

Ranunculaceae

The family include about 35 genera and 1500 species distributed in temperature and colder regions of the world. The family includes many common plants such as *Ranunculus* (buttercup), *Caltha* (marsh marigold), *Clematis*, *Anemone*, *Thalictrum* (mamira), *Delphinium* (larkspur), *Nigella* (kala zira) and *Aconitum* (monkshood).



Distinguishing Features:

Mostly herbs with simple leaves, flower hypogynous with free sepal and petals, stamens indefinite and free, carpels indefinite, apocarpous, fruit an aggregate.

Ranunculus muricatus (Buttercup) Crow foot:

Habitat:

A common erect annual herb found abundantly in plains that flowers during February-April. *Ranunculus sceleratus* is commonly found near water.

Root:

Tap root, short lived, replaced by adventitious roots.

Stem:

Herbaceous, green, erect, cylindrical, fistular, glabrous and branched.

Leaf:

Radical leaves with long petioles, cauline and ramal, alternate, leaf base sheathing, simple palmatifid, exstipulate, reticulate multicostate, glabrous, herbaceous.

Inflorescence:

Simple, solitary terminal or solitary axillary.

Flower:

Pedicellate, bracteate, bisexual, complete, actinomorphic, hypogynous, hemicyclic, yellow.

Calyx:

5 Sepals, polysepalous, yellowish green, slightly petaloid, caduceus, inferior.

Corolla:

5 Petals, polypetalous, obovate, yellow, each petal having a pocket shaped nectary at the base, inferior.

Androecium:

Stamens, indefinite, polyandrous, spirally arranged filaments long and anthers elongated, basifixed, adnate, inferior.

Gynoecium:

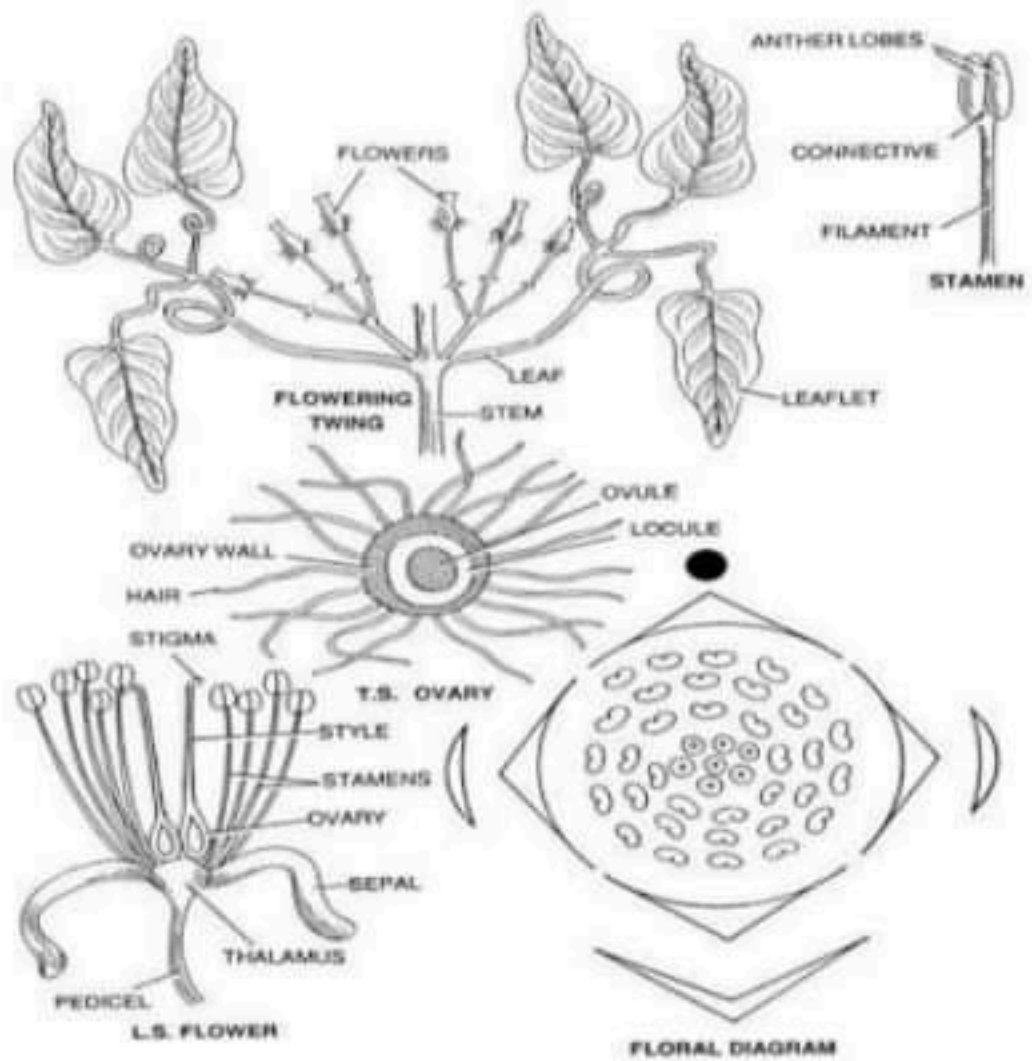
Polycarpellary, apocarpous, ovary superior, unilocular, Placentation basal, style short, stigma beaked.

Fruit:

Etaerio of Achenes.

Floral Formula of Ranunculaceae

$\overline{\square}$, K₅ C₅ A[∞] G[∞]



Ranunculaceae *Clematis paniculata*