

9. Distribution and Basic Concepts of BIOSYSTEMATIC
B. Taxonomy.

APPB - INTRODUCTION:

There is a great diversity of life in nature. All around us, there is an enormous variety in living forms. Over one and half million (about 15 lakh/lacs) different kinds of living organisms have been discovered on this Planet (Earth) and it is estimated that 3 to 10 million species still ^{await} ~~about~~ their discovery.

It is therefore, necessary to put such a large number of species into definite groups so that extent of their harmful & economical properties are established.

The method of arranging and grouping of organisms in various divisions on the basis of their similarities, differences and relationships is called as "classification".

A proper system of classification is must because of the following reasons:-

- (i) It is not possible to study every organism. The study of one or two organisms of a group gives sufficient information about the essential features of the group.
- (ii) Without any system of classification organisms can not be identified.
- (iii) The organisms of the past can not be studied without the help of a good system of classification.
- (iv) All types of organisms do not occur in one locality.

WORK TO DO

PHONES

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- (v) Classification helps in knowing the relationships amongst different groups of organisms.
- (vi) on the basis of relationship and simplicity or complexity found in the members of various taxa, evolutionary tendencies can be known.

Objectives of Biological Classification:-

(i) To recognise and describe the basic unit of classification, namely species.

WORK TO DO

(ii) to group the species into higher categories on the basis of similarities & relationships.

The science of classification is called "taxonomy". The science of taxonomy has two branches, the naming of organisms or "nomenclature" and placing of organisms into groups or "systematics". The systematics is done on the basis of their similarities and differences.

"Biosystematics" is another field of systematics. It deals with the variation within a species and its general evolution.

PHONES