

CASE

*Curriculum for Agricultural
Science Education*

Principles of Agricultural Science – Plant

The Role of Fruit

Unit 7 – Plant Reproduction
Lesson 7.2 Pollination and Dispersion

Fruit

The wall of the fruit, or ripened ovary, is called the **pericarp**.

Two types of fruit:

- Dry
- Fleshy



Common Dry Fruits

1) Achene – one-seeded, hard thin shell, such as a sunflower seed



Common **Dry** Fruits (Continued)

2) Grain – one-seeded, very thin seed covering, such as grasses and cereal grains



Common **Dry** Fruits (Continued)

3) Nut – hard-shelled one seeded fruit, such as a walnut



Common **Dry** Fruits (Continued)

4) Pod – legumes that have multiple seeds, such as peas and beans



Common Dry Fruits (Continued)

5) Samara – two-seeded winged fruit, such as from a maple tree



Common **Fleshy** Fruits

1) Berry – one or more flesh covered carpels, such as a blueberry or pepper



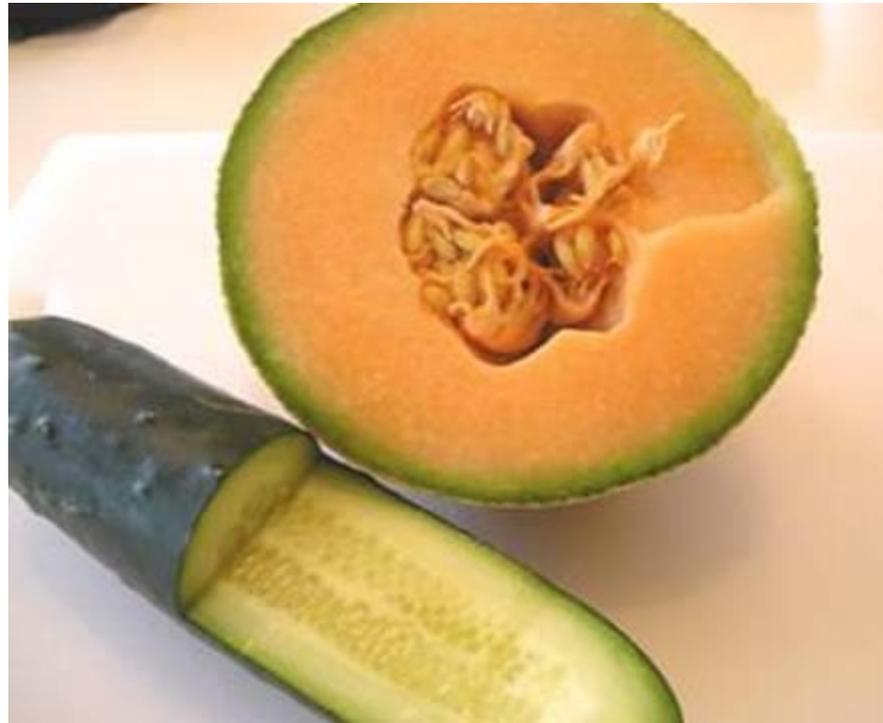
Common **Fleshy** Fruits (Continued)

2) Drupe or stone fruit – one-seeded, outer flesh covering, with hard endocarp layer, such as a peach or coconut



Common **Fleshy** Fruits (Continued)

3) Pepo – tough outer covering with fleshy inside, such as melons and cucumbers



Common **Fleshy** Fruits (Continued)

4) Pome – multiple seeds contained in the center of flesh surrounded by a thin outer skin, such as an apple or pear



What functions do fruit serve?

- Protection for the seed
- Provides nutrients to young seedling
- Seed dispersal
- Marketable products for human consumption
- Plant identification and classification



Seed Dispersal

Plants use several dispersal mechanisms:

Animals	Feed on fruit
Force	Seed pods burst or shatter
Insects	Carry seeds to burrows
Water	Rain and water bodies transport the seed, such as the coconut
Wind	Seeds have adapted special anatomical features to catch the wind, such as the dandelion

References



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