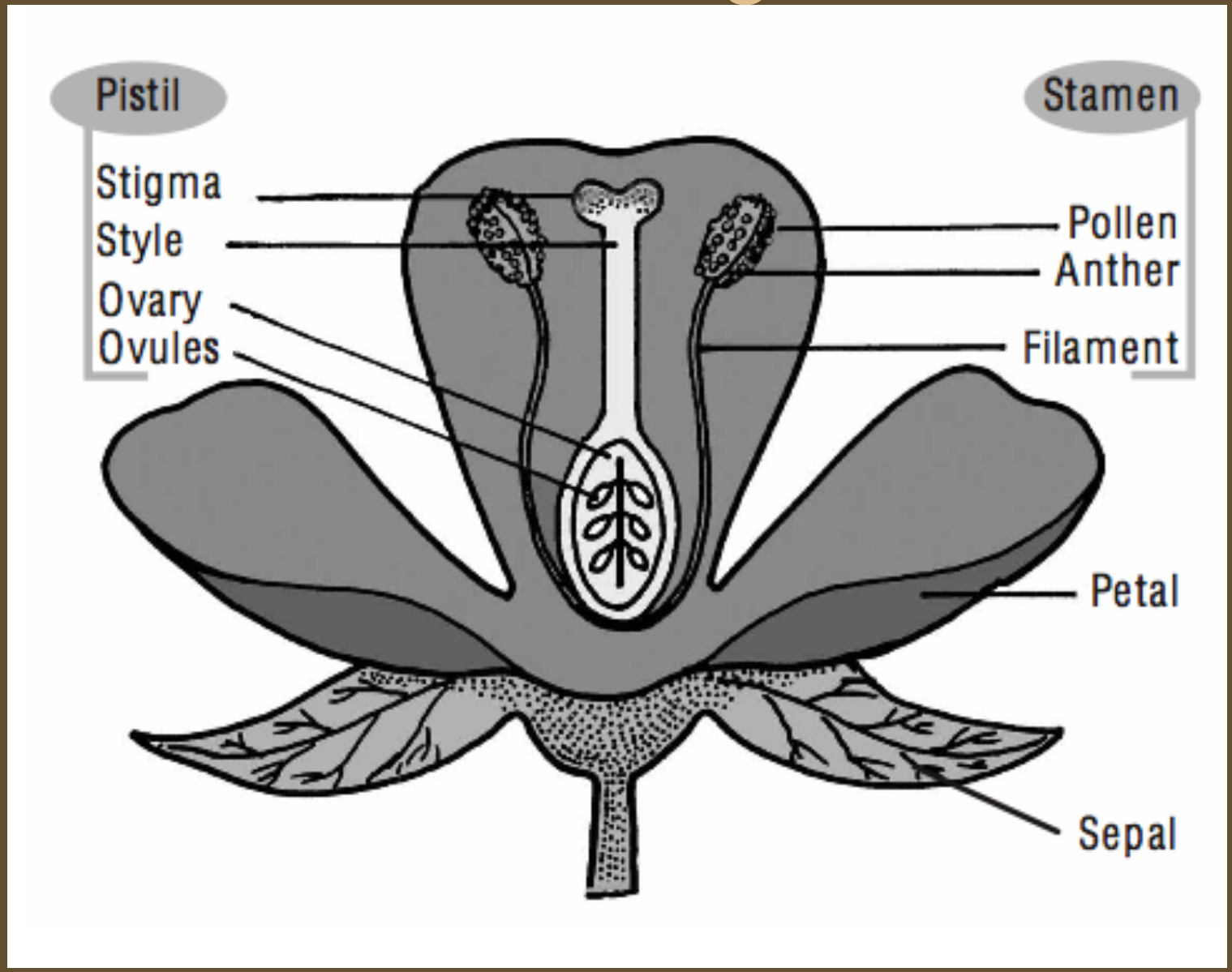
What's the buzz?

Learning pollinator syndromes in order to predict what will visit a flower

Flower diagram



What is a pollinator?

- Something that transfers pollen to a stigma resulting in fertilization

What pollinator groups can you think of?

- Bees
- Birds (hummingbird)
- Butterflies
- Bats
- Beetles
- Flies
- Moths

Pollination syndromes

- Pollination syndromes are suites of traits that typically attract a certain type of pollinator
- Traits include color, shape, smell, rewards (nectar/pollen/oils), and time of day when blooming.

Bees

- Purple/blue and yellow
- Nectar guides
- Scent doesn't matter
- Flat open flowers or non-radially symmetric
- Pollen or nectar rewards

Photo: ownyourhealth.files.wordpress.com

Birds

- Red
- Scentless
- Tube shaped
- Nectar reward
- Reproductive parts exserted outside the petals

Butterflies

- Pink, orange, and lavender
- Scented
- Flat landing area
- Nectar reward
- Narrow tubes/spurs

Bats

- White
- Strong scent
- Trumpet shaped
- Nectar reward
- Blooms at night

Beetles

- Greenish and off-white
- Heavily scented
- Dish shaped
- Lots of pollen and plants parts to feed beetles

Photo: www.floracyberia.net

Flies

- Brown and mottled
- Smelly

Moths

- Light colored
- Scented
- Narrow tube
- Nectar reward
- Blooms in the evening/night