

A single nucleus is situated between the two vacuoles. The egg has the usual form.

The nucellus shows a chalazal strand of specially differentiated cells connecting the antipodal end of the embryo-sac and the vascular bundle of the ovule, just as in the Lythraceæ.^{2,3,4}

The fertilisation is porogamous. The endosperm is nuclear in the early stages but becomes cellular in the later stages of seed development. The development of the embryo takes place according to the *Capsella* type and agrees in all essential points with that of the Lythraceæ.^{4,5}

On the whole, the embryology of *Duabanga sonneratioides* shows a close resemblance with the embryological features of the Lythraceæ, which have been described in detail recently by Prof. Joshi and the writer.^{1,2,3,4}

I desire to express my sincere thanks to Prof. A. C. Joshi for helpful suggestions during the progress of the work. I am also indebted to Mr. I. Banerji of Calcutta University for a part of the material used in this investigation.

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¹ Joshi, A. C., and Venkateswarlu, J., *Ann. Bot.*, 1935, 49, 196.

² Joshi, A. C., and Venkateswarlu, J., *Proc. Ind. Acad. Sci.*, 1935, 2, No. 5.

³ Joshi, A. C., and Venkateswarlu, J., *Proc. Ind. Acad. Sci.*, 1935, 2, No. 6.

⁴ Joshi, A. C., and Venkateswarlu, J., *Proc. Ind. Acad. Sci.*, 1936, 3, No. 4.

⁵ Karsten, G., *Bibl. Bot.*, 1891, 22.

⁶ Mavritzon, J., *Medd. Goteborgs Botaniska Trädgård*, 1934, 9.

⁷ Schnarf, K., "der Angiospermen," Berlin, 1932.

⁸ Souéges, R., *C. R. ac. Paris*, 1925, 180.

⁹ Tischler, G., *Ber. d. Deutsch. Bot. Ges.*, 1917, 35.

Embryo Development in *Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn.

THE development of the embryo in *Boerhaavia diffusa* has been described by Dr. Maheshwari¹ to correspond to the *Capsella* type. This is wrong and the mistake has probably arisen on account of the incomplete observations of the various stages in

development. It appears that 3 apical cells of the pro-embryo take part in the development of the embryo, excluding the root tip, and the embryo-development either corresponds to Chenopodiaceous or Caryophyllaceous type. Full details shall be published by the writer shortly elsewhere.

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¹ Maheshwari, P., *Jour. Ind. Bot. Soc.*, 1929, 8, 219-234.

The Ram Sarcophagus.

WHETHER the Sarcophagus from Sankhavararam described by me¹ is ram-shaped, is questioned by Mr. Govinda Menon² on the grounds that the head does not show the ears, the Sarcophagus has six legs, and the curling excrescences from the sides of the head are wings rather than horns. The rams among the bronze antiquities from Adichanallur are modelled without ears but with large horns as in the Sankhavararam Sarcophagus. As regards the number of legs, all cists of this size have more than four legs, as the potter's handiwork requiring more legs to support the torso of the animal than nature's. If a head removable from the torso were invested with a pair of "sturdy wings", the flighty head must have had a purpose we cannot trace. Were the whole object a bird, one would rather have expected that the wings would be attached to the torso, and not to the detachable head that could fly away leaving the torso and the bones behind. If the torso is bulkier in proportion to the head, it is because the torso, and not the head, was to be the receptacle for the bones.

I should therefore decline to follow in the wake of Mr. Govinda Menon when he passes on to speak of composite animals and the primitive mind.

Perhaps I may add that the Cochin Sarcophagus came to my notice shortly after my paper was prepared.

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March 12, 1936.

¹ *Curr. Sci.*, 1935, 4, No. 5.

² *Curr. Sci.*, 1936, 4, No. 8.