

Topic: Polygonaceae

B.Sc. Botany Hons. II

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Polygonaceae

Androecium:

Stamens 6 to 9, in two whorls, the six outer ones often introrse, the three inner extrorse (*Polygonum fagopyrum*), A4 in *Polygonum diospyrifolium*; A 4+2 in *Oxyria*; filaments free or slightly adnate with tepals at the base; anthers 2-celled, longitudinal dehiscence.

Gynoecium:

Generally tricarPELLARY, rarely bicarPELLARY (*Oxyria* and some species of *Polygonum*), syncarpous, unilocular, superior; ovule one, orthotropous, basal placentation, style 1, stigmas 2-4. The ovary is subtended by a nectariferous disc which may be lobed with as many



as 8 lobes.

Fruit:

A dry nut with a single seed, it may be three-sided or biconvex, laterally winged, or an achene with wings. The wings may be furnished in bristles or hooks.

Seed:

With embryo excentric or lateral, curved or straight; the endosperm mealy and copious.

Pollination:

Flowers made conspicuous by crowding and nectar secreted by

the disc aid in cross pollination mostly by insects (Polygonum),
anemophilous in Rumex, when cross pollination fails self pollination
may take place.

Floral formula:

