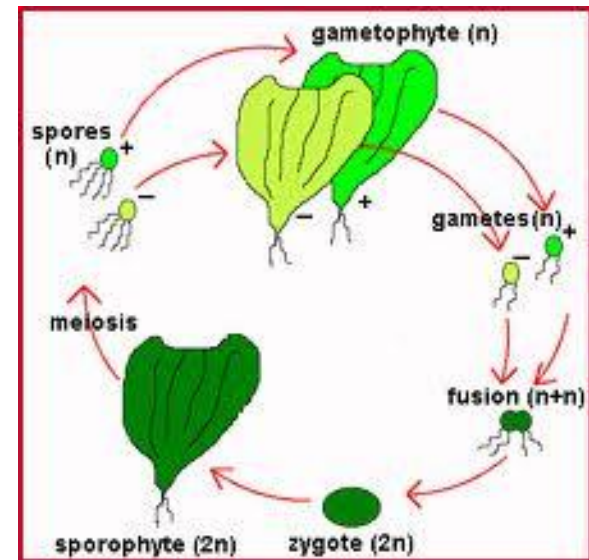


Benefits & Problems for Aquatic Plants  
&  
Ecological Roles

# Benefits of living in water:

- Won't dry out
- Water provides support for the plant
- Provides nutrients
- Helps disperse spores
- Helps gametes meet



## Problem with living in water

- **No** conductive tissue
- **No** true roots, stems, or leaves
- They must be thin to absorb nutrients & water through leaf-like structures



# Ecological roles / Uses of algae

- Food source
- Supply oxygen to earth – phytoplankton
- Gelatin for pie filling
- Used to make agar plates (to study bacteria). *It gels the nutrient substrate together*
- Home & protection for animals.
- Agar – ice cream
- Fertilizer for gardens
- Part of lichens!

