



Identification Features of Fabaceae & Application to Selected Species

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Jennifer Neudorf, SSTS, CFIA



Canada

Learning objectives for this course

1. Become familiar with the structures and features of the Fabaceae family that analysts use to gather information about their identity.
2. Know how to apply botany knowledge to distinguish selected species.

Introduction to *Fabaceae*

Photo by: Sdecosta; <https://shovelingwithsamantha.wordpress.com/2015/01/13/raising-alfalfa-seed-part-1-the-difference/>



Photo from: J&L Candles



Photo from: Barry Tilman, University of Florida



JonathonVanBuren@gmail.com

The Three Subfamilies of *Fabaceae*: *Mimosoideae*

Photo from: Wikimedia commons

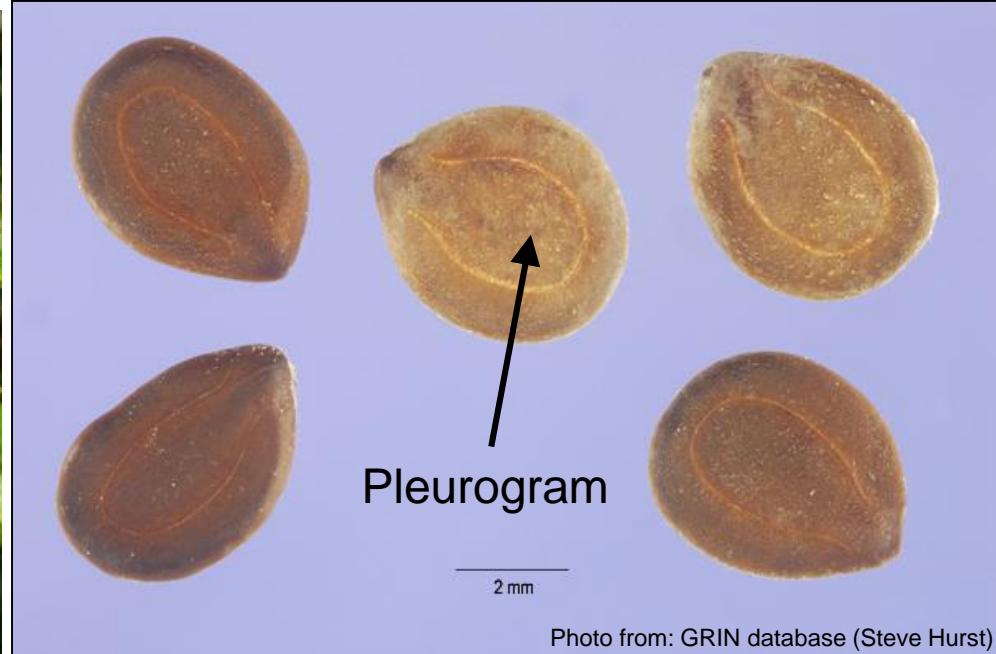
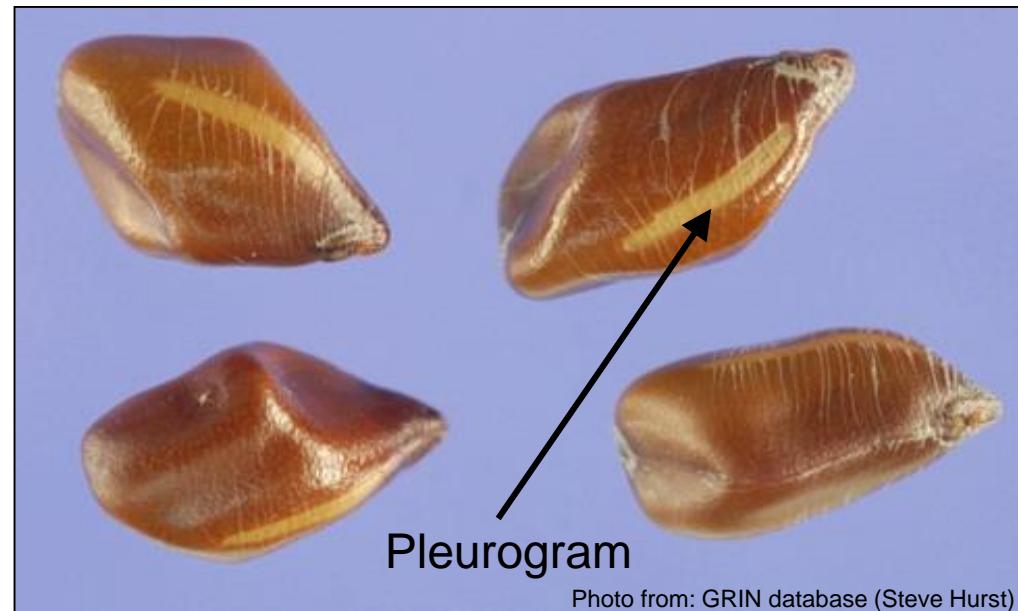


Photo from: GRIN database (Steve Hurst)

The Three Subfamilies of *Fabaceae*:

Caesalpinoideae



The Three Subfamilies of *Fabaceae*:

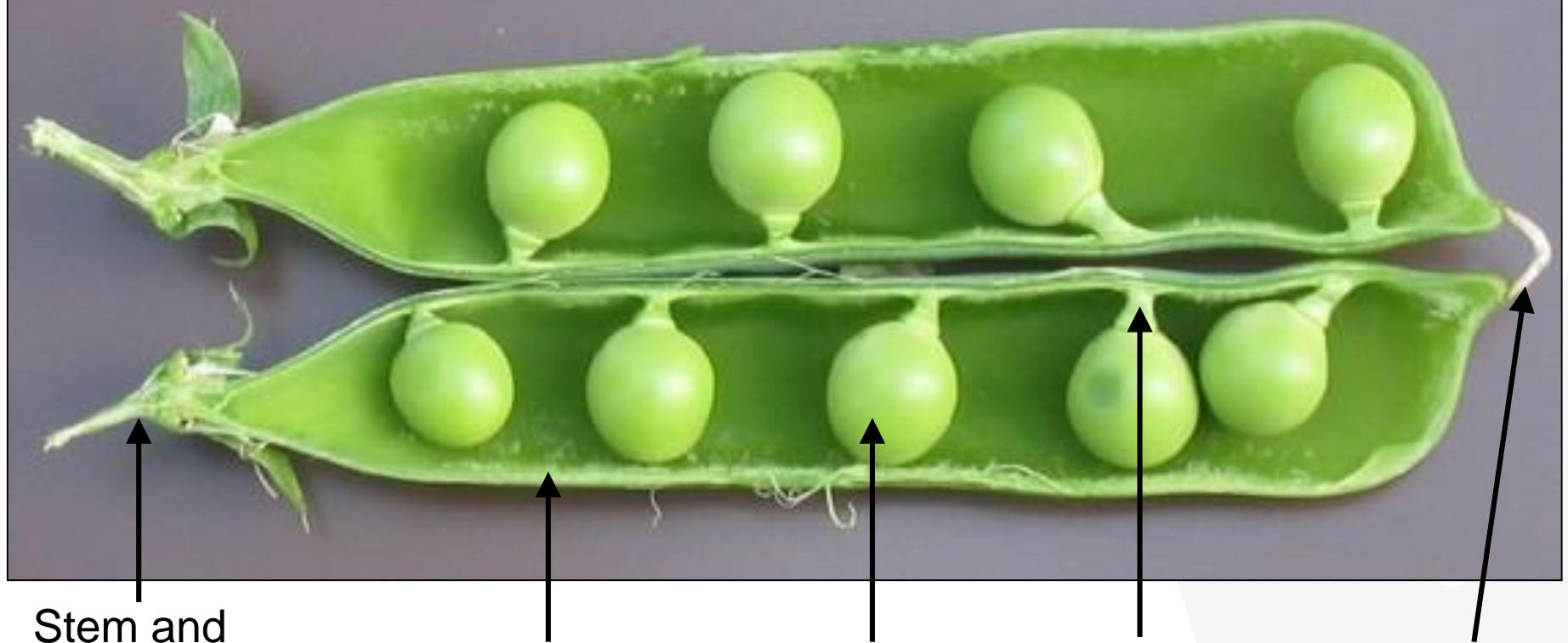
Faboideae

Photo from: Wikimedia commons



Fabaceae Legume and Seeds

Photo from: Centre for Integrative Legume Research, University of Queensland



Stem and
flower
remnant

Fruit /
Ovary Wall

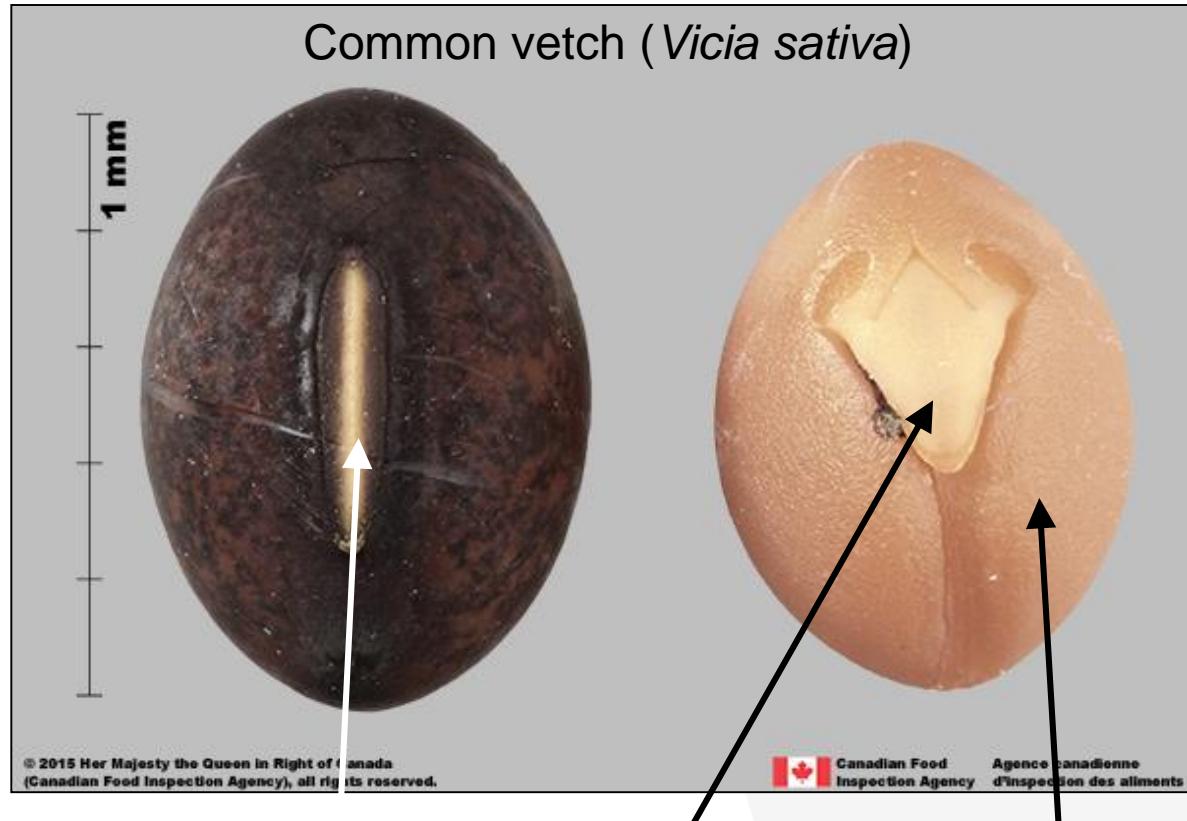
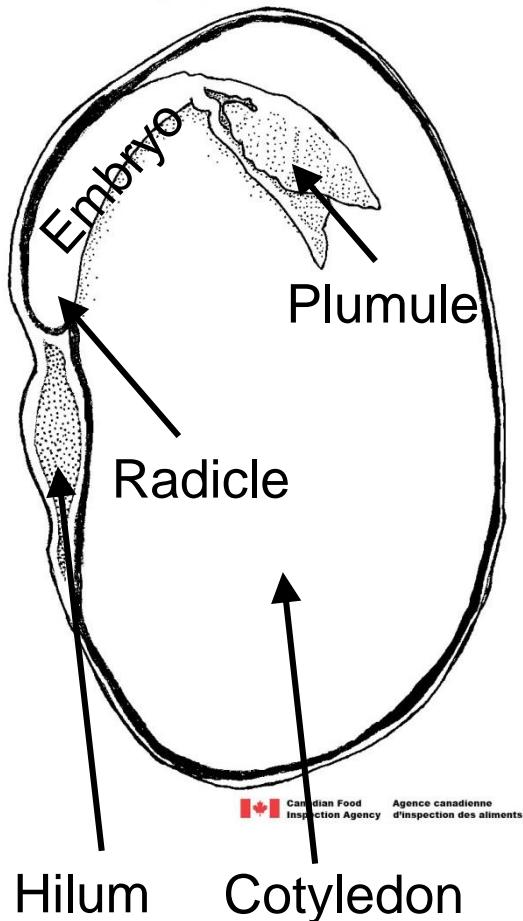
Seed

Funiculus

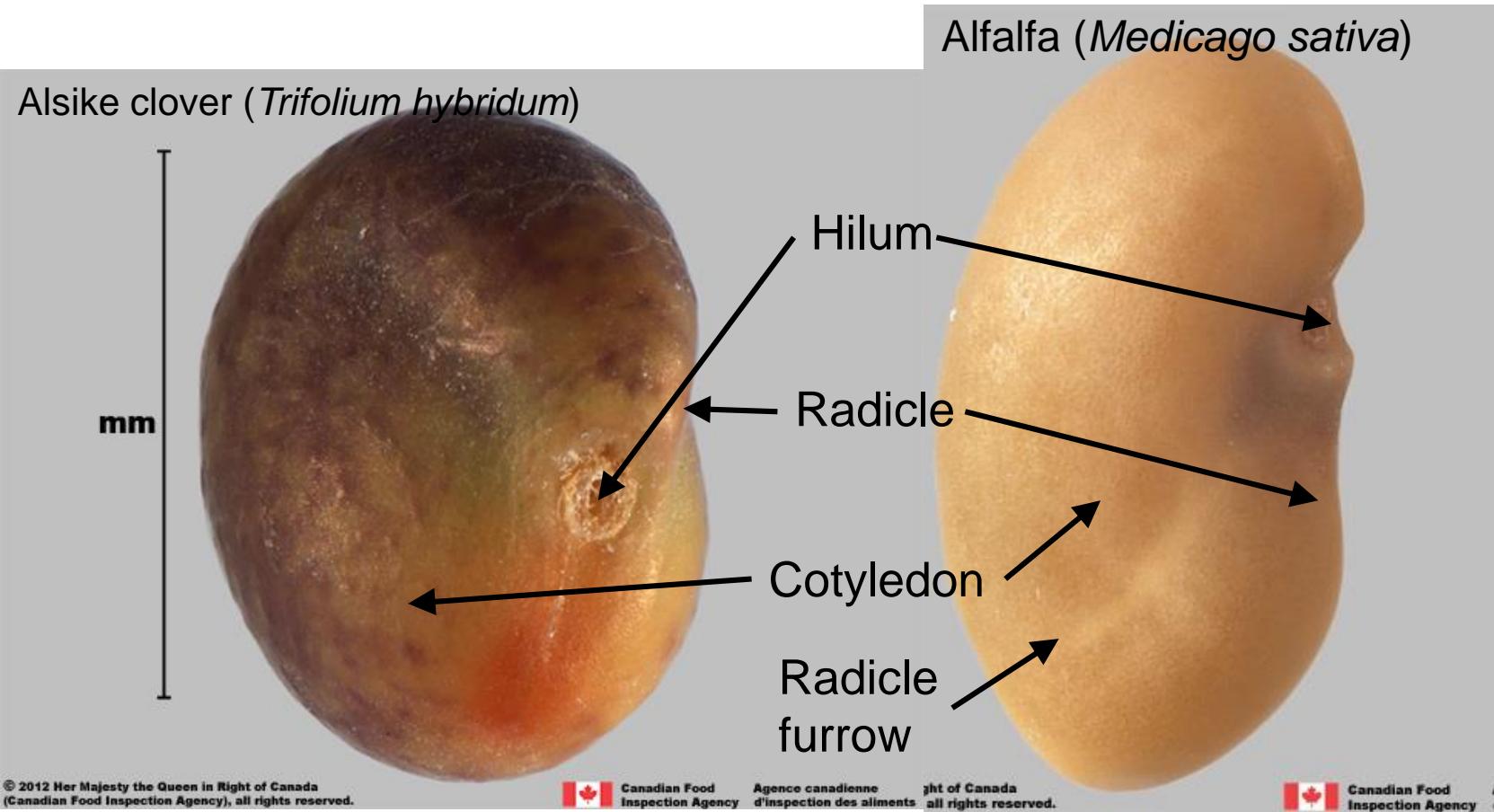
Style
Remnant

Fabaceae Seed Anatomy

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Fabaceae Seed Anatomy



Fabaceae Seed Identification Features: Shape and Quiz #1

(Find the radicle, cotyledons and hilum)



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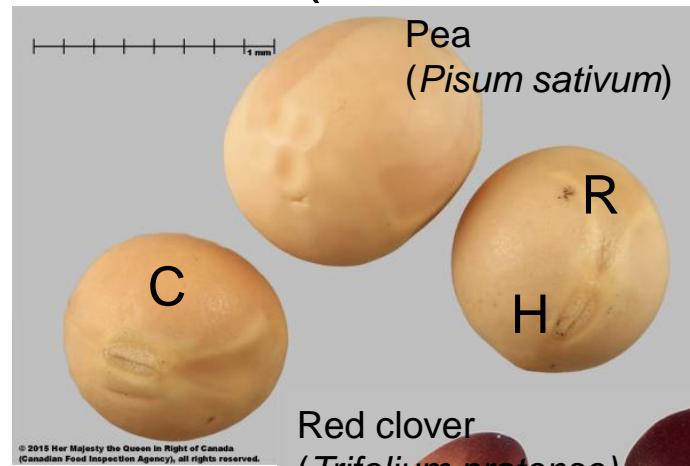


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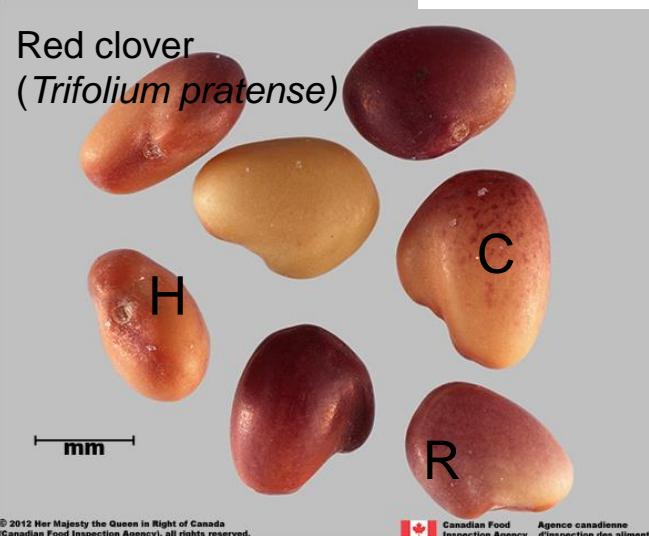
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Fabaceae Seed Identification Features: Shape and Quiz #1

(Find the radicle, cotyledons and hilum)

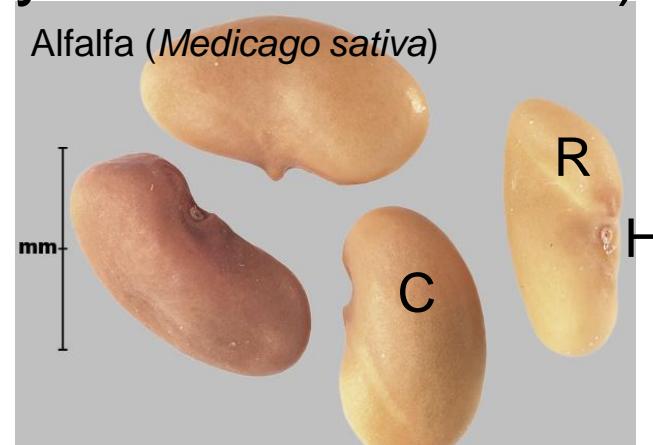


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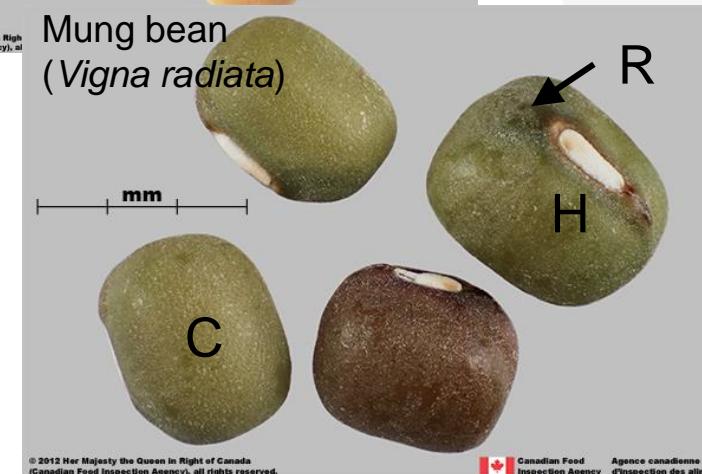


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Fabaceae Seed Identification Features: Colour + Pattern

Lentils
(*Lens culinaris*)



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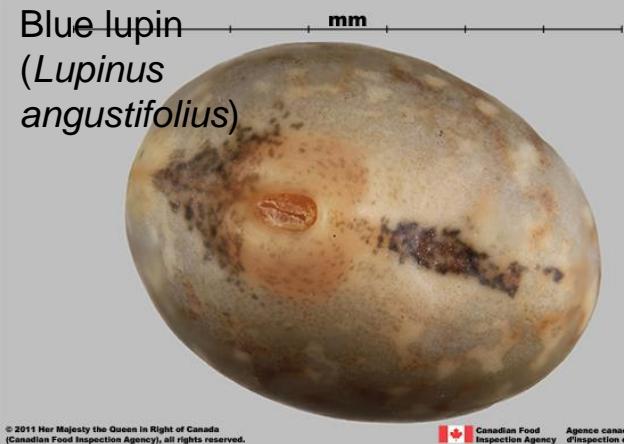
Lima bean
(*Phaseolus lunatus*)



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Blue lupin
(*Lupinus angustifolius*)



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Fabaceae Seed Identification Features: Colour Changes

Black medick (*Medicago lupulina*)



Fresh seeds

Older seeds

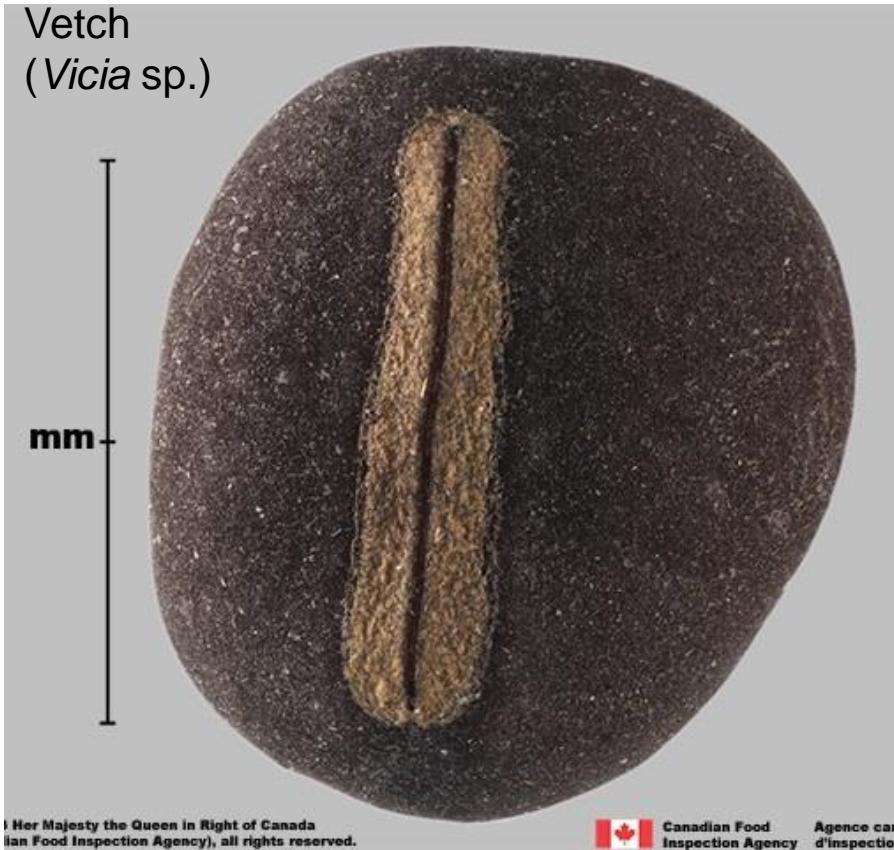


Fabaceae Seed Identification Features: Colour Changes

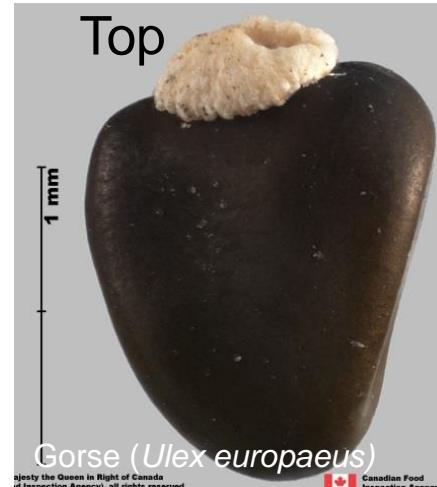


Fabaceae Seed Identification Features: Hilum and Position

Vetch
(*Vicia* sp.)



Top



Near top



Side



Fabaceae Seed Identification Features: Hilum Shape and Size

Greater trefoil
(*Lotus uliginosus*)



Round hilum

Mung bean
(*Vigna radiata*)



Short oval hilum

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Flat pea
(*Lathyrus sylvestris*)



Long oval hilum

Fabaceae Seed Identification

Features: Hilum Aril

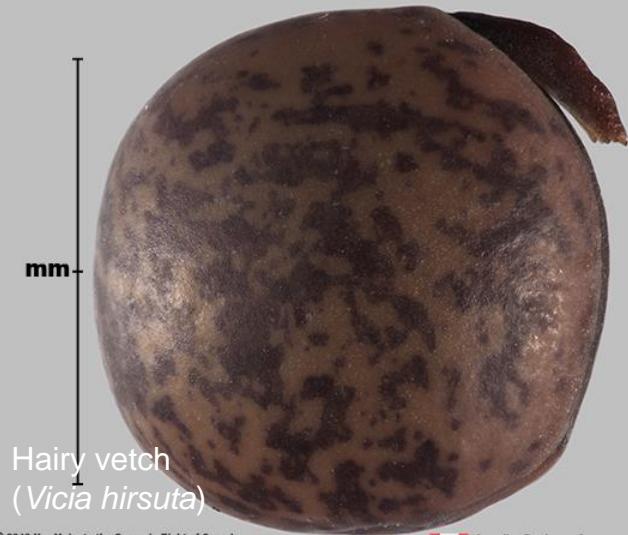
Snap bean
(*Vigna unguiculatus*)



Common lespedeza
(*Kummerowia striata*)



Gorse
(*Ulex europaeus*)



Hairy vetch
(*Vicia hirsuta*)

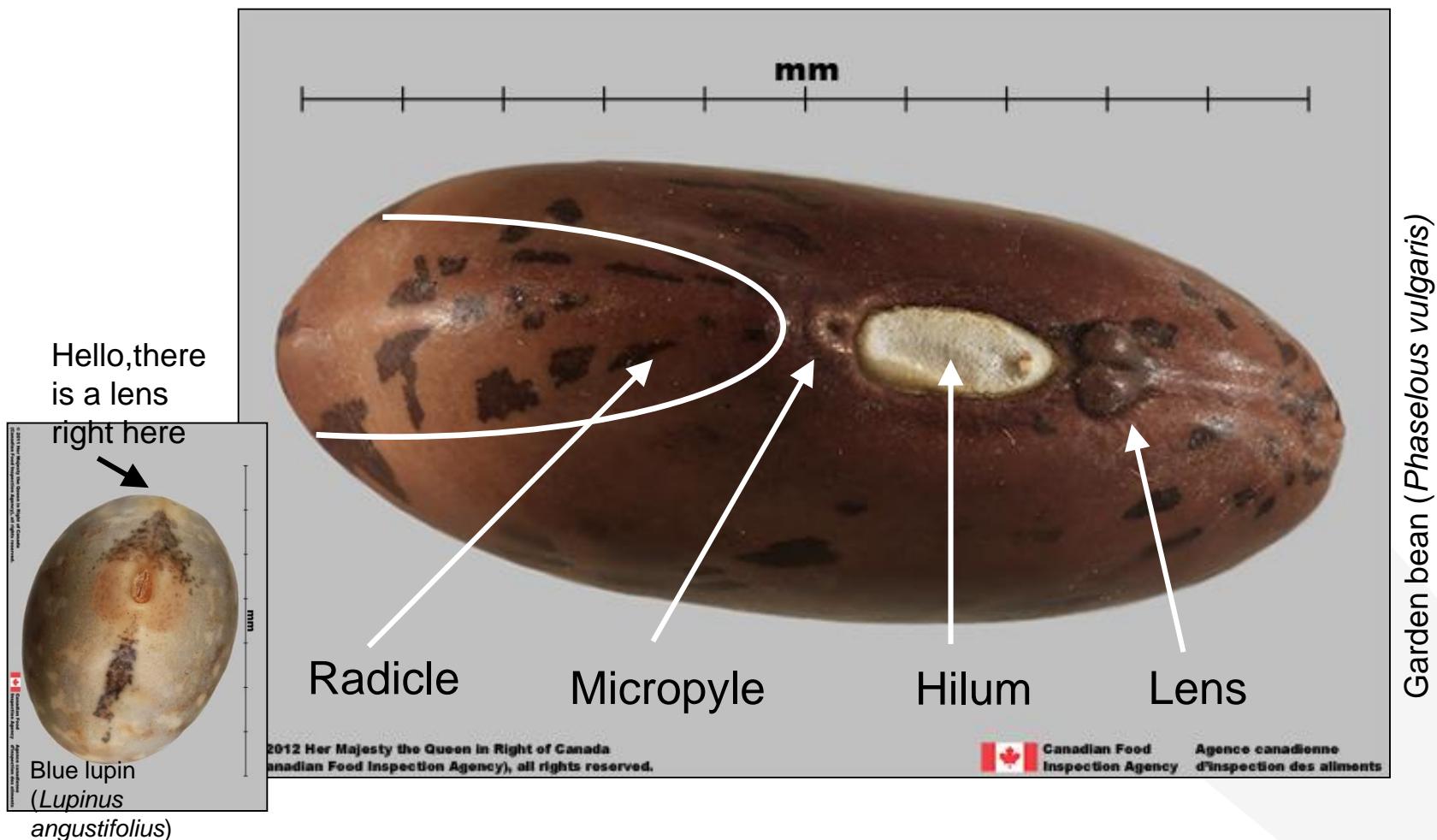
Not an aril



Lupine
(*Lupinus albus*)

Fabaceae Seed Identification

Features: Associated with Hilum



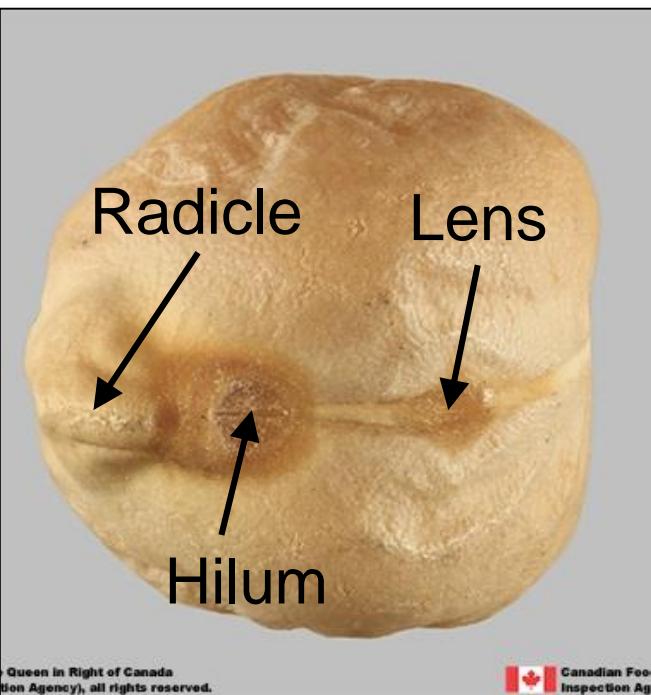
Fabaceae Seed Hilum Features:

Quiz #2: Find the hilum, radicle and lens

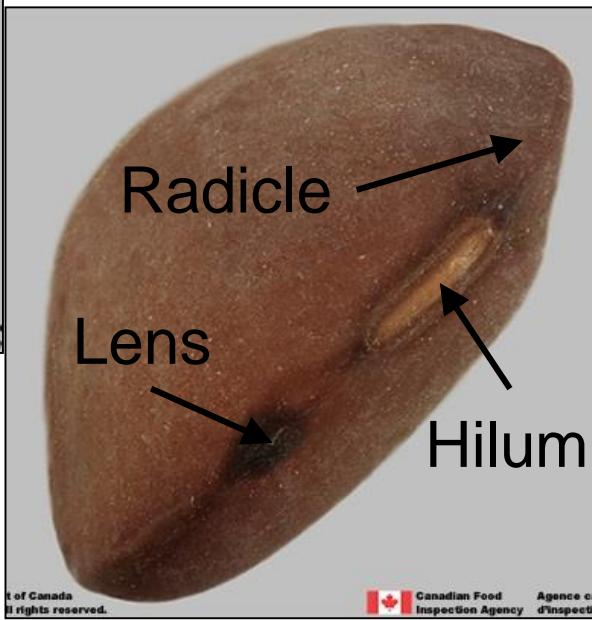


Fabaceae Seed Hilum Features:

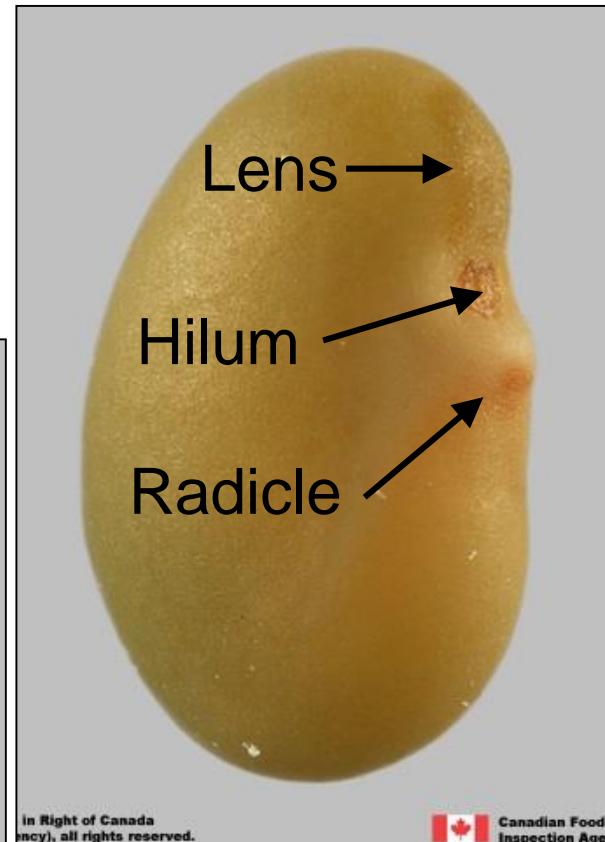
Quiz #2: Find the hilum, radicle and lens



Chickpea
(*Cicer arietinum*)

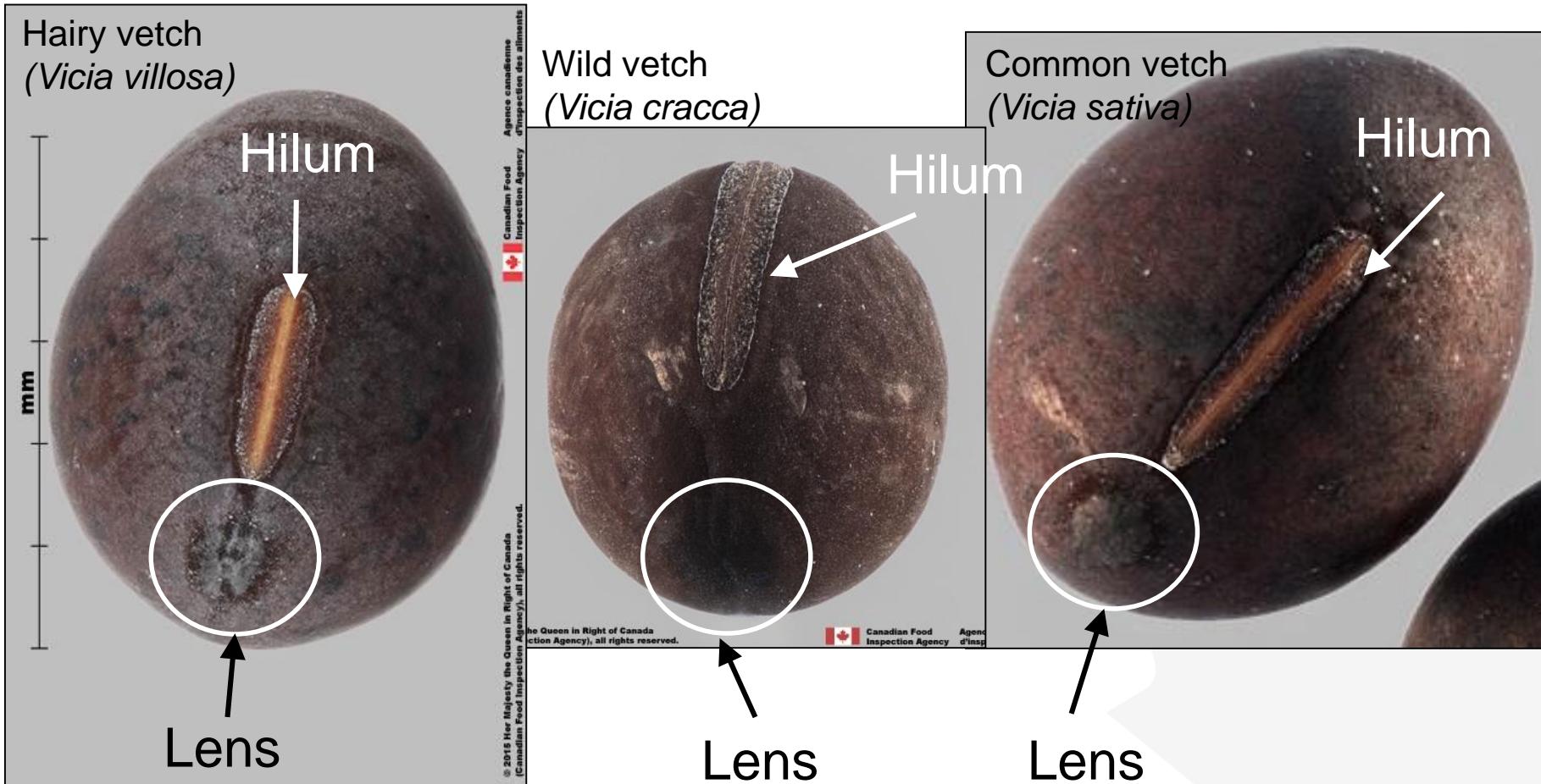


Lentil
(*Lens culinaris*)

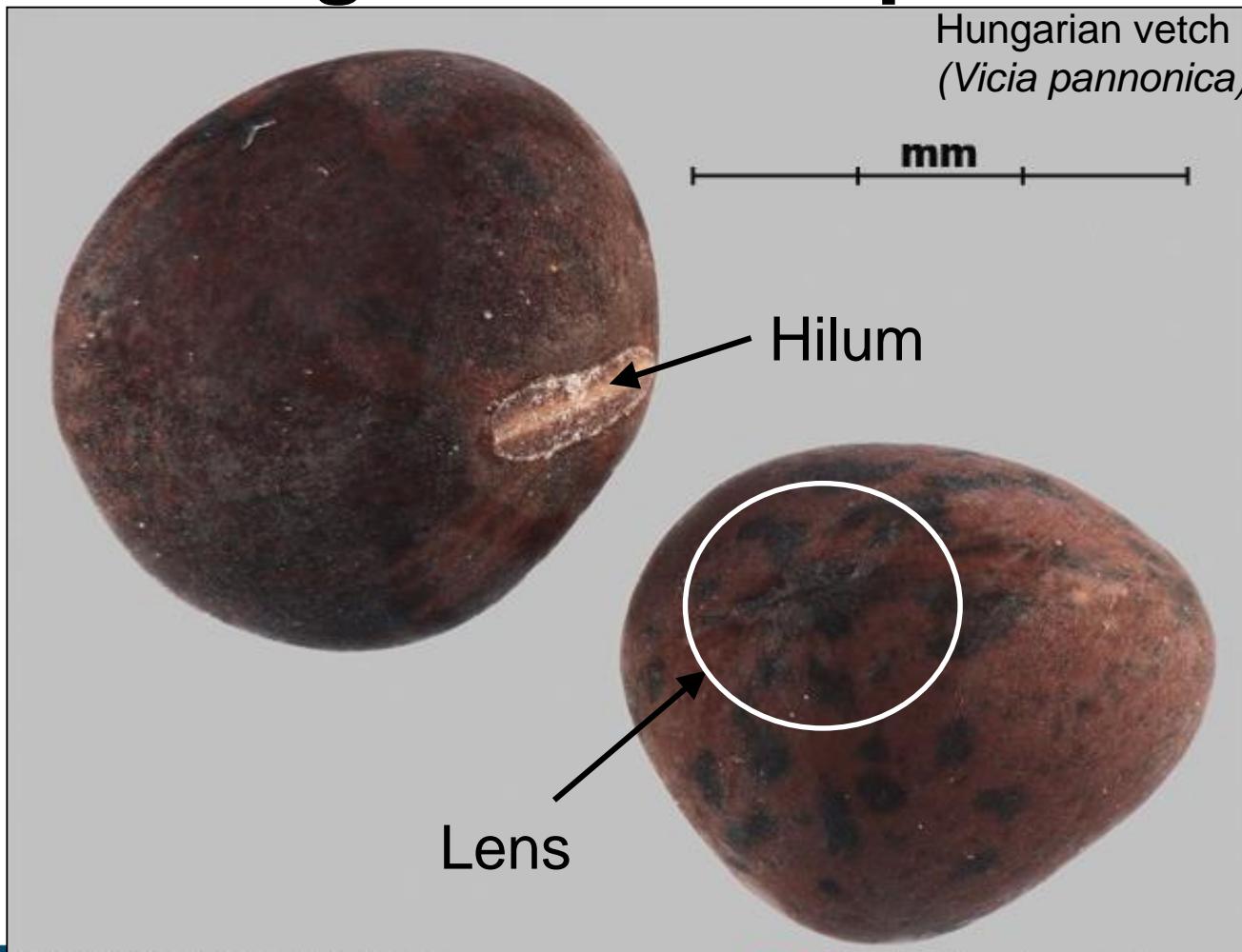


Black medick
(*Medicago lupulina*)

Using the Hilum and Lens to Distinguish *Vicia* Species



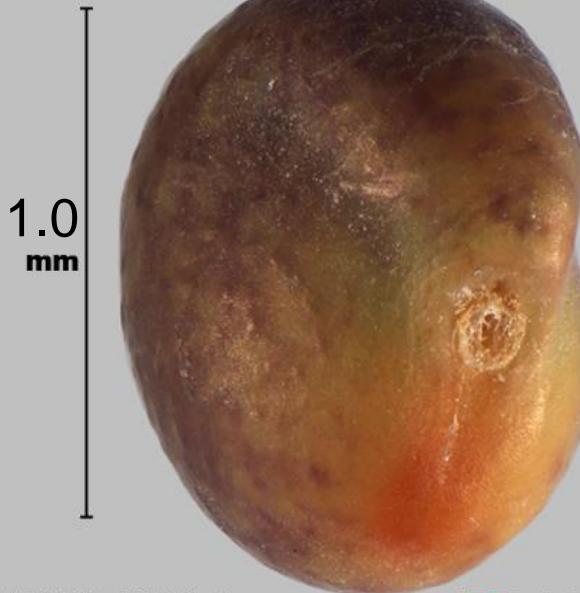
Using the Hilum and Lens to Distinguish *Vicia* Species



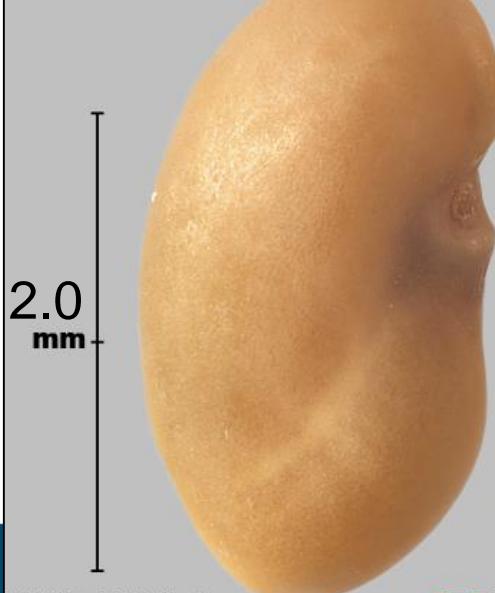
Fabaceae Quiz #3

1. What is the unique fruit of the Fabaceae called?
2. Find the cotyledons (C), radicle (R), radicle furrow (RF), hilum (H) and lens (L).
3. Which features of these seeds are similar, and which are different (how can you tell these seeds apart)?

Alsike clover (*Trifolium hybridum*)



Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*)



Fabaceae Quiz #3

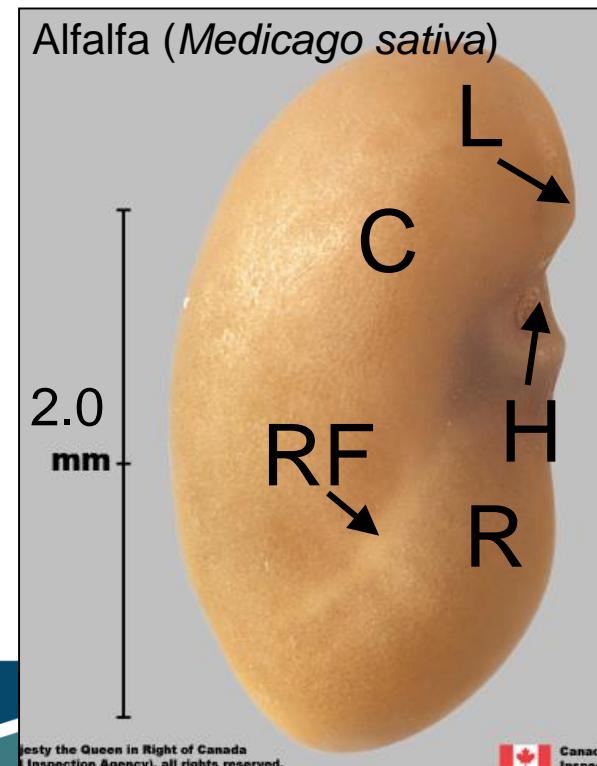
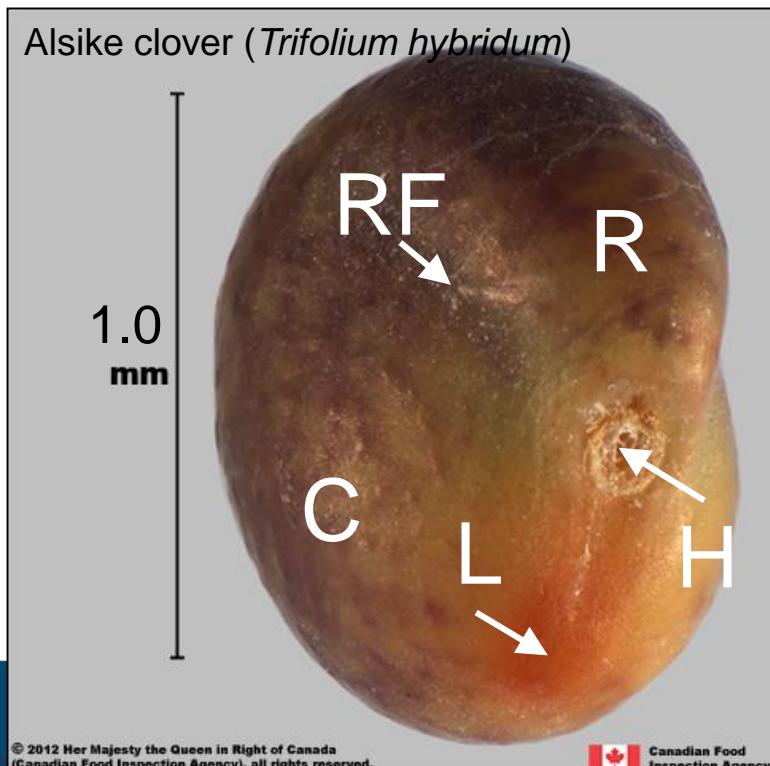
1. What is the unique fruit of the Fabaceae called? **Legume**
2. Find these features: cotyledons (C), radicle (R), radicle furrow (RF), hilum (H) and lens (L).
3. Which features of these seeds are similar, and which are different (how can you tell these seeds apart)?

Similar features:

- Round hilum
- Large radicle lobe

Differences:

- Alfalfa longer
- Different shape
- Different colour + pattern
- Lens stands out in the clover



Thank you!

Acknowledgements:

Seeds for imaging: National Seed Herbarium

Questions/comments send to:

SSTS@inspection.gc.ca

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