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Class : Deg.-II (Hons.)

Paper : III (Group-'B')

Topic : Family - Polygonaceae (Continued)

Lecture No. - 110

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Family : Polygonaceae (Continued):

• Economic importance of the family:

or  
Name of five important plant of the family:

The family is not of great economic importance. Some plants are ornamental grown in gardens, some are medicinal and some are used in food.

(i) Polygonum barbatum (Amlari):  
Medicinal, seeds are used in colic pains.

(ii) Polygonum plebejum (Rani phul):  
Root is used in bowel complaints, powdered plant is taken in pneumonia.

(iii) Rumex maritimus (Jangli palak):  
Leaves are applied on burns.

R. conglomerate, R. crispus, R. obtusifolia are used as edible greens.

The leaves of R. hastatus are used as condiments.

(iv) Calligonum polygonoides :

The flowers are cooked and eaten.

(v) Oxyria digyna (Amlu) :

Medicinal, used as cooling substances.

: Diagnostic features :

Plants are herbs, rarely shrubs or trees, leaves are simple, alternate, lobed or serrate or entire; flowers are bisexual, actinomorphic, hypogynous; stamens 5 to 8 or more; carpels (3); superior ovary, basal placentation; fruit one seeded nut or achene, seed endospermic.

• Affinities of family Polygonaceae :

In Bentham and Hooker's arrangement, the Polygonaceae is the last member of the *Caryembysae* under the *Monochlamydeae*. Engler included the family in a distinct order (Polygonales), lying between the *Aristolochiales* and *Centrospermales*.

The Polygonaceae is related to *Amaranthaceae*, *Chenopodiaceae* and *Nyctaginaceae* in the plan of floral structure but differs from them by the presence of triangular ovary, solitary erect ovule and S-shaped embryo.

The unique feature of the family is the multiplication of the stamens and the relations between the two-whorled tomentary and the cyclic perianth.