

# RAPHIDES

*Meaning: Raphides are needle-shaped crystals found in some plants that deter herbivores and can influence the texture and taste of certain fruits.*

1. Raphides are needle-like structures found in many plants that serve as a defense mechanism against herbivores.
2. The presence of raphides in certain fruits can contribute to their gritty texture and may affect their palatability.
3. Researchers are studying the role of raphides in calcium oxalate crystal formation within various plant species.
4. Some gardeners avoid planting species with raphides due to the potential irritation they can cause upon handling.
5. In botany, the study of raphides provides insights into the evolutionary adaptations of plants to their environments.

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