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PAPER - I

CORE CONCEPT OF
Group-A, Algae

Methods of Reproduction in Algae — Following methods of reproduction in Algae —

(i) Vegetative reproduction
(ii) Asexual reproduction
(iii) Sexual reproduction.

(i) Vegetative reproduction — Reproduction actually means the production of young ones like the parent.

(i) Unicellular algae originate only by fission or cell division in which cell are separated. In higher plants cell divides and promotes vegetative growth. In higher or multicellular or filamentous form occurs by fragmentation.

(ii) Asexual reproduction — It consists in the separation from the parent of a highly specialised cell or a group of cells which directly develops into a new individual resembling the parent.

(i) Spore formation — The spores are reproductive units specialised for asexual reproduction. Each unit can grow into a parent. The spores are usually one celled structures and are formed by most of Algae. They are produced either within ordinary vegetative cells (Chlamydomonas or Ulothrix) or in specially modified cells (Oedogonium Vaucheria, Ectocarpus) called sporangia. Each sporangium may produced a single cell large spore or more than one small spores. The spores may be motile or non-motile. When motile they are called the zoospores. The non-motile spores are called the aplanospores. The motile spores also known as planospores.

(i) Zoospores — formation of zoospores is the most characteristic method of asexual reproduction in most of green algae. The zoospores are tiny naked. In green algae, the flagella are of whiplash type. They are usually equal length.