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Class : Deg. I (Subs.)

Topic : General characters of Lichen (Contd.)

Lecture No. - 80

Date : 15/09/2020

General characters of Lichen (Contd.) :

• Asexual reproduction in Lichen :

It takes place by following methods :

(i) By Ascospores :

The ascospores are produced endogenously by asci or ascocarp. The ascocarp is a cup or saucer shaped apothecium as in Usnea or flask shaped perithecium which opens by an apical opening called ostiole.

The ascocarp consists of fertile hymenium layer containing club shaped asci and sterile paraphyses.

Each ascus usually produces eight ascospores which are liberated outside on maturity.

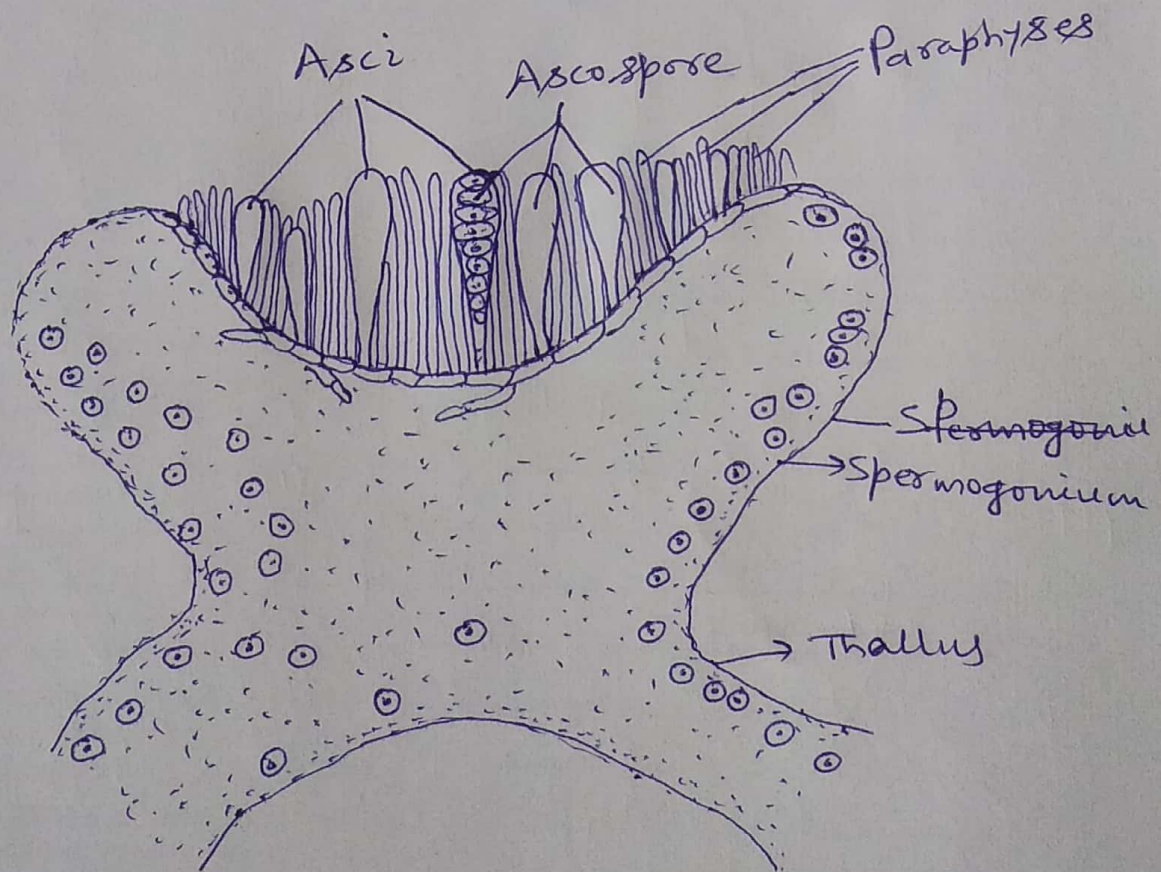
The ascospores when comes in contact of an alga, produces lichen.

(ii) By Basidiospore :

The basidiospores are formed exogenously by basidia. Each basidium usually produces ~~four~~ four basidiospores.

(ii) By Pycniospores:

In some lichens, the pycniospores are produced by fungal partner within a cup like structure, called pycnia. The pycniospores are produced in chain and liberated through ostiole. The pycniospore on germination gives rise to fungal mycelium. If the corresponding alga happens to fall on mycelium, a new lichen is formed.



(Fig: Apothecium of Lichen)

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