

Contents

Abbreviations	XIII		
Illustration Credits	XVII		
1 Double Fertilization – A Defining Feature of Flowering Plants		3 Pattern Formation in Embryos – Interpretation of Positional Information	
1.1 Discovery of Double Fertilization	2	3.1 Initiation and Maintenance of Embryo Meristems	58
1.1.1 Who Discovered Double Fertilization?	3	3.1.1 Shoot Apical Meristem	58
1.1.2 Universality of Double Fertilization in Flowering Plants	5	3.1.2 Root Apical Meristem	66
1.2 Seed Development without Double Fertilization	7	3.2 Genetic and Molecular Control of Embryo Pattern Formation	69
1.3 A Case for Double Fertilization in Gymnosperms	9	3.2.1 Apicobasal Patterning of the Embryo	69
1.4 Structural and Cytological Perspectives on Double Fertilization	11	3.2.2 Radial Patterning of the Embryo	72
1.4.1 Cellular Nature of the Sperm and the Male Germ Unit	11	3.3 Concluding Comments	75
1.4.2 Pollen Tube Guidance and Sperm Entry into Embryo Sac	13	References	76
1.4.3 Nuclear Fusions	15	4 Life and Times of the Suspensor – Cell Signaling between the Embryo and Suspensor	
1.5 In vitro Double Fertilization	17	4.1 Morphological and Physiological Considerations	82
1.6 Double Fertilization and the Coming of Age of Plant Embryology	19	4.1.1 Subcellular Morphology of the Suspensor	85
1.6.1 The Changing Scene	20	4.1.2 Nuclear Cytology of the Suspensor	88
1.6.2 Genetic and Molecular Studies of Embryogenesis and Endosperm Development	21	4.1.3 Functional Physiology of the Suspensor	90
1.6.3 Problems and Prospects	22	4.1.4 Developmental Physiology and Programmed Death of Suspensor Cells	92
1.7 Concluding Comments	22	4.2 Genetic Control of Suspensor Form	94
References	23	4.3 Concluding Comments	97
		References	97
2 Establishment of the Embryo Body Plan – A Reassessment of Cell Lineage and Cell Fate		5 Genetic and Molecular Control of Embryogenesis – Role of Nonzygotic and Zygotic Genes	
2.1 Organization of the Egg and Zygote	30	5.1 Asymmetry in Parental Genome Contributions	102
2.2 From the Zygote to the Embryo	34	5.1.1 Evidence for Maternal-effect Genes	103
2.2.1 A Model of Embryogenesis in Eudicots	35	5.1.2 Silencing of Paternal Genes	105
2.2.2 A Model of Embryogenesis in Monocots	41	5.2 Gene Activity during Progressive Embryogenesis	106
2.2.3 Are Embryonic Organs and Tissues Lineage-restricted Compartments?	43	5.2.1 Gene Expression during Early Embryogenesis	108
2.2.4 Abnormal Embryo Types	44	5.2.2 Gene Expression during Late Embryogenesis and Transition to Germination	112
2.3 Physiological Considerations of Embryogenesis	45	5.3 Embryo Gene Expression Program Studied by Mutant Screening	115
2.3.1 A Role for Auxin Polar Transport in Embryogenesis	46	5.3.1 Embryo-lethal Mutants of <i>Arabidopsis</i>	115
2.3.2 Embryo Nutrition	47	5.3.2 The World of Cytokinesis-Defective Mutants	117
2.3.3 Embryo Culture Investigations	48	5.3.3 Embryo-defective Mutants of <i>Arabidopsis</i>	120
2.4 Concluding Comments	51	5.3.4 Embryo-Defective Mutants of Maize and Rice	121
References	52	5.4 Concluding Comments	123
		References	123

6 Maturation and Dormancy – Survival Strategies of the Embryo

- 6.1 Embryo Maturation 132
 - 6.1.1 Synthesis of Maturation Proteins 132
 - 6.1.2 Is Embryo Maturation in the Seed Developmentally Regulated by ABA? 134
 - 6.1.3 Genetic Regulation of Embryo Maturation by ABA 136
- 6.2 Embryo Dormancy 138
 - 6.2.1 Carbohydrates in Desiccation Tolerance 141
 - 6.2.2 Proteins in Desiccation Tolerance 143
- 6.3 Concluding Comments 145
- References 146

7 Developmental and Functional Biology of the Endosperm – A Medley of Cellular Interactions

- 7.1 Cellular Organization of the Endosperm 152
 - 7.1.1 The Odyssey of Free Nuclei to a Cellular Tissue 154
 - 7.1.2 Development of the Endosperm in *Arabidopsis* 156
- 7.2 Biochemical Organization of the Endosperm 158
 - 7.2.1 DNA Amplification 158
 - 7.2.2 Accumulation of Storage Products 160
 - 7.2.3 Programmed Cell Death of the Endosperm 161
- 7.3 Role of the Endosperm in Embryo Nutrition 162
 - 7.3.1 Structural Modifications of the Endosperm 162
 - 7.3.2 Physiological Considerations 164
 - 7.3.3 Genetic Considerations 165
- 7.4 Concluding Comments 167
- References 168

8 Genetics and Molecular Biology of the Endosperm – A Tale of Two Model Systems

- 8.1 Specification of Form in the Endosperm of *Arabidopsis* 174
 - 8.1.1 Endosperm Development without Double Fertilization 175
 - 8.1.2 Parental Gene Dosage in Endosperm Development 176
- 8.2 Genetics and Molecular Biology of the Cereal Endosperm 178
 - 8.2.1 Embryo-surrounding Region and Transfer Layer 178
 - 8.2.2 Aleurone Cells and Starchy Endosperm 180
- 8.3 Concluding Comments 182
- References 182

9 Non-zygotic Embryo Development – Embryogenesis without Sex

- 9.1 Apomixis 188
 - 9.1.1 Case Studies of Diplosporous and Aposporous Apomicts 189
 - 9.1.2 Adventive Embryogenesis 190
 - 9.1.3 Molecular Genetics of Apomixis 192
- 9.2 Somatic Embryogenesis 192
 - 9.2.1 A History of the Recent Past 192
 - 9.2.2 Somatic Embryogenesis in Carrot and other Model Systems 194
 - 9.2.3 Embryonic Proteins and Regulation of Gene Expression 199
- 9.3 Pollen Embryogenesis 200
 - 9.3.1 Responsive Stage of Pollen Development and Pollen Embryogenic Potential 201
 - 9.3.2 Cytology of Pollen Embryogenesis 203
 - 9.3.3 Molecular Biology of Pollen Embryogenesis 204
- 9.4 Concluding Comments 205
- References 206

Color Plates 213

Index 229