

**Topic: Taxus ; Embryogeny**  
**B.Sc. Botany Hons. II**  
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## Embryogeny in *Taxus*

- The zygotic nucleus divides to form 16 to 32 nuclei.
- Only 16 free-nuclei are formed in *Taxus baccata* according to Sterling (1948).
- Cell formation starts and soon the complete structure becomes cellular.
- A few cells at the tip of this pro-embryo develop into the embryo while the cells above it elongate and form suspensor.
- The embryo gradually absorbs all the endosperm on development, and the seed thus becomes non-endospermic.
- The fully mature embryo is orthotropous and dicotyledonous. Only one embryo matures in one ovule.

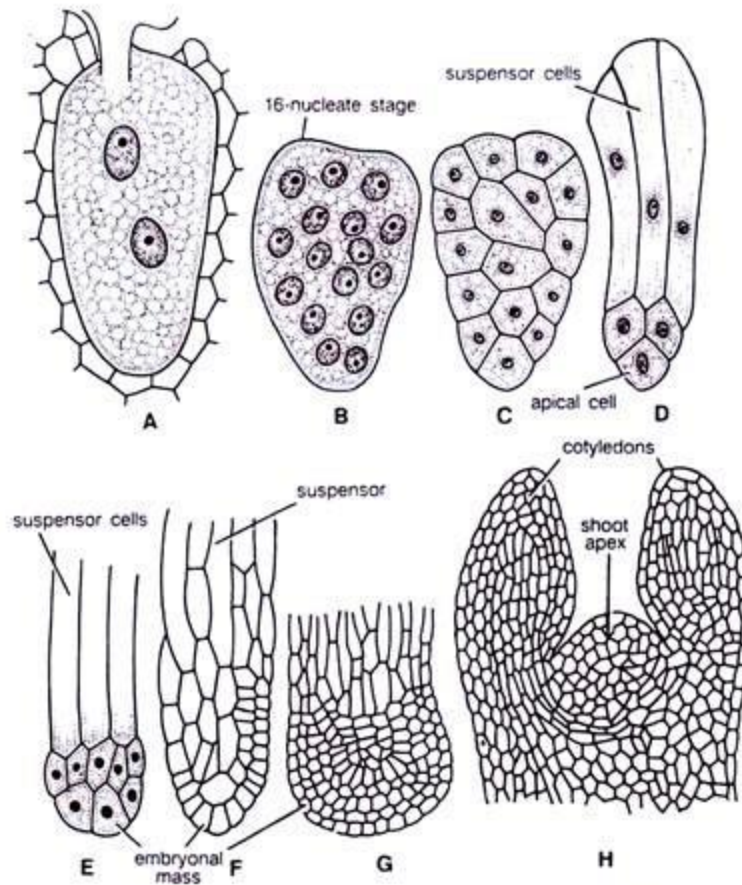


Fig. 12.19. *Taxus baccata* showing stages of embryogeny (after Dupler, 1926).