

ELATEROPHORE

DEFINITION → The group of elaters present attached to the capsule wall has been called as Elaterophore.

OCCURRENCE → The presence of elaterophore has been reported in the sporophyte of Pellia, Riccardia and other members.

STRUCTURE OF THE ELATEROPHORE → The elaterophore consists of a number of elaters. They remain attached of the base or apex of the capsule wall.

In Pellia, the elaterophore are basal they develop from the cells of endothecium. The archesporium develop from the endothecium and quite early there is a differentiation of a mass of larger sterile cells and the base of the capsule. These cells develop spiral bands on there walls and forms the elaterophore.

In Riccardia the elaterophore are located at the tip of the mature sporangium.

FUNCTION → The elaterophore shows twisting movement and help in dispersal of spores.

