

# Topic: Lamiaceae

## B.Sc. Botany Hons. II

### Paper: III Group: B

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## **Lamiaceae ( Labiatae)**

### **Characters of Lamiaceae**

Sweet aromatic smell due to essential oils present in sessile glandular hairs; stem rectangular in cross section, leaves opposite decussate rarely alternate, simple, exstipulate with hairs; inflorescence verticillaster; flowers zygomorphic, hermaphrodite, hypogynous, bracteate; calyx gamosepalous, persistent; corolla bilabiate; stamens 4 epipetalous, didynamous; gynoecium 2 four celled by false septum, syncarpous, axile placentation, gynobasic style, seated on lobed disc; fruit schizocarpic carcerulus.

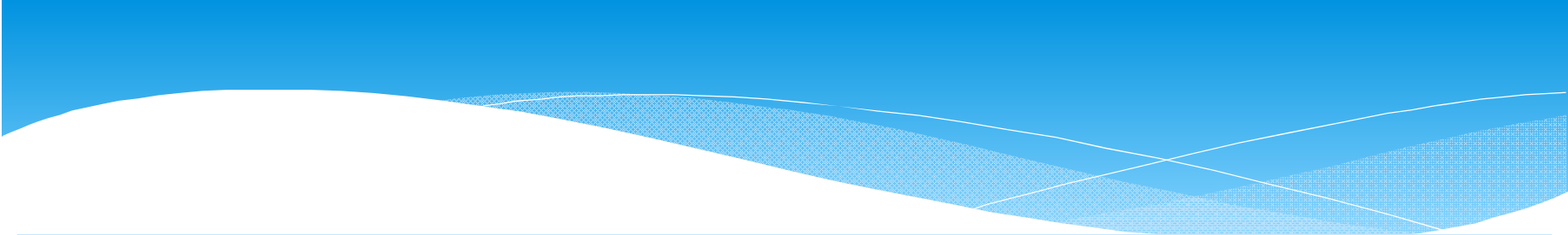
## **Vegetative characters:**

**Habit:** Plants are mostly aromatic herbs or shrubs (Leonotis, Pogostemon). Tree

habit is found in the Brazilian genus Hyptis and climbing habit in American species of Scutellaria.

**Root:** Tap, branched, rarely adventitious (Mentha).

**Stem:** Aerial, herbaceous, rarely woody, erect or prostrate, quadrangular, hairy, branched, solid or hollow, sometimes underground suckers (Mentha).



**Leaves:** Opposite decussate, rarely whorled, simple, petiolate or sessile, exstipulate, hairy with aromatic smell, entire, pinnatifid (Perovskia), unicostate reticulate venation.