

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY BY: DR. RANJANA  
D.B. COLLEGE, JAYNAGAR ASST. PROFESSOR  
L.N.M.U. DARBHANGA (BIHAR) (GUEST TEACHER)

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B.Sc. PART I (H)

PAPER - II

CORE CONCEPT OF

Group - A, Bryophyta

Classification of Bryophytes —

Bryophytes are divided into  
3 classes:

1. Hepaticopsida (Liverworts):

Gametophyte dorsiventral either thaloid or foliose. rhizoids unicellular. Scales (multicellular) present. Sex organs borne dorsally. Sporophyte either with capsule only or differentiated into foot, seta and capsule. Columella absent e.g. Riccia, Marchantia, Pellia, Reilla etc.

2. Anthocerotopsida (Hornworts): Gametophyte dorsiventral and thaloid. Rhizoids unicellular. No scales. Sex organs embedded on the dorsal surface of the thallus. Sporophyte differentiated into foot and capsule. No seta. Unlimited growth of sporophyte due to

meristematic zone, Columella present, e.g. Anthoceros, Notothylas etc.

3. Bryopsida (mosses): — Gametophyte dorsiventral erect and leafy rhizoids multicellular, scales absent on the apical part of erect gametophyte. Sex organs on special lateral branches. Sporophyte differentiated into foot, seta and capsule, Columella present.

e.g. Funaria, Sphagnum, Polytrichum etc.

Economic Importance —

Sphagnum is considered as a great soil builder and is also used in packing materials.

Leucobryum glaucum and Polytrichum sp. act as indicators of acidity of soil