

AquaticPlants LR

Aquatic plants. Objective, to learn about aquatic plants. Aquatic plants are those which grow in water.

If we carefully observe a pond, we see that it has many plants. Some of the plants are small, while the others are big. Some float on water, while the others are found submerged in water.

Aquatic plants can be divided into three categories. Floating plants, fixed plants and underwater plants. Floating plants.

These plants are light or small in size and protect small water animals from the heat of the Sun. Duckweed, water lettuce and water hyacinth are some examples of floating plants. Fixed plants.

Lotus and water lily are some examples of fixed plants. Plants that are fixed to the bed of the pond are called fixed plants. If we carefully observe a lotus plant, we find that its stem is hollow and light.

This keeps its leaves and flowers afloat. The leaves of the lotus are broad and have stomata only on the upper side. These broad floating leaves provide nest to small birds.

Underwater plants. Underwater plants have long ribbon-like narrow leaves. The leaves of these plants arise in clusters from the roots and do not have stomata.

These plants breathe through their body surface. These plants play an important role in the cleaning of the water as they take in the carbon dioxide produced by the various aquatic animals. Tapegrass and pondweed are some examples of underwater plants.

To summarize, floating plants are light or small in size and protect small water animals from the heat of the Sun. Duckweed, water lettuce and water hyacinth are

some examples of floating plants. Plants that are fixed to the bed of the pond are called fixed plants.

Lotus and water lily are some examples of fixed plants. Underwater plants have long ribbon-like narrow leaves. Tapegrass and pondweed are some examples of underwater plants.

Summary: Aquatic Plants

Aquatic plants are plants that **grow in water**. They can be found in different forms—some **float**, some are **fixed** to the bottom, and others grow completely **underwater**.

Aquatic plants are classified into **three categories**:

1. **Floating plants** – These are **small and light** plants that **float on the water surface** and provide protection to small aquatic animals. Examples: **Duckweed, Water Lettuce, Water Hyacinth**.
2. **Fixed plants** – These plants are **anchored to the pond bed** but have **hollow stems** that keep their leaves and flowers floating. Examples: **Lotus, Water Lily**.
3. **Underwater plants** – These plants grow **completely submerged in water**, have **long narrow leaves**, and lack **stomata**. They **breathe through their body surface** and help **clean the water** by absorbing carbon dioxide from aquatic animals. Examples: **Tapegrass, Pondweed**.

Quiz Questions

1. **Which of the following is an example of a floating plant?**
 - (A) Water Lily
 - (B) Duckweed ☒
 - (C) Tapegrass
 - (D) Pondweed
2. **How do underwater plants breathe?**
 - (A) Through their roots

- (B) Through stomata on their leaves
- (C) Through their body surface ☒
- (D) By absorbing air from above water

3. **Which of these is a characteristic of fixed plants like Lotus?**

- (A) They have thick and heavy stems
- (B) Their stems are hollow and light ☒
- (C) Their leaves are submerged underwater
- (D) They float freely without any attachment

4. **What role do underwater plants play in the pond ecosystem?**

- (A) They provide oxygen and help clean the water ☒
- (B) They block sunlight from reaching other plants
- (C) They increase water pollution
- (D) They reduce the number of aquatic animals