

and plants not to converge against the gravitational and atmospheric pull of the earth.

As a result, the leaves of the epiphytic plants are thin, light-weight and have small area of surface to volume ratio so that they do not need a large amount of water and oxygen to sustain their life and need to absorb less amount of water and oxygen.

Q1. Define the following terms:

(i) Epiphytes
(ii) Root system
(iii) Aerenchyma

Ans. (i) An epiphyte is a plant which grows on another plant without deriving its nutrients from it. (ii) Root system is a network of roots which are collectively called root system. (iii) Aerenchyma is a type of mesophyll found in aquatic plants which contains air spaces.

Q2. What is a heterotroph? Explain with examples.

QUESTION 3: HOMOTROPHS AND HETEROOTROPHS

Q3. Define autotrophs and heterotrophs. Differentiate between them.

Ans. Autotrophs are organisms which can produce their own food by using energy from the sun or inorganic chemicals like carbon dioxide and water and convert it into organic substances. Heterotrophs are organisms which cannot produce their own food and hence obtain it from other organisms.

Q4. Define heterotrophs. Give examples of autotrophs and heterotrophs.

Ans. Heterotrophs are organisms which cannot produce their own food and hence obtain it from other organisms.

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