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Class : Deg. I (Hons.)
Paper : I (Algae)

Lecture No. - 78

Date : 14/09/2020

Topic : Oedogonium (Contd.)

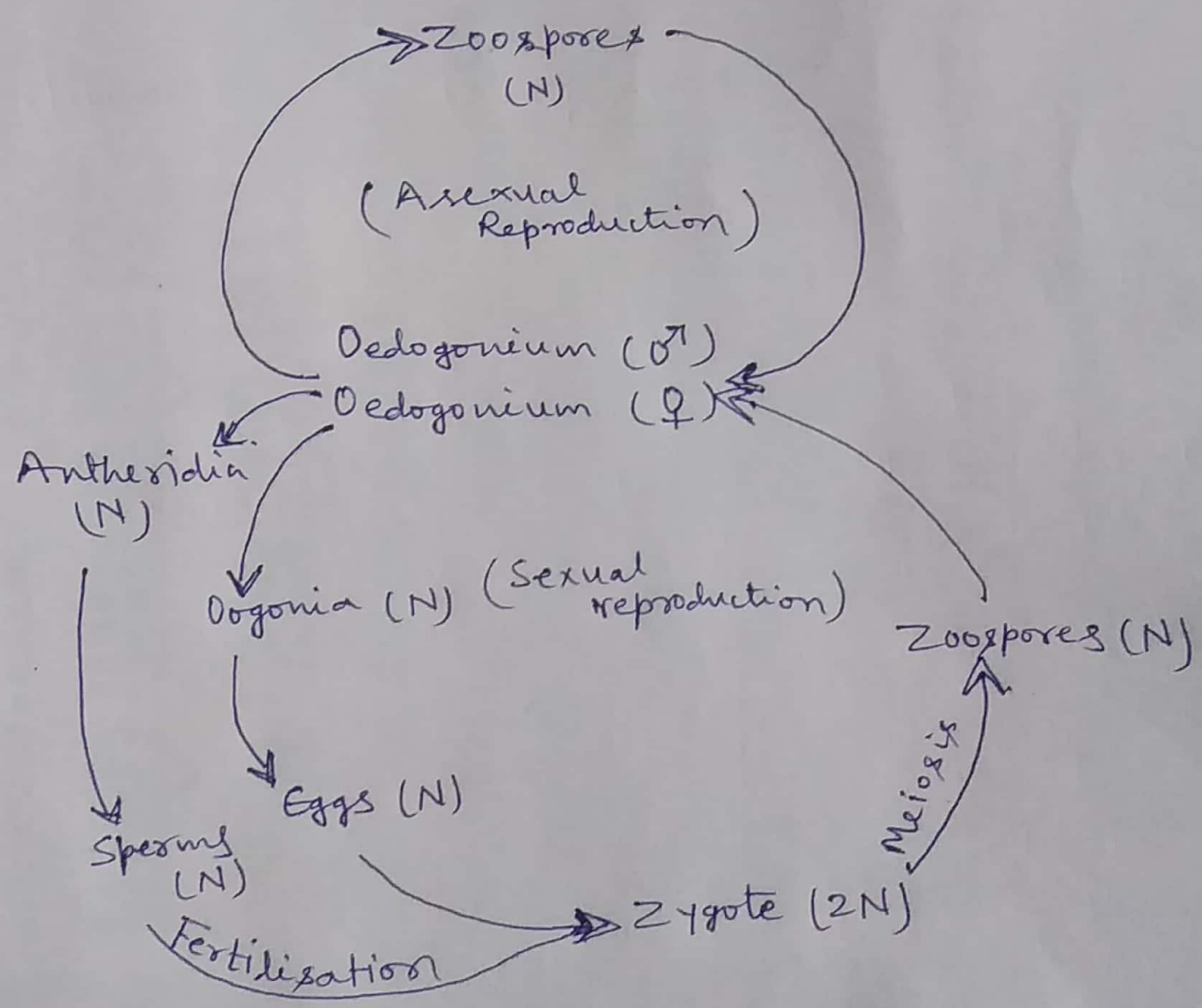
Fertilisation in Oedogonium:

- When the antherozoids are liberated, they swim towards the oogonium with the help of their cilia. Then one antherozoid enters through the slit in the oogonium wall and fuses with the egg nucleus at the receptive spot.
- The Oosphere covers itself with a thick cell-wall and becomes a reddish-brown oospore or the zygote.
- The zygote sinks to the bottom, goes through a period of rest, then germinates.
- The nucleus of the zygote has 2n chromosomes.
- The zygote is a resting spore and helps the plant to tide over a period unfavourable for growth.

Germination of the Oospore or Zygote:

- After the resting period, the zygote loses its reddish-brown colour, and undergoes reduction division, giving rise to four haploid, multiciliate zoospores, each with 'n' chromosome number.

- The zoospores escape through a definite aperture in the vesicle.
- Each zoospore germinates into a new haploid filament.



(Fig: Graphic Life-cycle of Dredogonium)

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