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B.Sc. (H) PART I PAPER - I
CORE CONCEPT OF ALGAE

STRUCTURE OF FUCUS:

Fucus is a main seaweed. Its about eighteenth species are found. These are widely distributed in the sea coasts of temperate and Arctic regions. Most species are found attached to rocks between low and high tide marks and are commonly known as rockweeds. The plant body of Fucus consists of a leathery parenchymatous dichotomously branched ribbon-like found stem-like stipe and a basal disc like holdfast and or hapteron by which it is attached to the substratum. The plants may be attached to completely or partly submerged rocks. The thallus is buoyed up in water by air vesicles or bladder-like structures or floats. The swollen tips of the thalli the receptacles which
Algae — Phaeophyceae — Fucales
— Fucaceae — Fucus.

like leaf midrib, are covered with small scattered pimple-like projections with small openings which lead into cavities, known as conceptacles.

The thallus is diploid, may be monoecious or dioecious and is characterised by anatomical complexity. The thallus has a peripheral layer, which is known as the limiting layer, composed of small cells containing abundant plastids and performing the function of assimilation. Below

this is the cortex of several layers of elongated mucilaginous parenchymatous cells probably forming the storage system. The central tissue is the medulla

which is composed of hypha-like elongated cells very similar to laminaria, probably performing the function of conduction of food material. Rudimentary sieve plates are present in the cells.

Growth in length of the thallus takes place by means of an apical cell which lies in the depression at the tip of each branch.