

Topic: canal system in sponges

Class: B.Sc Part –I (Hons.)

Paper- 1

Group – A

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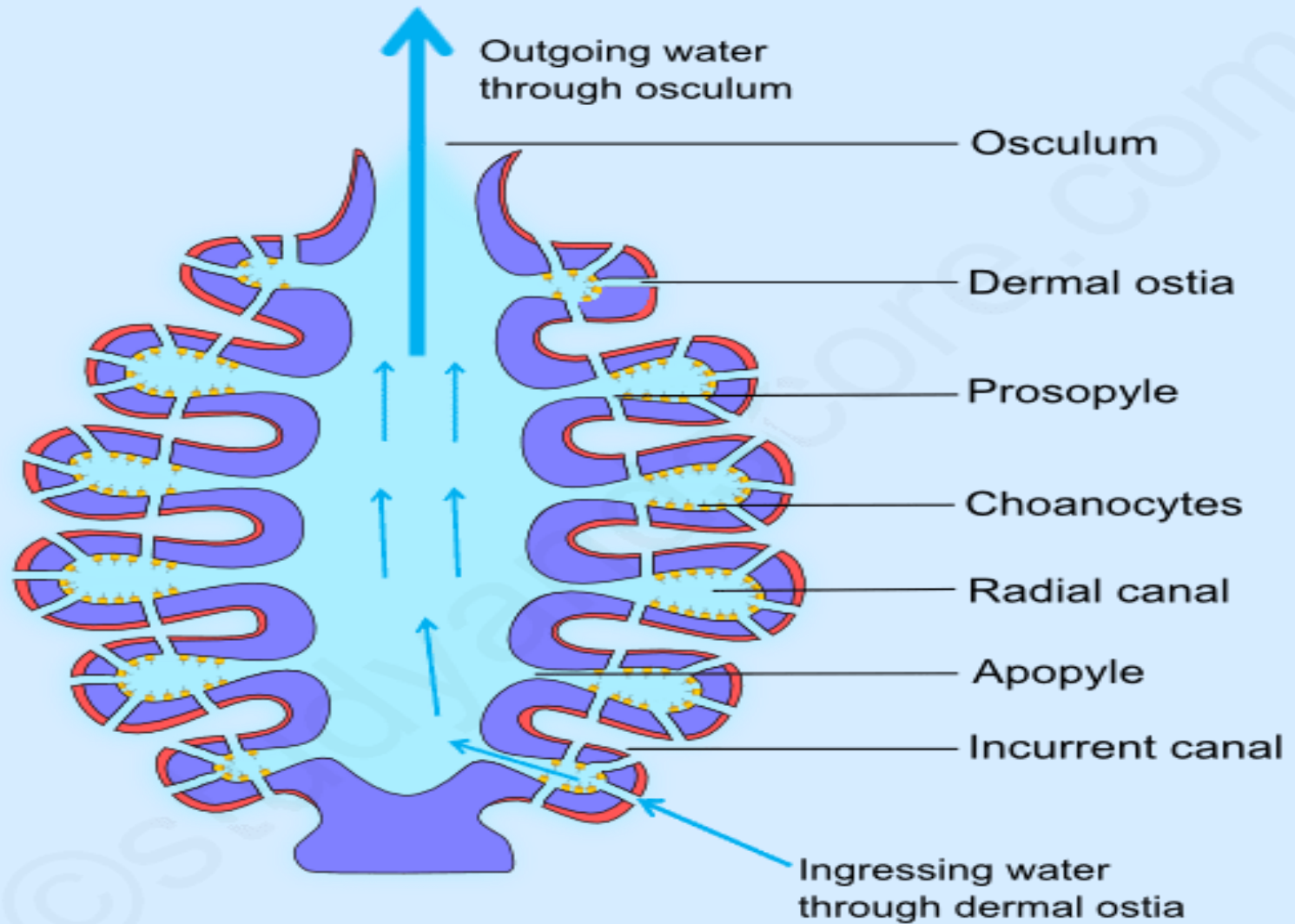
Canal system in sponges

- Phylum Porifera
- Porifera means “pore-bearing” and refers to the numerous pores and channels that permeate a sponge’s body.
- Mostly marine, but include some freshwater inhabitants; usually found attached to the substratum or objects- occasionally on other animals such as crabs in shallow or deep water.

- They are sessile; permanently attached to the substrate
- There are approximately 9,000 living species and above 2200 fossil forms.
- Size – 2 meters to 2 cm
- Saltwater sponges are brightly colored and freshwater sponges are small and dull green color
- some are round, flat, grow as crusts or vase-like, tube-like shape
- some are radially symmetrical; most are asymmetrical

General Morphology

- The surface of each sponge bears minute pores called ostia (ostium) or incurrent pores.
- These pores lead into a central hollow cavity, this internal cavity is called the paragastric cavity or spongocoel
- It opens to outside through a large circular opening, the osculum
- Water is drawn into it through a series of incurrent pores or dermal ostia present in the body wall into a central cavity and then flows out of the sponge through a large opening at the top called the osculum



Sycon type canal system (Ex: Scypha)