

Name _____

Exploring Reproduction in Woody Plants

Short Answer Key

1. Seed reproduction in woody plants involves the development of seeds from fertilized ovules within flowers or cones.
2. Vegetative reproduction refers to the generation of new plants from existing vegetative structures, such as stems, roots, or leaves. Examples include root suckers, stolons, rhizomes, cuttings, and layering.
3. Seeds are dispersed by various methods such as wind, water, animals, or gravity, which allows for the colonization of new habitats and reduces competition among offspring.
4. The advantages of vegetative reproduction include rapid colonization of new habitats and the preservation of desirable traits. However, it may lead to reduced genetic diversity and increased susceptibility to environmental stressors compared to seed reproduction.
5. Genetic diversity ensures the long-term survival of woody plant populations by providing resilience against changing environmental conditions and increasing the chances of adapting to new challenges.

