

Female Cone (Ovulate Cone) of *Pinus* (Specimen or Slide)

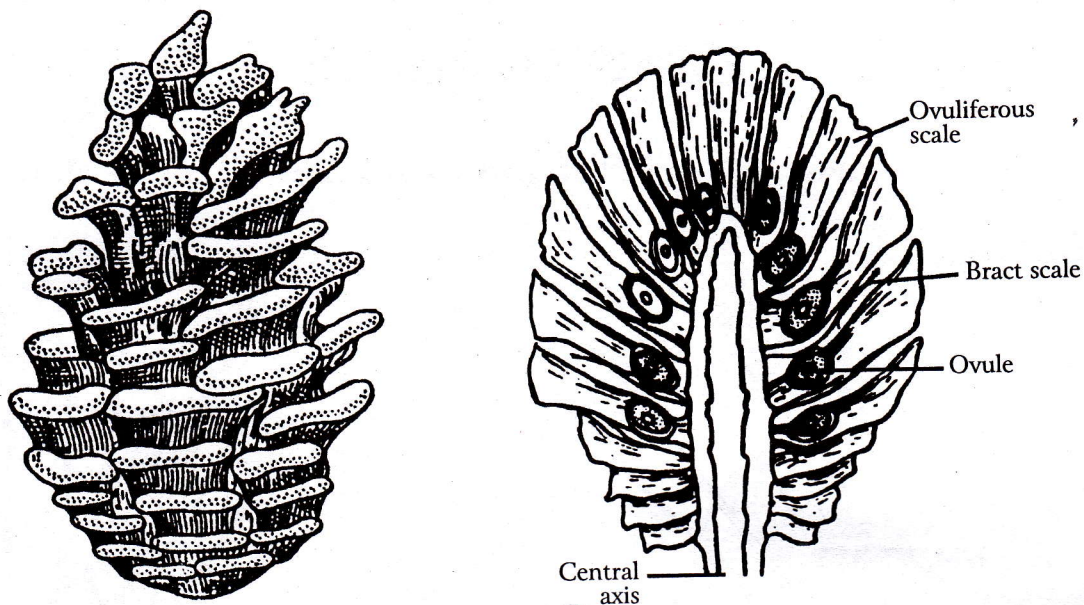


Fig. 28: *Pinus* – Ovulate (Female) Cone

1. The female cone of *Pinus* is a woody conical structure and much larger than the male cone.
2. It consists of a central axis, from which many paired scales are produced, called **megasporophylls**. They are spirally arranged.
3. The scales are of two types, the upper larger woody scale is called **ovuliferous scale** and smaller lower scale is called **bract scale** or **carpellary scale**.
4. On the inner side of each ovuliferous scale two **ovules** or **megasporangia** are developed.
5. In the megasporangium a single megaspore is produced, which develops into female gametophyte.