



## Some Other Adaptations in Plants

### Did You Know?

The Amazon Rainforest is known as the “Lungs of the Planet” because it produces more than 20% of the world’s oxygen.

### Unusual Plants and Their Adaptations

Some plants have unique adaptations that make them different from common plants. These unusual plants include:

#### 1. Insectivorous Plants (Carnivorous Plants)

- These plants grow in nutrient-poor soil and lack essential minerals.
- To fulfill their mineral needs, they trap and digest insects.
- Their leaves are modified to capture prey.

##### Examples:

- Venus Flytrap – Its leaves have hair-like triggers that close when an insect touches them.
- Pitcher Plant – Has a deep cavity filled with digestive fluids that trap insects.
- Sundew – Its sticky tentacles capture and digest insects.

#### 2. Saprophytic Plants

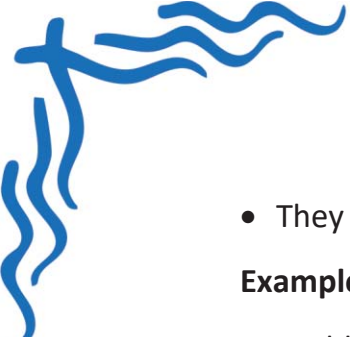
- These plants cannot produce their own food as they lack chlorophyll.
- They obtain nutrients by absorbing decayed organic matter from dead plants and animals.

##### Examples:

- Indian Pipe – A white-colored plant that absorbs nutrients from decaying matter.
- Coral Root – A type of orchid that depends on fungi to absorb nutrients from the soil.

### Parasitic Plants

- These plants derive nutrition from a living host plant, causing harm to the host.

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- They attach themselves to the host and absorb water and nutrients.

**Examples:**

- Dodder – A leafless plant that wraps around its host and absorbs nutrients.
- Mistletoe – Grows on trees and extracts water and minerals from the host.

#### **4. Plants with Strong Odor for Pollination**

- Some plants emit a foul smell, similar to rotten fish or decaying meat.
- This strong odor attracts flies and insects, which help in pollination.

**Example:**

- Corpse Flower – Emits a rotting smell to attract pollinators like flies and beetles.

#### **Key Takeaways**

- Insectivorous plants trap and digest insects to gain nutrients.
  - Saprophytic plants absorb nutrients from dead organic matter.
  - Parasitic plants depend on a living host for survival.
  - Some plants use a strong smell to attract pollinators for reproduction.
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