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Class : Deg. I (Hons.)

Paper : I

Topic : Life-cycle of Fucus (Continued)

Lecture No. - 54

Date : 20/08/2020

### Life-cycle of Fucus (Continued.) :

#### • Internal structure of thallus :

The thallus in section shows a single layer of cells containing plastids.

• The cells are columnar in shape and without any air spaces between them.

This layer of photosynthetic cells is called the palisade layer or mesistoderm.

The cells of this layer are capable of active division. It is covered on the outside by mucilaginous cuticle.

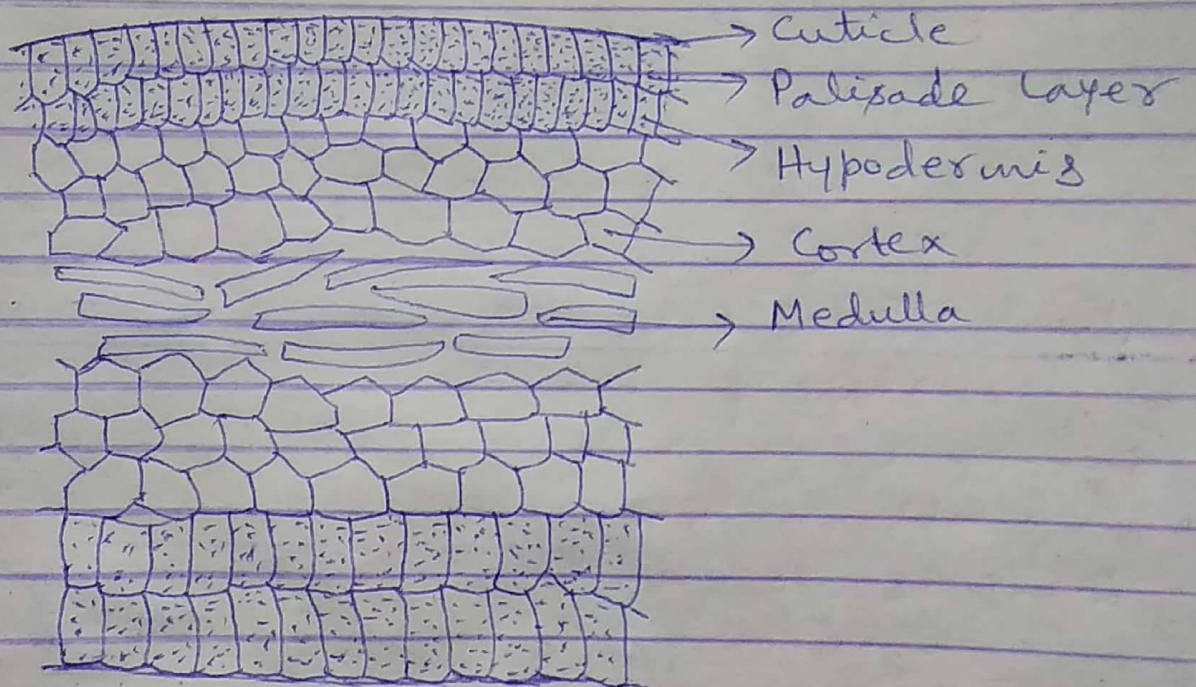
• Internal to the palisade layer is a broad zone of thin-walled polygonal parenchymatous cells, constituting the cortex. It probably serves as the storage region.

• Within the cortex is the central zone of the thallus called the Medulla.

• It contains a loose mass of elongated cells or medullary hyphae with thick

mucilaginous walls, and serve as the food conducting elements.

The Fucus thallus thus contains tissues specialised for photosynthesis, conduction, storage and attachment.



(Fig : Internal structure of Fucus thallus)

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