

Reproduction in Plants

Chapter 10: Life Processes in Plants · Topic 2

Key Concept

Sexual reproduction in flowering plants begins with pollination — the transfer of pollen from the male anther to the female stigma, often aided by wind, insects, or birds — followed by fertilisation, forming a seed capable of growing into a new plant. Asexual reproduction is often used in agriculture and gardening because it produces plants identical to the parent quickly — for instance, a potato reproduces asexually through 'eyes' (small buds) on its surface that can grow into entirely new plants.

Quick Revision Notes

- Sexual reproduction: pollination + fertilisation, produces seeds with genetic variation.
- Asexual reproduction: produces identical offspring without seeds (e.g., cuttings, budding).
- Pollination transfers pollen from anther to stigma, often via wind, insects, or birds.
- Potatoes reproduce asexually through 'eyes' (buds) on their surface.

Practice Questions

- 1 Name one plant that reproduces asexually and describe how.
- 2 Explain the steps of sexual reproduction in a flowering plant.
- 3 Why might farmers prefer asexual reproduction for certain crops?