

THE LIVING WORLD

Unique Features Of Living organism:-

- Growth
- Reproduction
- Metabolism
- Response to Stimuli
- Life span

All processes of life occur in protoplasm and hence Huxley rightly called protoplasm as the physical basis of life, It is known as living matter because it shows all properties of life.

BIODIVERSITY

Currently there are some 1.7 -1.8 million living organisms known to science
Out of which 1.25 are animals and about 0.5 million are plants..

Use of Systematics

- 1) Identification
- 2) Nomenclature
- 3) Classification

Biological nomenclature For providing scientific name to known organisms.

Each name has two components - generic name (genus) and specific epithet (species).

This system of nomenclature was provided by Carolus Linnaeus.

Taxonomic categories A taxonomic category is a rank or level in the hierarchical classification of organisms. There are seven obligate categories and some intermediate categories.

Taxonomic hierarchy is given below :

Kingdom —> Phylum —> Class —> Order —> Family —> Genus —> Species

Taxonomic Aids : Techniques, procedures and stored information that are useful in identification and classification of organisms are called taxonomic aids. Like:

1. Herbarium
2. Museums
3. Zoological park
4. Botanical Garden
5. Key

- Key stone species determine the biotic structure of an entire community,
- Taxonomy is divided into three types by Turill (1958).

Alpha taxonomy - It deals with collection and identification of organisms on the basis of gross morphology, field and herbarium studies that helps to compile monographs and flora and to identify plants. It is classical taxonomy.

(alpha) taxonomy — It deals with collection and identification on the basis of morphology and evidences from genetics, cytology, anatomy, physiology.. etc.

(beta) taxonomy — It considers all microscopic observations and biochemical evidences and is equivalent to neosystematics (modern taxonomy) and based on phenetic classification.

- Father W. Santapau — Father of Indian Taxonomy.
- Roxburgh — Father of Indian Botany and Indian Herbaria.
- The term taxonomy was coined and used by French botanist A.P. de Candolle (1813) in his book *Théorie Élémentaire de la Botanique*.
- Term systematic was used by Swedish botanist and doctor Linnaeus (father of Taxonomy for his book *Systema Naturae* 1735).
- Famous Books

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| The Origin of Life | Oparin |
| Principles of Systematic Zoology | Ernst Mayr |
| Philosophic Zoologique | Lamarck |
| Systema Naturae (1735-1758) | Linnaeus |
| Species Plantarum (1753) | Linnaeus |
| Genera Plantarum 1737 | Linnaeus |
| Philosophia Botanica | Linnaeus |
- Correlated characters are groups of common features present in different members of a group which are used for delimitation of various taxa e.g. common features in different species from a genus. This shows common ancestry.
- Revision of Group. It is the grouping of species into distinct taxa of higher category on the basis of their morphology and evolutionary relationship.
- Vegetation of an area is described by flora/fauna is listed.
- FAA [Formalin-acetic-alcohol] is a liquid preservative, most commonly used for preserving anatomy materials.
- Botanical Survey of India (BSI) was established in 1890. Its head office is at Calcutta.

Species with two or more varieties is known as polytypic species while the one which has no race/variety/subspecies is called monotypic species.

Cohort A group of individuals of the same age within a population.

Sympatric species (Sym = Similar). These are genetically unrelated (different) individuals of species having same overlapping area of geographical distribution.

Allopatric species (Allo = different). These are genetically related species having different area of geographical distribution.

Lamarck gave Lamarckian concept stating that species is mutable and dynamic.

Biological concept of species was given by Dobzhansky (1937) and Mayr (1942).