

# Lab#2 – Angiosperm Morphology

**Main objective for this lab:** To learn the different reproductive parts of plants.

**angiosperm** – one of a group of plants whose seeds are borne within a mature ovary (fruit)

**morphology** – the study of form and its development

**Lab #2a** deals with the **reproductive** parts of a plant - the flowers, fruits, and seeds.

**Objectives** for this lab include:

- to learn to recognize and name:
  - the parts of a flower
  - ovary position types
  - the descriptions of floral symmetry
  - types of inflorescences (**inflorescence** - the flowering part of a plant; flower cluster)
  - descriptive terms for the fusion of flower parts
  - descriptive terms for the presence or absence of flower parts
  - fruit morphology
  - fruit types

**whorl** – a ring-like arrangement of similar parts arising from a common point or node

## **Parts of a flower:**

- peduncle – the stalk of a solitary flower OR of an inflorescence
- pedicel – the stalk of a single flower in an inflorescence
- sepals – the outermost (first) whorl of the flower
- petals – the second whorl of the flower
- calyx – the collective term for all of the sepals of a flower
- corolla – the collective term for all of the petals of a flower
- perianth – the calyx and corolla of a flower, collectively



**peduncle**

**pedicel**

- stamen – one of the group of male reproductive organs of a flower
  - anther – the pollen-bearing portion of the stamen at the apex
  - filament – the stalk of the stamen supporting the anther
- androecium – the collective term for all of the stamens of a flower

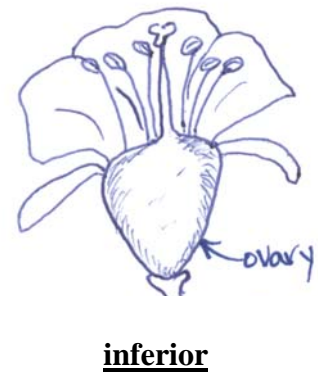
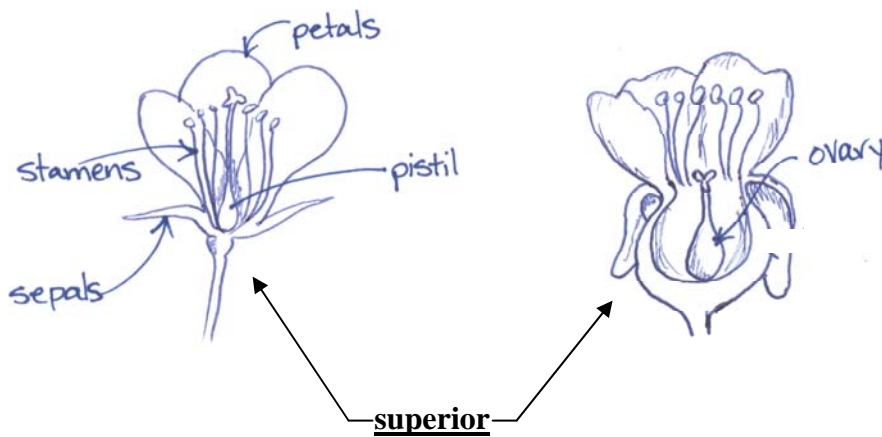


- gynoecium (or pistil if the ovary is completely fused) – the collective term for all of the female reproductive parts of a flower
  - ovary – the expanded basal portion of the pistil that contains the ovules (immature seeds)
  - style – the narrow portion of the pistil connecting the stigma to the ovary
  - stigma – the portion of the pistil that is receptive to pollen
- bract – reduced leaf-like structure at the base of a flower or inflorescence
- tepals – a segment of a perianth that is not differentiated into a calyx and corolla
- receptacle – the end of the stem, which bears the flower parts



 **Ovary position:**

- superior – describes the flower having the stamens, petals, and sepals attached **below** the ovary
- inferior – describes the flower having the stamens, petals, and sepals attached **to the top of** the ovary



 **Floral symmetry:**

- actinomorphic – (regular) radially symmetrical; a line drawn through all planes of the structure will produce a mirror image on either side and all flower parts are of similar size and arrangement
  - zygomorphic – (irregular) bilaterally symmetrical; a line drawn through only one plane of the structure will produce a mirror image on either side and all flower parts are not similar in size and arrangement

actinomorphic



## Inflorescence types:

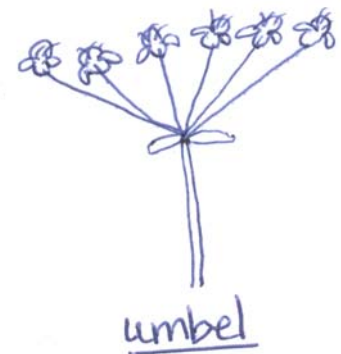
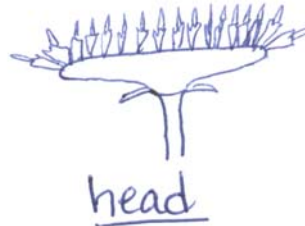
- solitary – flowers occurring singly, not in a cluster (ex. tulip)
- spike – an unbranched, elongated axis with sessile (directly attached) flowers
  - raceme – an unbranched, elongated axis with flowers on pedicels
  - panicle – a branched raceme
- spikelet – small spike of one to many flowers subtended by two bracts (glumes) (ex. grasses)



### raceme & panicle

## Inflorescence types: (cont.)

- catkin – consisting of a dense spike or raceme of apetalous (without petals), unisexual flowers (ex. willow, *Salix*)
- head – dense cluster of flowers (ex. asters)
- umbel – flat-topped or convex inflorescence having the flowers arising from a common point



## Descriptive terms for the fusion of flower parts:

- free – not attached to other organs
- fused – attached to other organs
  - connate – fusion of like parts (ex. fusion of staminal filaments into a tube)
  - adnate – fusion of unlike parts (ex. fusion of the stamens to the corolla)
- sympetalous – petals partially or completely fused

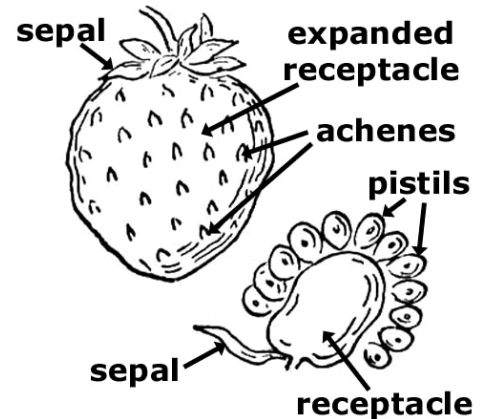
## Descriptive terms for the presence or absence of flower parts:

- complete – flower having all four whorls of parts (sepals, petals, stamens, pistils)
- incomplete – flower lacking one or more parts

- perfect (hermaphroditic) – flower having both male and female reproductive parts
- imperfect – flower having either stamens or pistils, but not both
- monoecious – plant having both staminate and pistillate, imperfect flowers on the same plant
- dioecious – plant having one or the other staminate or pistillate flowers on a plant (some have the staminate and others have the pistillate flowers)

### Fruit morphology:

- carpel – another term for a “simple pistil” (formed from one modified leaf)
- locule – the chamber or cavity of an ovary containing the seed
- pericarp – the wall of the fruit
- seed – a ripened ovule



### Fruit types:

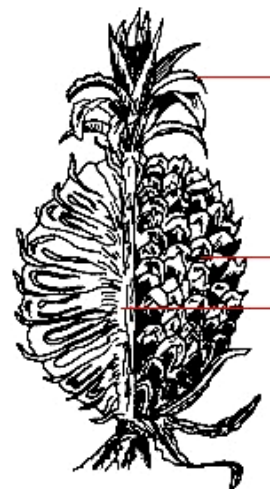
- fruit – the mature (or ripened) ovary or ovaries of a seed-bearing plant
- accessory fruit – fruit derived from non-ovary tissue (ex. strawberry, which is formed from the receptacle)

### Fruit Identification Categories { (1)fleshy/dry, (2)dehiscent/indehiscent, (3)single/multiple seeds }

- samara – dry, indehiscent (not opening), **winged** fruit
- nut – dry, indehiscent fruit, **not fused** to the ovary wall, and fruit is hard and tough
- achene – small, dry indehiscent fruit that **develops from the receptacle**, fruit wall not particularly hard and tough (ex. sunflower)
- caryopsis – a dry, one-seeded, indehiscent fruit in which the seed is fused to the pericarp (ex. grasses); a grain
- legume – fruit dry and dehiscent (opening) at maturity, composed of a single carpel opening along **two lines of dehiscence** (ex. beans)
- capsule – a dry, dehiscent fruit composed of **more than one carpel**
- drupe – fleshy with a **single ovary and only one seed** (ex. peach, olive, almond)
- pepo – fleshy fruit with a single ovary, multiple seeds, and with a **hard rind** (ex. watermelon)
- berry – fleshy fruit with a single ovary, multiple seeds, and **lacking a hard rind** (ex. tomato)
- \*pome – fleshy, with multiple seeds and fruit surrounded by a **fleshy receptacle** (ex. apple)

### Beyond a “simple” fruit

- multiple fruit – fruit formed from multiple flowers crowded on a single axis; see handout (ex. pineapple)
- aggregate fruit – fruit formed from one flower with many ovaries/fruits (ex. raspberry); a strawberry is also an aggregate fruit



# Summary of Flower and Fruit Terms

## **PARTS OF A FLOWER**

peduncle  
pedicel  
sepals  
petals  
calyx  
corolla  
perianth  
stamen  
anther  
filament  
androecium  
gynoecium  
pistil  
ovary  
ovule  
style  
stigma  
bract  
tepal  
receptacle

## **OVARY POSITION**

superior  
inferior

## **FLORAL SYMMETRY**

actinomorphic (radial)  
zygomorphic (bilateral)

## **INFLORESCENCE TYPES**

solitary  
spike  
raceme  
panicle  
spikelet  
catkin  
head  
umbel

## **FUSION OF PARTS**

free  
fused  
connate  
adnate  
sympetalous

## **PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF PARTS**

complete  
incomplete  
perfect  
hermaphroditic  
imperfect  
monoecious  
dioecious

## **FRUIT MORPHOLOGY**

carpel  
locule  
pericarp  
seed

## **FRUIT TYPES**

fruit  
accessory fruit  
samara  
nut  
achene  
caryopsis  
legume  
capsule  
drupe  
pepo  
berry  
pome  
multiple fruit  
aggregate fruit