

Name: Ike-Egbuonu marvellous chinelo

Matric: 19/SCI09/004

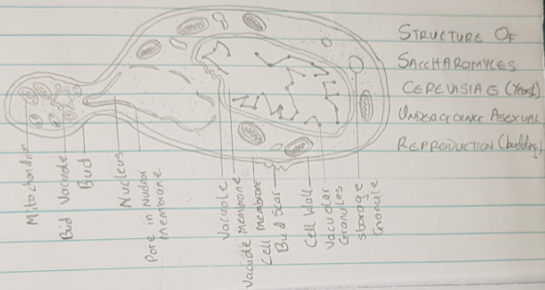
Assignment: Bio102

Level: 100lvl

NAME: Ike-Egbuonu Marvellous Chinelo  
Dept: Industrial Chemistry (SCIENCES)  
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- 1a) Fungi is important in the production of medicines.
- b) They also serve as yeast in the food industries.
- c) Fungi is important in breaking down organic matter & responsible for releasing oxygen, carbon, phosphorus and nitrogen in the soil.

2)



- 2) Brewer's yeast is one of the best known examples of unicellular forms of fungi. The cell structure is very simple, though the organism is one of the more advanced fungal forms from the point of view of its spore-producing structures. Cell exists in diploid/haploid states. Under favourable environmental conditions, in both states, they multiply rapidly by simple mitotic cell divisions - budding involving nuclear division of the cytoplasm in such a way that one segment of the constricted cytoplasm is smaller than the other. Diploid cell arises from haploid cells by processes of plasmogamy and karyogamy (some kind of fertilization). A diploid cell may undergo meiosis under certain conditions to produce four (4) haploid spores - ascospores (contained in simple structures an ascus).

3) In fungi (filamentous form), sexual reproduction occurs when two mating types of hyphae grow in the same medium. The chemical interaction in the 2 mating types of hyphae induces growths perpendicular to the hyphae in opposite directions. These growths are delimited by a wall such that many nuclei are isolated in what is called a gametangium. The 2 gametangia fuse and a zygote is formed which may undergo dormancy or resting stage. The nuclei in the zygotes fuse in pairs and undergo meiosis independently. The zygote germinates under favourable conditions to produce a fruiting which at maturity liberates the haploid spores.

4) The bryophytes have definite structures for water & nutrient absorption from the soil, therefore the plant body is divided into two (an aerial part and a subterranean part). The subterranean part is the rhizoid and is not a true root as the case of land plants that are advanced. The aerial part being exposed to the atmosphere demands some modifications that prevent excessive loss of water through the body surface.

5a) **EUSTELETS**: In herbaceous dicotyledonous plants - Eustele in which the vascular bundles are discrete, concentric collateral bundles of xylem and phloem.

b) **ATACTOSTELE**: In grasses and many monocotyledonous plants - Atactostele i.e. the vascular bundles are scattered. The nature of the vascular supply to leaves is also a noteworthy element of the vascular system.

c) **Siphonostele**: they are more advanced vascular systems e.g. stem of ferns & higher vascular plants, the stele is a cylinder enclosing parenchymatous pith.

d) **Dictyostele**: In siphonostele, vascular supply to leaves is associated with leaf gaps and the conducting cylinder is a dissected one - dictyostele.

6) The life cycle of pteridophytes shows apparent alternation of generations but is dominated by the sporophyte phase. They have been evolving towards having a more reduced gametophyte and a more developed sporophyte. The asexual generation of pteridophytes is the diploid ( $2n$ ) sporophyte. Sporophytes are conspicuous & long-lived. They produce many sporangia, which contain a sporocyte. Sporocytes form haploid spores via meiosis & this is when the sexual generation starts. Ferns are either homosporous or heterosporous. As spores mature, they leave the fern, germinate in appropriate environments and develop into a gametophyte. Gametophytes of homosporous ferns are bisexual & enclose both archegonium & antheridium. Gametophytes of heterosporous ferns are unisexual & enclose archegonium & antheridium respectively. Archegonia contain eggs, while antheridia contain sperms. Sperms use their flagella to swim to the egg in the archegonia via watery media & under attraction of chemicals. The fertilized diploid ( $2n$ ) zygote will grow into an embryo and continue to develop in the gametophyte. Then the gametophyte will perish very quickly while the embryo will develop into a free-living sporophyte, which is the green fern we usually see.