

Topic: Apocynaceae
B.Sc. Botany Hons. II
Paper: III Group: B

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Vidyarthi

Department of Botany

Dr. L.K.V.D. College, Tajpur, Samastipur

L.N. Mithila University, Darbhanga

B. Floral characters:

Inflorescence: Usually cymose either terminal or axillary, may be cyme (Carissa) or umbellate cyme (Rauwolfia).

Flower: Bracteate or ebracteate, pedicellate, complete, hermaphrodite, actinomorphic, tetra or pentamerous, often with corona.

Calyx: Sepals 5, rarely 4, gamo- or polysepalous, deeply lobed, small, often glandular at the base, imbricate or valvate.

Corolla: Petals 5, gamopetalous forming a corolla tube which may be long or short, corona present (hairy scales or outgrowth), usually twisted, sometimes imbricate, rarely valvate.

Androecium:

Stamens 4 to 5, epipetalous, alternipetalous, filament short, free, ditheous, connate to stigma, dehiscing longitudinally, introrse.

Gynoecium: Bicarpellary, syncarpous ovaries are free below but united by style only, superior style short, enclosed in a tube formed by the corolla; stigma thickened distally; when ovaries are free each ovary is unilocular with marginal placentation but when ovaries are fused then axile placentation.

Fruit: A drupe (Thevetia), berry (Carissa), follicle (Nerium, Amsonia).

Seed: Endospermic, hairy or winged.

Pollination: Entomophilous.

Floral formula: $\oplus \text{ } \overline{\text{ } } \text{ } K_{(5)} \text{ } \overline{\text{ } } \text{ } A_{4-5} \text{ } G_{(2)}$