Chapter 11.1: The work of Gregor Mendel



Gregor Mendel (1822-1884):

an Austrian monk who studied heredity in plants. The father of modern genetics!



GREGOR MENDEL





Fertilization: during sexual reproduction, male and female reproductive cells join to form a new individual.



<u>Trait</u>: a specific characteristic that varies from one individual to another.



Mendel's first conclusion:

 biological inheritance is determined by factors (genes) that are passed from parents to offspring.



Genes: heritable traits

<u>Alleles</u>: different forms of a gene, (*typically represented as a letter*)

F₁

Blossom color B= purple allele b= white allele

Mendel's 2nd conclusion:

The principle of dominance:

- some alleles are dominant and others are recessive.
- Dominant alleles will be expressed over recessive alleles.
- Recessive alleles will only show if no dominant allele is present.



Hybrids: offspring crosses between parents with different traits



When only dominant alleles are expressed in the offspring, do all the recessive alleles disappear?



If Mendel were to cross two flowers of the F₁ generation, would any of the next F₂ generation show the recessive trait? (white blossoms)

Punnett square: a diagram used to predict and compare the genetic variations that will result from a cross.

EGGS



Reginald Crundall Punnett

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Roughly a quarter of the F_2 generation showed recessive traits!



