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Sub. Biology

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Modification of Adventitious Roots

The adventitious roots are modified to perform several additional functions like food storage, mechanical support and other vital functions.

- (a) Fasiculated Roots These arises in clusters from the base of the stem, e.g., Dahlia, Asparagus.
- (b) Nodulous Roots These roots have swellings occur only near the tips, e.g., Arrow root (Maranta), amia haldi (Curcuma amadd).
- (c) Tuberous Roots (Single Root Tubers) These are swollen without any definite shape, e.g., Ipomoea batatas (sweet potato).
- (d) Prop (Pillar) Roots The prop roots grow as the horizontal branches of the stem and grow vertically downward.

They become thick pillar-like and provide mechanical support to the giant trees, e.g., Banyan tree (Ficus benghalensis).

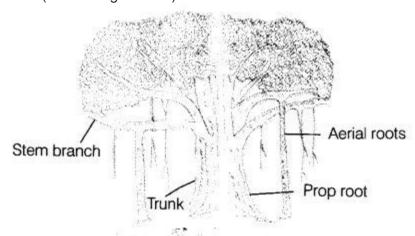


Fig. 5.5 Banyan tree

- (e) Stilt Roots These are small thick supporting roots growing obliquely from the basal nodes of the main stem. These provide mechanical support, e.g., Saccharum officinarum (sugarcane), Zea mays (maize).
- (f) Climbing (Clinging) Roots These roots are found in climbers. They may arise from the nodes, e.g., Ivy, Pothos (money plant).

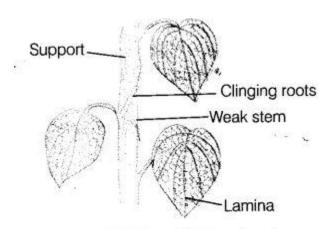


Fig. 5.6 Betel (Piper betel)

- (g) Assimilatory (Photosynthetic) Roots These roots have chlorophyll and can synthesise food, e.g., Aerial or hanging roots of some orchids.
- (h) Parasitic (Sucking) Roots These roots occur in parasitic plant for absorbing nourishment from their host. These roots function as haustoria, e.g., Cuscuta (dodder).