



SUMMARY

Broadly, the term fruit botanically refers to the mature ovary of a plant, including its seeds, covering and any closely connected tissue. The fruit is the developed ripened ovary or ovaries of a single flower. It may include other parts of the same flower which are also modified in nature and ripen with the ovary. It may also develop from the whole inflorescence. It functions to protect the seeds and ensure their distribution for propagation. Fruits are produced only by flowering plants (angiosperms). As related to food, fruit refers to the edible part of a plant that consists of the seeds and surrounding tissues. This includes fleshy fruits (such as blueberries, cantaloupe, peach, pumpkin, tomato and dry fruits, where the ripened ovary wall becomes papery, leathery, or woody as with cereal grains, pulses (mature beans and peas) and nuts.