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Dept. of Botany

class : Deg-I (Hons.)

chapter : Chara - General Account

Paper : I (Group-A)

Topic : Chara (Continued)

Lecture No. - 22

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Chara : General account (continued) :

Occurrence :

Chara is a common stonewort grows submerged in fresh-water ponds, lakes, streams and other pools of standing water. It attached to the bottom by branched, filamentous rhizoids and is gregarious in habit. Some species grow on blackish water. The body is often encrusted with lime, which often forms a thick deposit at the bottom.

Organisation of the thallus :

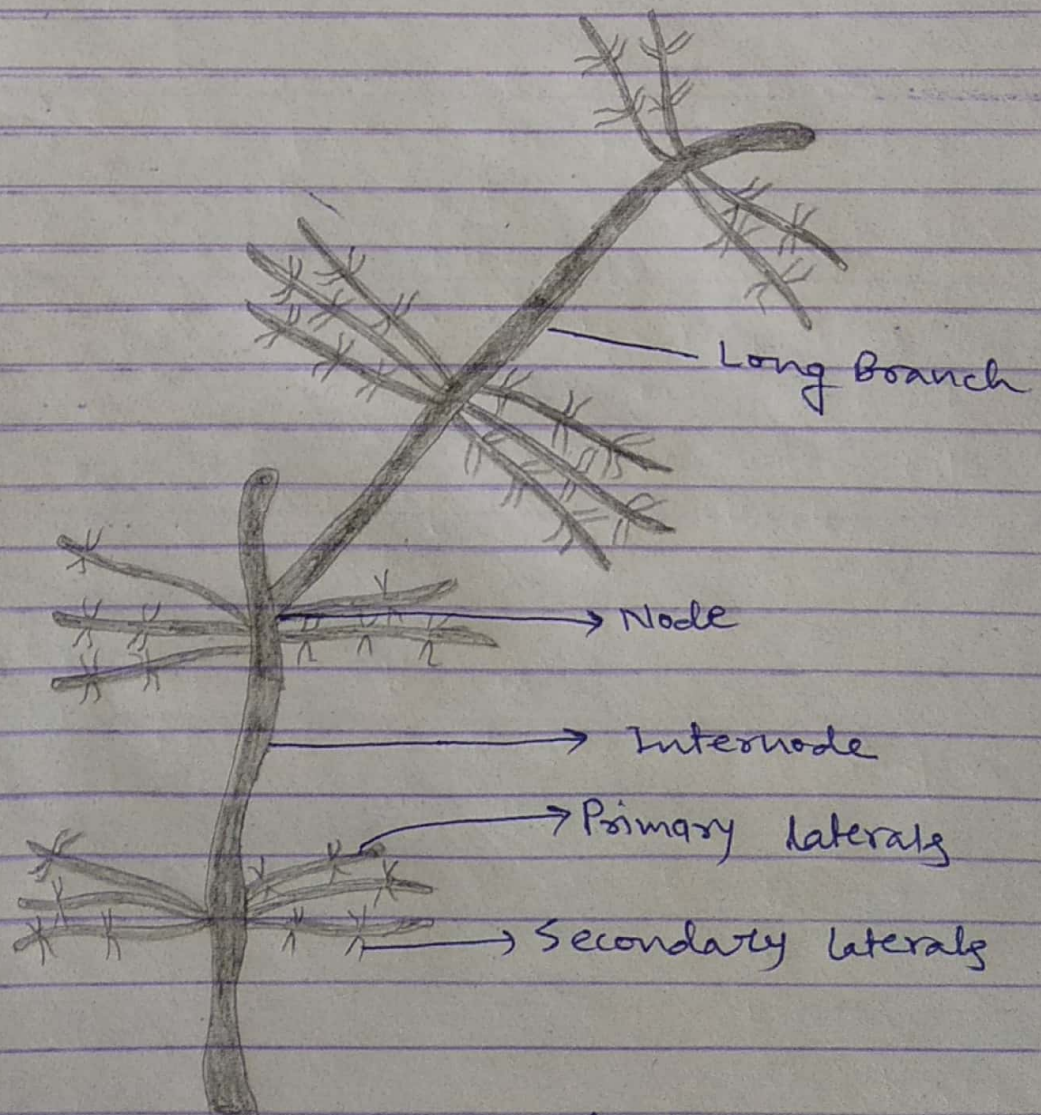
The plant body or thallus consists of a long, slender, upright main axis, usually 20-30 cm in height. It differentiated into a succession of nodes and internodes. At the node, primary lateral branches are arises, which develop much shorter, one-celled spine-like

secondary laterals at their nodes.

Each primary lateral stop growing after it has formed 3 to 15 nodes and internodes.

The node of the main axis may bear one or more branches of unlimited growth. They are axillary to the primary laterals and continue the growth of thallus.

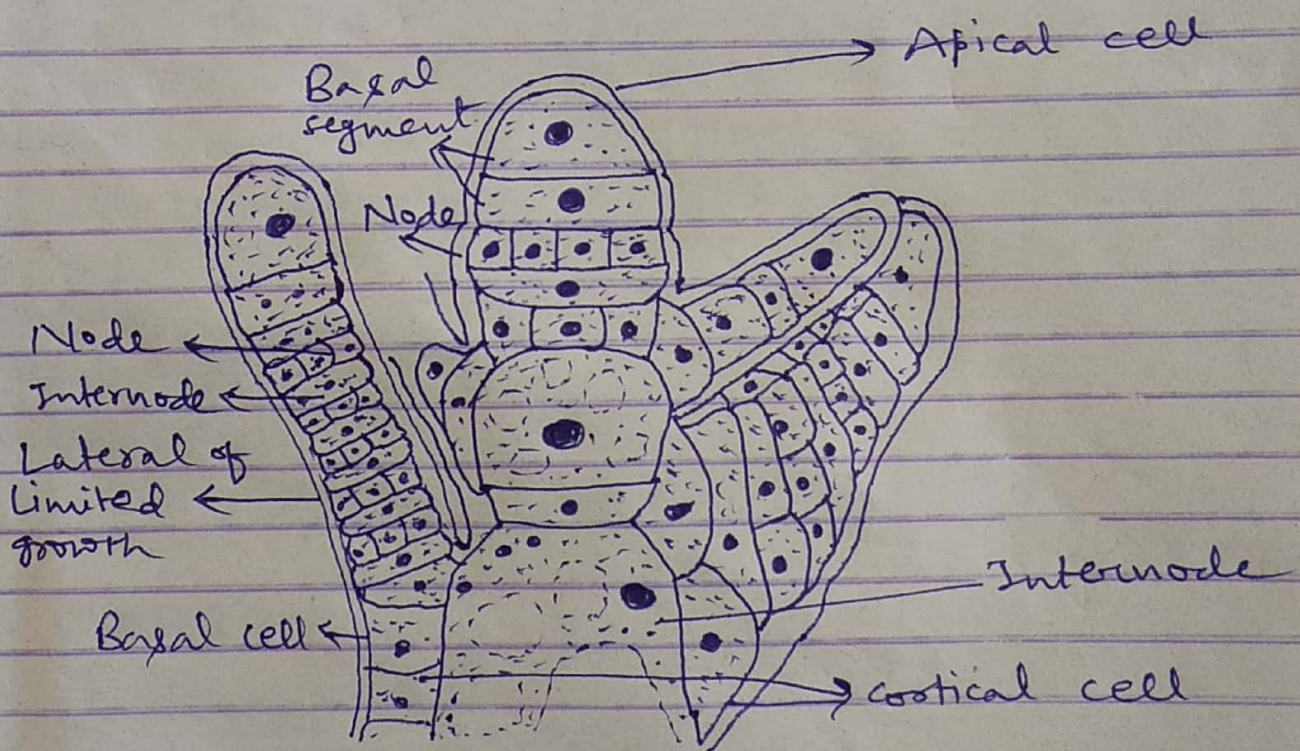
- The internode is made up of a single, large, cylindrical cells.



(A portion of chara plant)

In many species, the internodal cell is covered by a layer of vertically elongated narrow cells, constituting the cortex, called cortication.

The chara thallus fixed to substratum by multicellular branched rhizoids.



(Fig: V.S. through the Apical portion of the thallus of chara)

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