Placentation

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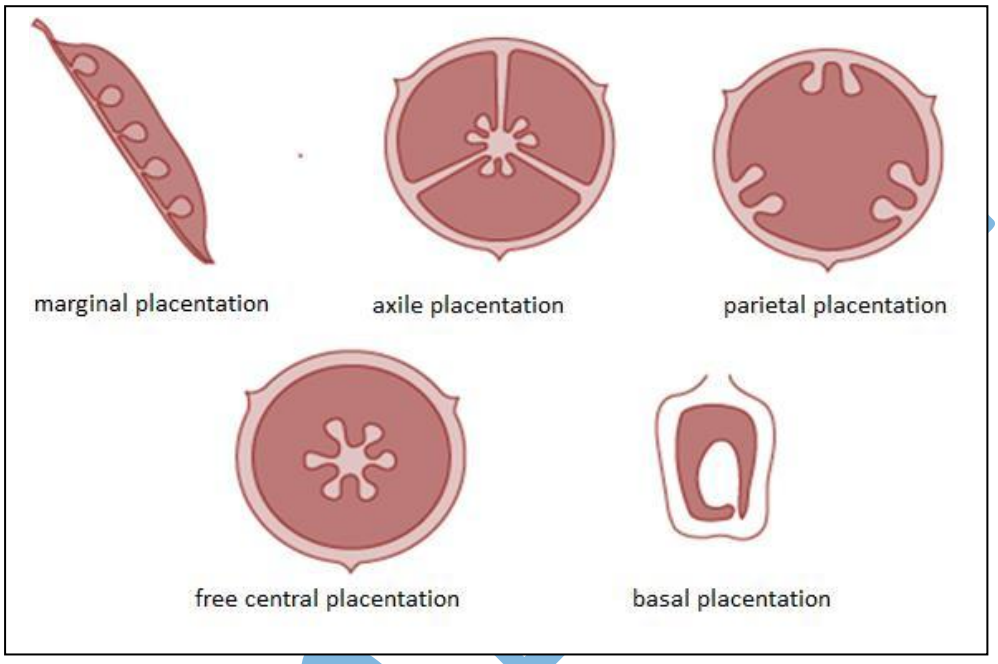

Placentation refers to the arrangement of ovules within the ovary. Ovules are attached to ovarian walls through special structures called as placenta. Placentation can be marginal, axile, parietal, basal, free central or superficial in position.

Types of Placentation

1. Marginal

The ovules develop in rows near the margin on the placenta formed along the ventral suture. It occurs in monocarpellary and unilocular ovary, e.g., Leguminosae.

2. Parietal

The placenta is formed by the swelling up of cohering margins, and on the latter develop the ovules in rows. It occurs in bicarpellary or multicarpellary but unilocular ovary, e.g., Papaveraceae.

3. Axile

Here, the placentae develop from the central axis which correspond to the confluent margins of carpels. It occurs in bi-to multilocular ovary, e.g., Solanaceae, Malvaceae.

4. Free-central

Here, the placenta develop in the centre of the ovary as a prolongation of floral axis and the ovules are attached on this axis. It occurs in multicarpellary but unilocular ovary, e.g., Primulaceae

5. Basal:

The placenta develops directly on the thalamus and bears a single ovule at the base of the unilocular ovary, e.g., Compositae.