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*Shaping Lives...
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Center for Smart Agriculture

Floriculturist



Module 1: Introduction to floriculture

Session 3: Classification of floricultural plants



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- Plants are classified based on the similarities of their characters.
- Based on flowering patterns, stem and leaf structures, life cycles and many other characteristics, plant taxonomists classified most closely related plants .



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A. Based on their life cycle

1. Annuals

- Flowering plants completes its life cycle only in one growing season.
- These flowering plants are useful in landscaping.



Zinnia (*Zinnia elegans*)



Marigold (*Tagetes spp.*)



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A. Based on their life cycle

1. Biennial

- Flowering plants completes its life cycle in two growing season.
- These flowering plants are useful in landscaping.



Tulip
Tuplica stellata



Primula
Premula denticulate



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3. Perennials

- Woody species growing for several years.
- Continue vegetative growth for long time, flower and fruit in a variable manner
- Live for a number of years.



Delonix regia



Magnolia grandiflora

B. Based on uses

- Flowering plants can be used in a variety of ways, both indoors and outdoors.

1. Cut Flower

- Flower buds are cut with stems, branches and leaves to be used for bouquets or decorations.

Two categories

(i) Fresh cut flowers

(ii) Non-fresh cut flowers

- Ex. Roses, carnations, orchids, chrysanthemums, lilies, gerbera etc.



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2. Potted plants

- Plants adapted to indoor conditions and for home and small gardens.
- Slow growing, and mostly foliage plants
- Sansevieria (*Sansevieria spp.*), Indian Rubber plant (*Ficus elastica*), Philodendron (*Philodendron spp.*).



3. Bedding plants

- Annual plants raised for planting outdoors in flower beds.
- Seeds sown in indoors in the off-season and transplanted later in the growing season.
- Petunia (*Petunia spp.*), Snapdragon (*Antirrhinum majus*), Pansy (*Viola tricolor*).



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4. Hanging plants

- Hanging basket plants either annual or perennial, flowering or foliage in decorative containers and hung by elegant ropes from the ceiling in the doorway area.
- Ex- Geranium (*Pelargonium spp.*), and Spider plant (*Chlorophytum comosum*).



5. Dried Flower

- Used after being dried for different occasions.
- Flowers are dried using different preservatives.
- Ex: Stalice, Gypsophila, Straw flower

(Helichrysum)



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6. Landscape plants

Crops which are grown in the garden for beauty and function

(a) Lawn: It is an area of grass grown as a green carpet.

(b) Ground covers:

- Plants are low growing and effectively cover the soil in place of lawn to cover unattractive sites.

- Eg. *Vinca minor*, *Vinca major*, *Carex spp.*, *Sedum spp.*, *Echeveria spp.*, and *Dianthus spp.*



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(c) Climbers

An annual or perennial herb or a shrub with a special structure- to climb over a support

i. *Scindapsus aureus* (Money plant)

ii. *Monstera deliciosa* (Swiss cheese plant)

iii. *Hedera helix* (English Ivy)



(d) Shrubs

✓ Woody stem, usually well branched near the base.

✓ Do not have a prominent central trunk.

Flowering shrubs have very attractive flowers

i. *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* (red heart),

ii. *Nerium oleander*,

iii. *Tecoma stans* etc



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Foliage shrubs:

Produce rich and dense foliage that have no flowers.

i. *Dracaena fragrans* (Corn plant),

ii. *Acalypha wilkesiana*

iii. *Duranta erecta*

Shrubs with Bracts

i. *Bougainvillea glabra*,

ii. *Euphorbia pulcherrima* (Poinsettia)



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(e) Trees:

Woody plants usually with well-defined trunks or stems

Functions of trees in the landscape

- i. Provide shade,
- ii. to ensure privacy,
- iii. to avoid monotony,
- iv. to reduce glare,
- v. to serve as wind breaks,
- vi. to reduce high summer temperature



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Jacaranda mimosifolia



Azadirachta indica

- Trees which shed their leaves during summer
(Deciduous trees)



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Spathodea campanulata



Grevillea robusta

- Trees do not shed their leaves throughout their life span
(Evergreen trees)



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