

Egg (Types) (Karl von Bayer) (1897)

- Study of ovum or egg is called oology.
- An egg or ovum is a female gamete, formed as a result of oogenesis in the germinal epithelium of the ovary.
- Each ovum is spherical or oval and non-motile.
- It contains yolk to nourish the developing embryo.

Types of Eggs.

Eggs of animals are of different kinds. On the basis of amount of yolk present these may be of following types.

- ① Alecithal type - In which the ovum contains almost no yolk. Ex. Marsupials & Eutherian mammals.
 - ② Microlecithal type (Oligolecithal type) - Egg contains small amount of yolk. Ex. Sea urchin, Branchiostoma.
 - ③ Mesolecithal type; Egg contains moderate amount of yolk. Ex. Lung fish, frog, toads, etc.
 - ④ Megallecithal type (Macrolecithal or Polylecithal) - that type - Egg contains huge amount of yolk. Ex. Sharks, Bony fishes, reptiles, etc.
- Again on the basis of distribution of yolk, can recognise the following types of eggs.
- ① Homolecithal (Isolecithal) - Egg in which yolk is evenly distributed. This is found in - Alecithal & Microlecithal eggs.

- ② Telolecithal. - Eggs are those in which most of the yolk lie near the vegetal pole. Cytoplasm & nucleus lie near the Animal pole. Such condition is found in Mesolecithal & Oolecithal types of eggs.
- In some cases as in insects centrally placed yolk is surrounded by thin cytoplasm. So such eggs are also called Centrolecithal.
 - In chick the huge amount of yolk occupies the entire ovum but cytoplasm & nucleus lie in the Animal pole. This condition may be referred as Highly Telolecithal.

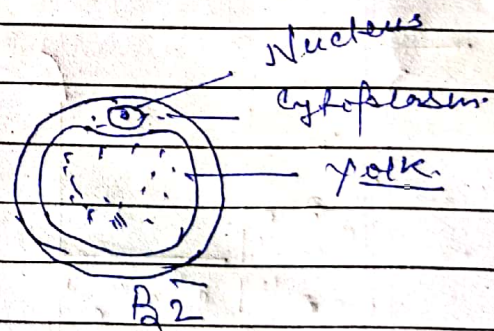
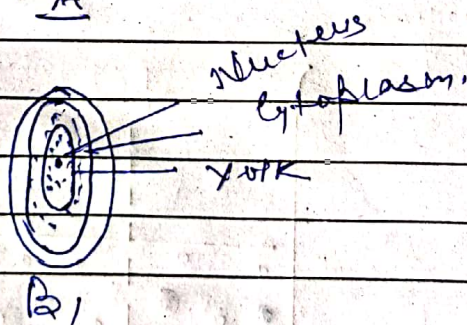
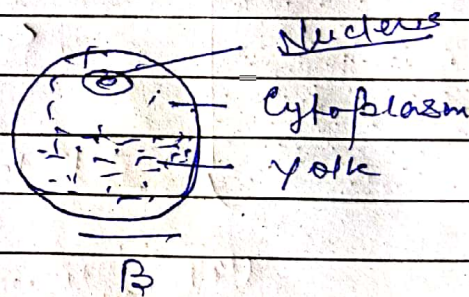
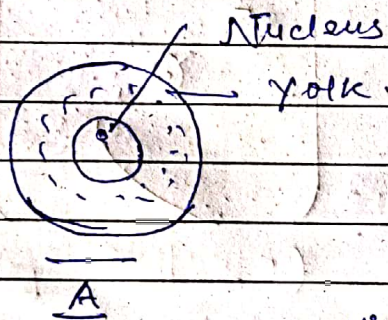


Fig - Types of Eggs, OVA.
 A = Homolecithal, B = Telolecithal, B1 = centrolecithal, B2 = highly Telolecithal.