

Basic Bryophyte Terminology

Growth Form

acrocarpous	[mosses] with sporophytes produced at the apex of plant
pleurocarpous	[mosses] with sporophytes produced on lateral branches
leafy	[liverworts] made up of regularly arranged leaves and stems
thalloid	[liverworts] made up of a flat plate or a sheet of “fleshy” tissue
simple	[thalloid liverworts] made up of one to several cells but not necessarily layers
complex	[thalliod liverworts] made of multiple layers of cells (upper and lower epidermis, chlorophyll, storage)

Reproductive Terms

antheridia(um)	male (♂) reproductive structure producing antherozoids (sperm)
archegonia(um)	female (♀) reproductive structure producing an egg
monoicous	with antheridia and archegonia on the same plant
dioicous	with antheridia and archegonia on different plants
perichaetium	cluster of leaves enclosing the archegonia
gametophyte	the haploid phase consisting of the green leafy plant producing antheridia and archegonia
haploid (n)	cells containing a single set of chromosomes
sporophyte	diploid phase consisting of foot, seta, and capsule
diploid (2n)	cells containing two complete sets of chromosomes
protonema	green, branched filaments resembling a filamentous alga

Capsule Morphology

apophysis	the modified sterile base or neck of the capsule which is usually wider, longer, or larger than the urn
seta	stalk supporting the capsule
capsule	sporangium producing spores
calyptra	hood covering the capsule
operculum	lid covering the mouth of the capsule
peristome	structures on the rim of the mouth of the capsule; teeth (outer ring), segments (inner ring), and cilia alternating with segments
teeth	exostome; outer layer of peristome
immersed	capsules overtopped by perichaetial leaf tips
sessile	without a stalk
emergent	exposed partially; capsules not exceeding perichaetial leaves
exserted	capsules exceeding perichaetial leaves
gemma(ae)	globose, clavate, elliptic, or cylindrical, multicellular asexual reproductive bodies

Leaf and Stem Morphology

lamina	blade of leaf excluding costa
vaginant lamina	the sheathing base of a <i>Fissidens</i> leaf
bistratose	having two layers of leaf cells
unistratose	with cells in one layer
lamellae	narrow unistratose bands of cells attached to surface of costa
costa	midrib of a leaf
costate	possessing a costa
ecostate	without a costa
awn	hair-like extension of a costa beyond leaf margin
excurrent	with costa extending beyond apex of lamina
percurrent	costa extending to apex but not beyond
distichous	with leaves occurring on opposite sides of stem, not spirally arranged
leucocyst	large, hyaline cells associated with the chlorocysts
pores	small openings in the cell walls of hyaline cells (<i>Sphagnum</i>)
papillae	minute protuberances on surface of cells
obovate	egg-shaped with base at narrow end, widest above the middle
ovate	egg-shaped with widest part at base, widest below the middle
acute	forming an angle of < 90 degrees
obtuse	forming a rounded angle of > 90 degrees
squarrose	spreading (leaves) at right angles, 90 degrees
paraphyllia	minute leaf-like or filamentous structures on stems of some pleurocarpous mosses
pseudoparaphyllia	structures resembling paraphyllia formed at branch insertions