

# Plant Histology

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(4)

# A. Apical Meristems –Shoot Apex: FOR GYMNOSPERMS

Popham (1952) distinguished three main types of gymnosperm shoot apex, based on the structure and development:

## 1. Cycas Type:

*There are three meristematic zones:*

- (a) The Surface Meristem
- (b) The Rib Meristem
- (c) The Peripheral Meristem

## 2. Ginkgo Type:

*There are five meristematic zones:*

(a) The Surface Meristem

(b) The Rib Meristem

(c) The Peripheral Meristem

(d) The Zone of Central Mother Cells

(e) The Cambium-Like Transitional Zone:

### 3. The Cryptomeria-Abies Type:

*There are four meristematic zones:*

(a) The Surface Meristem

(b) The Rib Meristem

(a) The Peripheral Meristem

(b) The Zone of Central Mother Cells

**Reproductive Apex:**

## B. Apical Meristems –Root Apex:

- Apical root meristem is sub-terminal in **roots** The activity of apical meristem causes increase in the length of root.

- **Apical Cell Theory:**

- This theory was put forth by Nageli.

-In the roots of vascular cryptogams (pteridophytes), e.g have a single tetrahedral apical cell. it is generally thought that by its division this gives rise to all the tissues of the root.

-Lower plants (Bryophytes and Pteridophytes) usually have a single apical cell.

-In Gymnosperms and Angiosperms, the apical meristem composed of a group of cells.

# Intercalary meristem

- Intercalary meristem is commonly found in internodes of vascular plants
- They also occur in leaf sheath of some grasses.

# Lateral Meristem

- They help in increasing diameter of the plant body by adding new cells to the existing tissues.
- Example: *Vascular cambium* and *Cork cambium (phellogen)*

- Vascular cambium is initiated between xylem and phloem within vascular bundles.

## **2. Classification based on nature of cell giving the meristem**

## **Primary meristem**

Primary meristems are the direct descendants of embryonic. Primary meristems give rise the primary plant body. Apical meristems are best examples for primary meristem.

## **Secondary meristem**

They are the meristems developed from permanent tissues. Secondary meristem gives rise secondary tissue after primary growth. *Cork cambium and cambium.*