the suspension through a nylon sieve.

✓ \* This pollen suspension is then centrifuged.

\* This supernatant containing fine debris is discarded.

✓ \* Resuspended in fresh media.

✓ \* Washed at least twice.

✓ \* Then pipetted out into small petri dishes.

- \* Incubated at 28°C.
- \* 14 days of culture.
- \* After 14 days, the culture are transferred to suitable media.

### ⇒ Factors affecting androgenesis.

- \* Genotype of donor :- Important for determining the success or failure of androgenesis.
- \* Anther wall factor :- Growth inhibiting substances leaking out of the anther wall in contact with nutrient media.
- \* Culture medium :- The culture medium also plays a vital role in the correct amount and proportion of inorganic nutrients.
- \* Growth regulators :- Kinetin or cytokinins are essential for induction of pollen embryos. Sucrose plays an important role in induction of pollen haploid plants.
- \* Activated Charcoal :- Removes inhibitors.
- \* Physical factors :- Light, temperature, pH.
- \* Other factors :-
  - Organic supplements
  - products of proteins
  - Coconut milk
  - Amino acids



## ⇒ Applications of androgenesis:

- \* Shortening of breeding cycle.
- \* Gametoclonal variations: besides yielding haploids, in vitro androgenesis provides a unique opportunity to screen the gametophytic variations.
- \* Induction of mutation.
- \* Genetic transformation: production of disease resistant plants.

## ⇒ Limitations:-

- \* Low yield only 5-8% of total pollen grains.
- \* Conversion of pollen embryos into plants.
- \* Albinism in cereals.
- \* Instability of genetic material during androgenesis.

# Gynogenesis.

⇒ Introduction :-

\* It is the formation of sporophyte from the female gametophyte on artificial medium.

\* Haploid production of plants from ovary or ovule culture has been referred to as gynogenesis.

⇒ Definition :- "It is the process by which culturing of unfertilized ovaries to obtain haploid plants."

⇒ History :-

\* First reported on in Barley by San Nioem in 1978.

\* Later works done in Wheat, Rice, Maize, Tobacco etc.

⇒ Methods of gynogenesis :-

\* There are two methods for in vitro production of gynogenic haploids.

They are :- ① Ovary culture.

② Ovule culture.

\* In vitro gynogenesis is used as an alternate technique in species where anther/pollen culture is unsuccessful.

\* The gynogenic plants may arise through direct embryogenesis or the gametic cells may form a callus followed by plant regeneration.

\* Both ovary slice culture and ovule culture can be carried out simultaneously for achieving in vitro gynogenesis.

## ① Ovary culture

\* The in vitro culturing of ovaries isolated from pollinated or unpollinated flowers is called ovary culture.

\* The technique of ovary culture was developed by Nitsch in 1951. He successfully grew the ovaries of Cucumis, Lycopersicon, Nibhana etc. on synthetic medium.

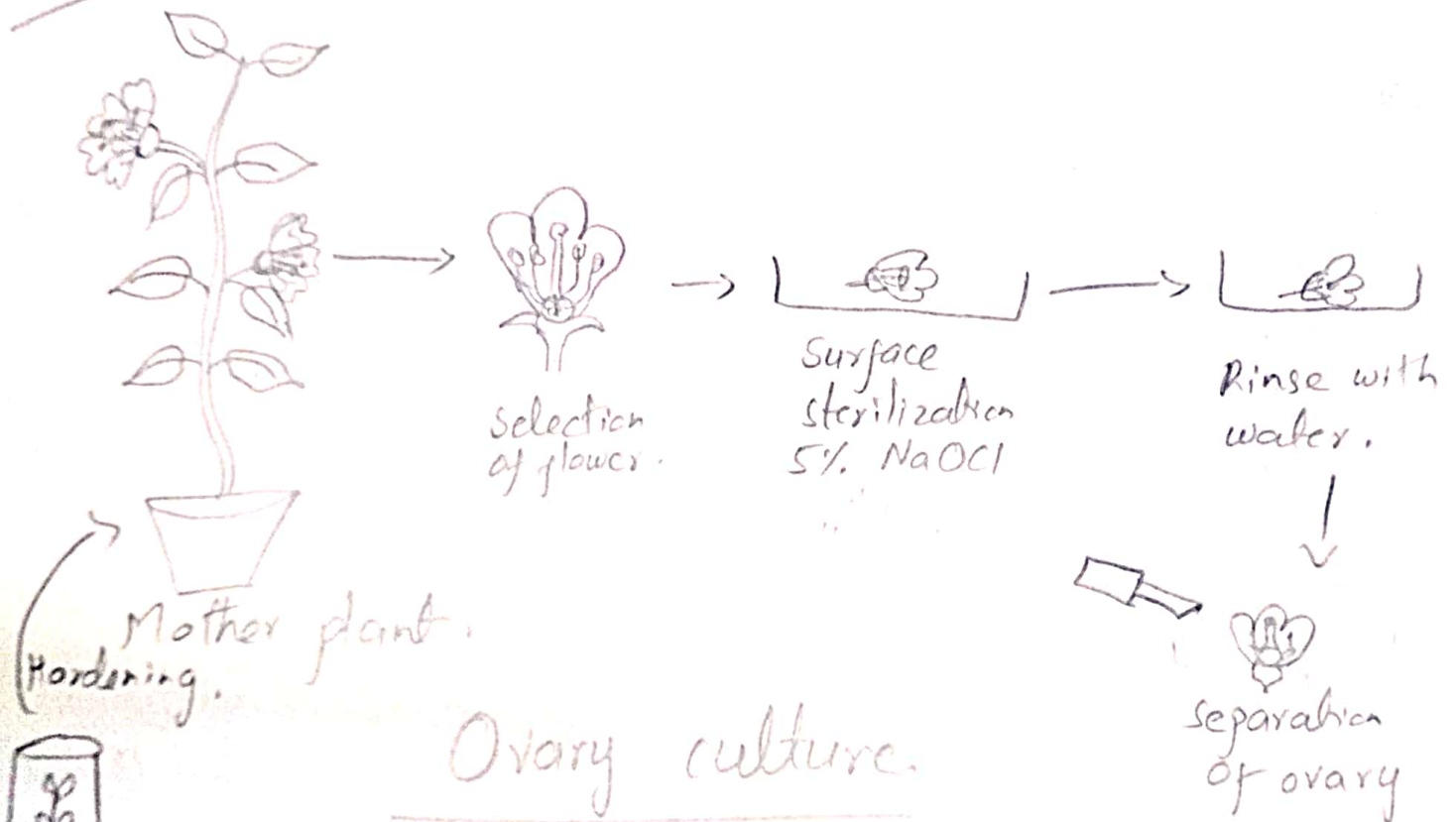
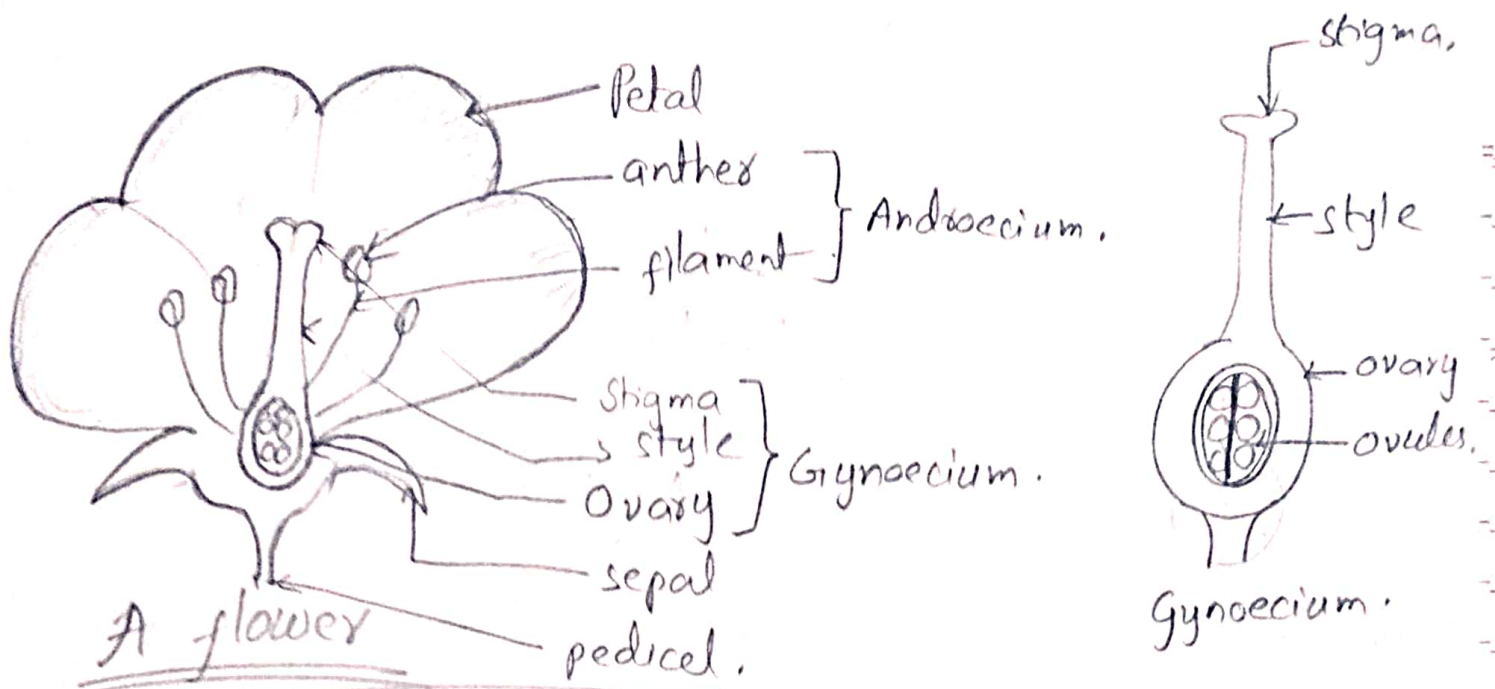
\* For haploid production, flower buds are excised 24-48 hours prior to anthesis for unpollinated ovaries.

\* The calyx, corolla and stamens are removed and ovaries are then surface sterilized.

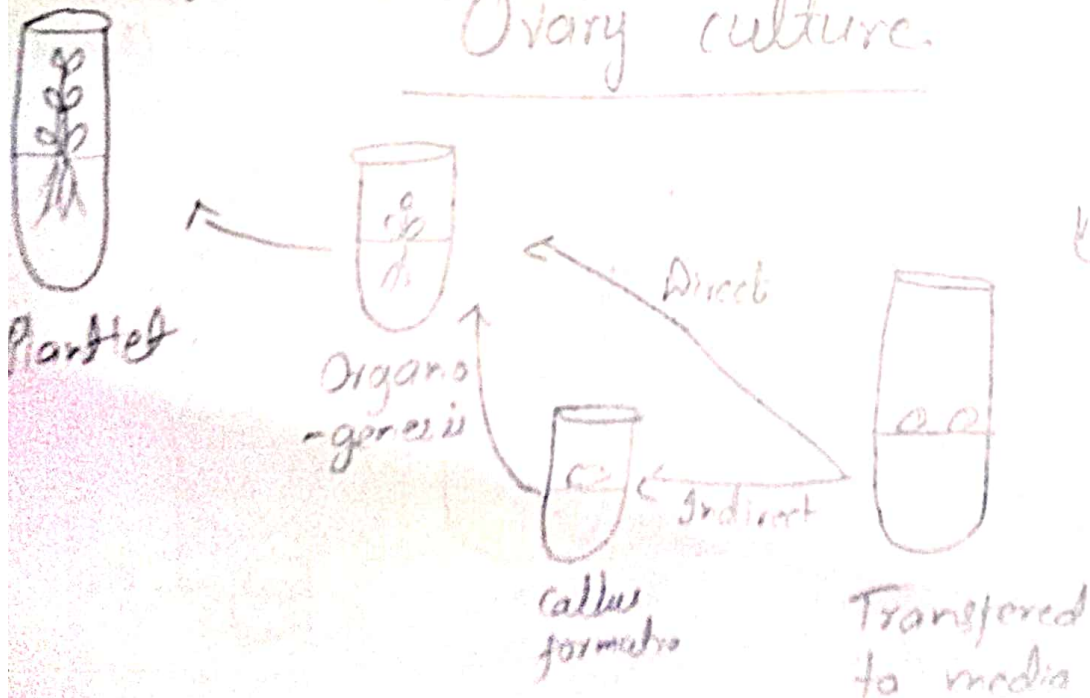
\* Before culturing the tip of the distal part of the pedicel is cut off and the ovary is implanted with the cut end inserted in the nutrient medium.

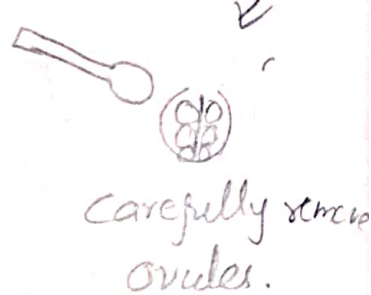
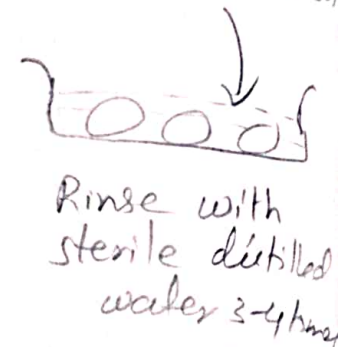
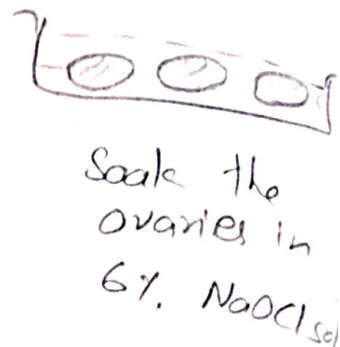
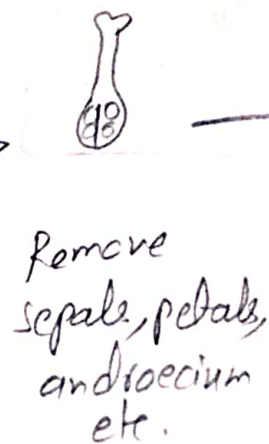
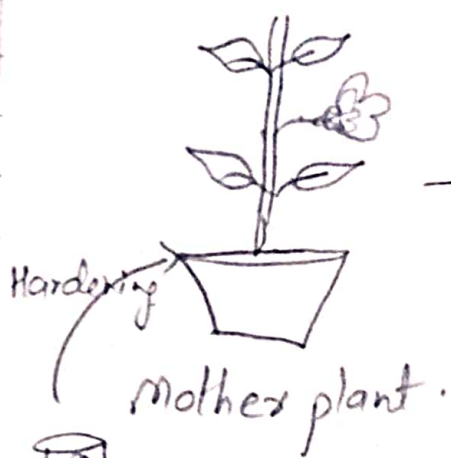
\* The normal Nitsch's or Whites or M8 or N6 inorganic salt media supplemented with growth substances are used.

\* Sucrose as a carbon source is essential although maltose & lactose have been shown to be equally favorable.

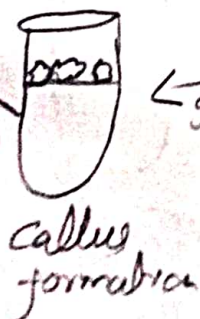
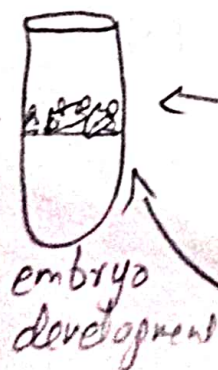


Ovary culture.



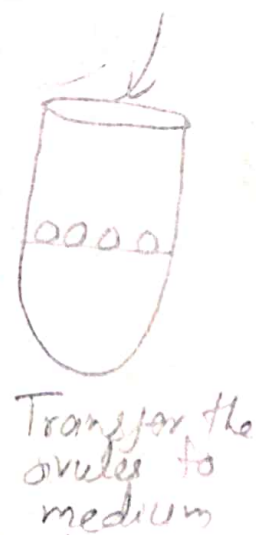
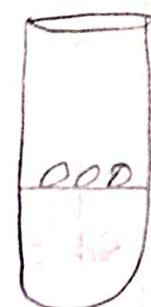


## Ovule culture



Direct

Indirect



# Ovule culture

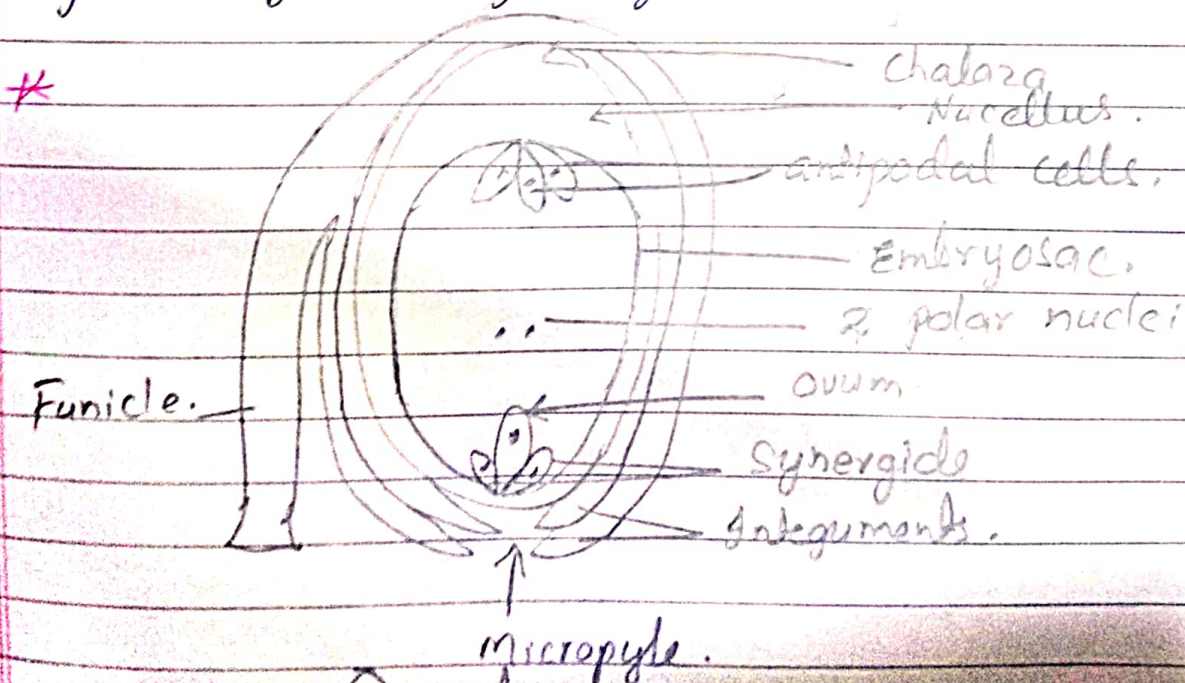
\* Ovule culture is an elegant experimental system by which ovules are aseptically isolated from the ovary and are grown aseptically on chemically defined nutrient medium.

\* Ovule culture was carried out for the first time by White (1932) in Antirrhinum majus.

\* However, the technique of ovule culture was perfected by Maheshwari (1958).

\* Ovule culture is useful to study the behaviour of zygote (or) very young embryos which are difficult to culture.

\* In vitro culture of unfertilized ovules has been the most efficient and reliable technique for the production of haploid and doubled haploid plants, of sugar beet.



Ovule.

## → Procedure

- ① Collect the flower
- ② Remove sepals, petals, androecium etc.
- ③ Soak the ovaries in 6% NaOCl solution
- ④ ~~Rinse~~ Rinse the ovaries 3-4 times with sterile distilled water.
- ⑤ Carefully remove ovules with spatula.
- ⑥ Ovules are gently transferred to liquid or solid medium at 45°C of culture vial
- ⑦ Incubate the culture in either dark or light at 25°C.

# Chromosome Doubling / Diploidization $\Rightarrow$

Haploids can be Depolarized when haploid cell undergo chromosome doubling to produce homozygous plants.

Methods :

Ch Colchicine treatment :

Colchicine has been extensively used as a Spindle inhibitor to Induce chromosome duplication.

$\rightarrow$  It can be applied in the following ways:

$\rightarrow$  The plantlets when still attached to the anther are treated for 24 - 48 h with 0.5% Colchicine solution, washed thoroughly and replanted.

$\rightarrow$  Anthers can be plated directly on a Ch Colchicine supplemented medium for a week and when the first division has taken place, these are transferred to colchicine free medium for a week and when the first androgenesis process to take place.

$\rightarrow$  This method can be followed in maize where male & female flowers are individually present [monoecious].

$\rightarrow$  Colchicine - Lanolin Paste (0.4%) may be applied to the axis of leaves when the plants are mature.



→ The main axis is Decapitated to stimulate the axillary bud to grow into diploid and fertile branches

→ Repeated colchicine treatment to axillary buds with cotton wool plugs over a period of time [Eg: 14 days in potato]

→ In cereals Vigorous plants at 3-4 tiller stage are collected, Soil is washed from the roots and are cut back to 3cm below the crown

→ The plants are placed in glass jars or vials containing colchicine sol<sup>n</sup> (2.5g colchicine dissolved in 20ml dimethyl Sulfoxide & made up to a liter with water)

→ The crowns are covered with colchicine solution

→ The plants are kept at room temperature light for 5h, the roots are washed thoroughly with water & potted into light soil.

• plants should be handled with extra care after colchicine treatment for few days & should be maintained under high humidity -

### Endomitosis :

• Haploid cells are in general unstable in nature & have a tendency to undergo endomitosis to form diploid cells

→ This property of cell culture has been exploited in some species for obtaining homozygous plants or for diploidization

→ A small segment of stem is grown on an auxin and cytokinin medium to induce callus formation

→ During callus growth & differentiation there is a doubling of chromosomes by endomitosis to form diploid homozygous to form diploid homozygous cells & ultimately plants

→ fusion of pollen nuclei:

→ Homozygous Diploid callus or Embryoids may arise from the spontaneous nuclear fusion in microspore is high in culture

→ Uses :-

\* production of homozygous lines in the shortest possible time

\* The study of homologous chromosome pairing in the haploids to get diploids polyploids

\* Over come self incompatibility

\* New genotypes

\* Breeding programme

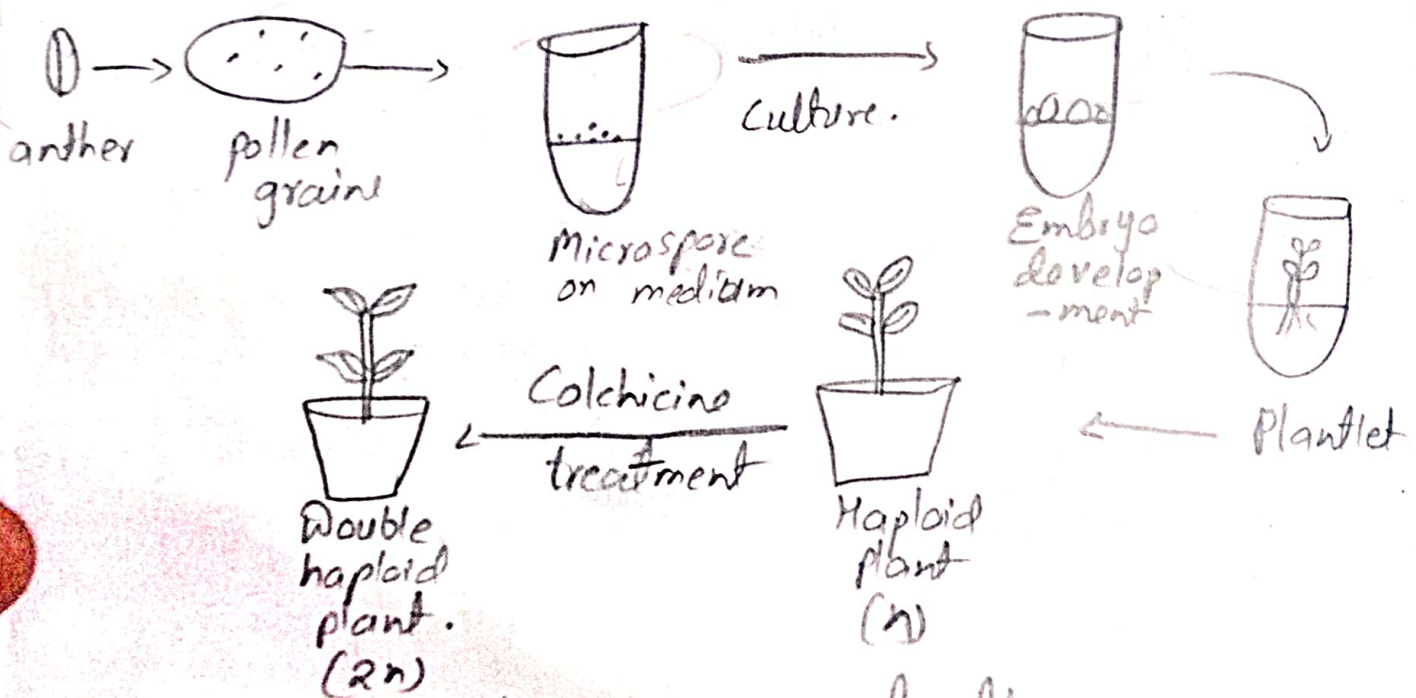
\* Genetic maps are very important to understand the structure & organization of genomes

\* Chromosome behaviour

- \* Segregant analysis
  - \* QTL analysis
  - \* Genetic transformation at haploid level
- has been studied in several ways

### Applications:

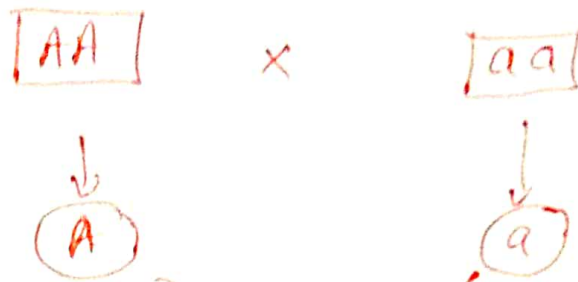
- \* Development of pure lines
- \* Development of cultivars
- \* Development of hybrid as parents
- \* Construction of genetic maps
- \* Gene tagging / Locating genes
- \* Identification of molecular markers for trait selection



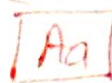
Chromosome doubling  
Doubled haploid  
production.

Parent 1 × Parent 2.

Year 1  
(field)



Year 2  
(Green house)



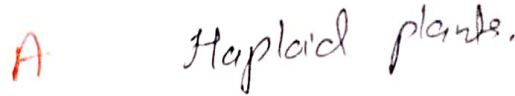
Meiosis.

Tissue culture  
lab.



Anther culture.

Green house



colchicine  
treatment.

Double haploid  
plants.

Chromosome  
doubling

Green house.



Chromosome doubling / Doubled Haploid production