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 Dept. of Botany
 class : Deg. - I (Hons.)
 Paper : I (Algae)
 Topic : Sargassum (contd.)
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Sargassum (continued):

• Classification of Sargassum:

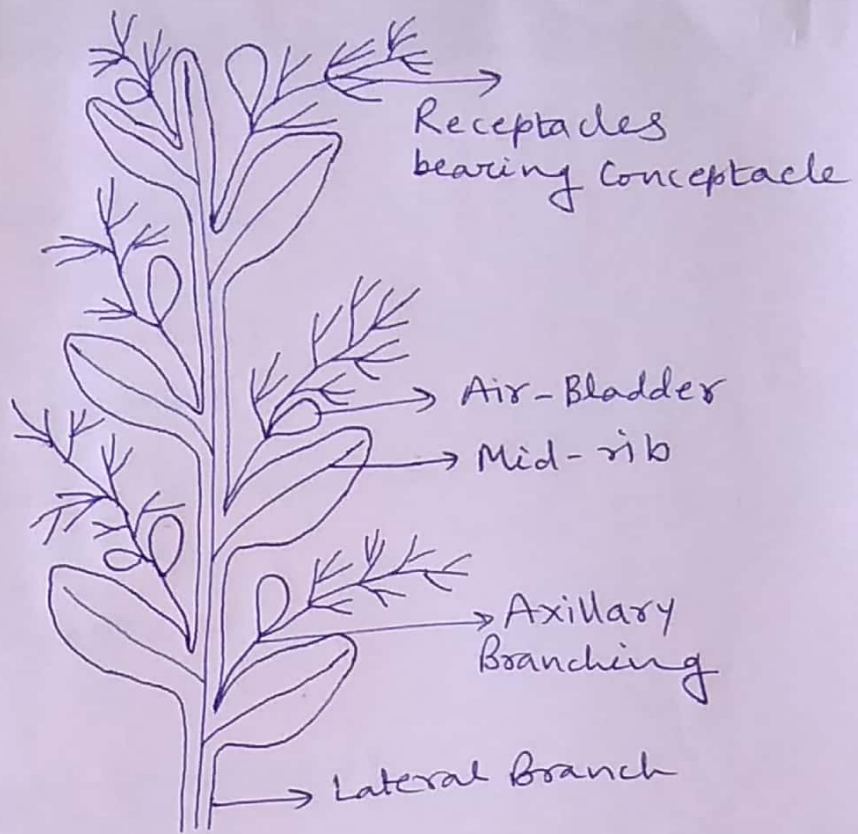
- Class : Phaeophyceae
- Order : Fucales
- Family : Sargassaceae
- Genus : Sargassum

• Occurrence :

Sargassum, commonly growing abundantly along the rocky coasts of tropical and sub-tropical seas. The plant grows to a length of about 6 metre or so and may remain attached to some rocks by a holdfast, or as is common, may be free-floating, often being drifted to the coast or fare out into the sea.

• External structure of Thallus or Plant-body:

The plant body consists of an axis (stipe) with many branches. Branching is always monopodial. The stipe and the lateral branches bear a large number of green flattened or cylindrical leafy fronds with mid-rib.



(Fig: A Sargassum Plant)

The plant-body consists of a main axis, which bears richly branched primary laterals (branches) of unlimited growth. It bears numerous secondary laterals (branches) of limited growth. Of the latter, the basal one is usually the most conspicuous. It is shaped like a 'leaf'.

It more or less clearly subtended the remainder of the branch system.

These leaves like expansions have a conspicuous mid-rib.

Axillary branches are swollen into stalked and rounded structures called the air-bladders.

The subsequent members of the axillary branch system may be cylindrical or flattened. They are called receptacles. In the receptacles are embedded the flask-shaped conceptacles. The Sargassum plant is anchored to the substratum by means of an attaching disc, called holdfast.