

The Floral Anatomy of the Avocado

Philip C. Reece

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SUMMARY

This study of the floral anatomy of **Persea Americana** reveals that this species is clearly a specialized form derived from a primitive angiosperm stock and that the perianth consists of a three-parted calyx and a three-parted corolla. The anatomy does not support the interpretation that the perianth consists of a six-parted calyx or that the corolla is absent.

The vascular anatomy of the stamen indicates that it has been derived by reduction from a branch system. Vertical compression has resulted in the fusion of the vascular supply of the main limb or rachis of this branch system to the bundles supplying the perianth.

(Editor's Note: This is a very excellent but highly technical publication illustrated with ten figures. We reproduce the Summary only. Students and research workers have access to the original publication. One very interesting conclusion of the author is that: "All the cultivated varieties of avocados belong to the single species, Persea Americana Mill.")