

A Survey of Plant Hormones

The major plant hormones include

- Auxin
- Cytokinins
- Gibberellins
- Abscisic acid
- Ethylene
- Brassinosteroids
- Jasmonates



Table 39.1

Hormone	Where Produced or Found in Plant	Major Functions
Auxin (IAA)	Shoot apical meristems and young leaves are the primary sites of auxin synthesis. Root apical meristems also pro- duce auxin, although the root depends on the shoot for much of its auxin. Developing seeds and fruits contain high levels of auxin, but it is unclear whether it is newly synthesized or transported from maternal tissues.	Stimulates stem elongation (low concentration only); promotes the formation of lateral and adventitious roots; regulates development of fruit; enhances apical domi- nance; functions in phototropism and gravitropism; pro- motes vascular differentiation; retards leaf abscission
Cytokinins	These are synthesized primarily in roots and transported to other organs, although there are many minor sites of production as well.	Regulate cell division in shoots and roots; modify apical dominance and promote lateral bud growth; promote movement of nutrients into sink tissues; stimulate seed germination; delay leaf senescence
Gibberellins (GA)	Meristems of apical buds and roots, young leaves, and de- veloping seeds are the primary sites of production.	Stimulate stem elongation, pollen development, pollen tube growth, fruit growth, and seed development and germination; regulate sex determination and the transi- tion from juvenile to adult phases
Abscisic acid (ABA)	Almost all plant cells have the ability to synthesize abscisic acid, and its presence has been detected in every major organ and living tissue; it may be transported in the phloem or xylem.	Inhibits growth; promotes stomatal closure during drought stress; promotes seed dormancy and inhibits early germination; promotes leaf senescence; promotes desicca- tion tolerance
Ethylene	This gaseous hormone can be produced by most parts of the plant. It is produced in high concentrations during se- nescence, leaf abscission, and the ripening of some types of fruits. Synthesis is also stimulated by wounding and stress.	Promotes ripening of many types of fruit, leaf abscission, and the triple response in seedlings (inhibition of stem elongation, promotion of lateral expansion, and horizon- tal growth); enhances the rate of senescence; promotes root and root hair formation; promotes flowering in the pineapple family
Brassinosteroids	These compounds are present in all plant tissues, al- though different intermediates predominate in different organs. Internally produced brassinosteroids act near the site of synthesis.	Promote cell expansion and cell division in shoots; pro- mote root growth at low concentrations; inhibit root growth at high concentrations; promote xylem differen- tiation and inhibit phloem differentiation; promote seed germination and pollen tube elongation
Jasmonates	These are a small group of related molecules derived from the fatty acid linolenic acid. They are produced in several parts of the plant and travel in the phloem to other parts of the plant.	Regulate a wide variety of functions, including fruit ripen- ing, floral development, pollen production, tendril coiling root growth, seed germination, and nectar secretion; also produced in response to herbivory and pathogen invasion
Strigolactones	These carotenoid-derived hormones and extracellular sig- nals are produced in roots in response to low phosphate conditions or high auxin flow from the shoot.	Promote seed germination, control of apical dominance, and the attraction of mycorrhizal fungi to the root

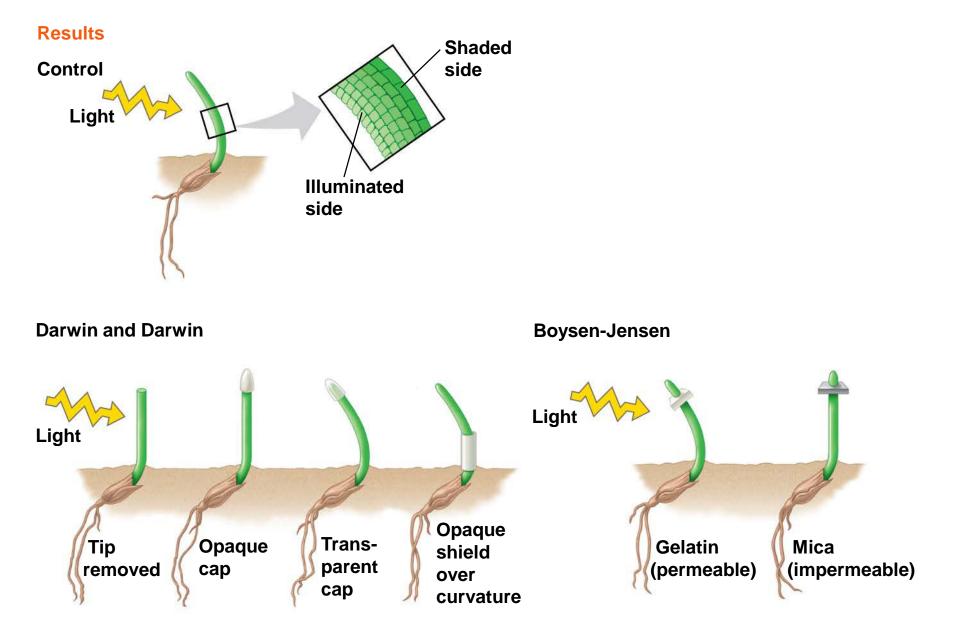
Table 39.1 Overview of Plant Hormones

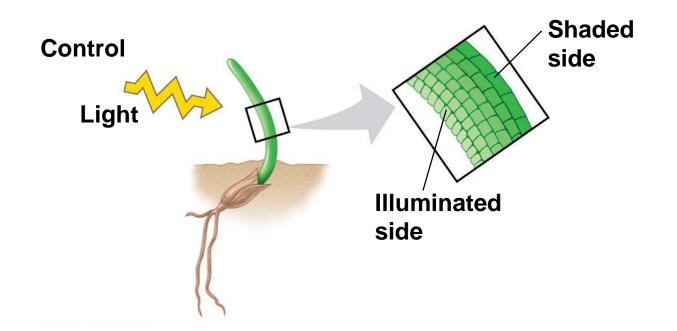
Auxin

- Any response resulting in curvature of organs toward or away from a stimulus is called a tropism
- In the late 1800s, Charles Darwin and his son Francis conducted experiments on phototropism, a plant's response to light
- They observed that a grass seedling could bend toward light only if the tip of the coleoptile was present

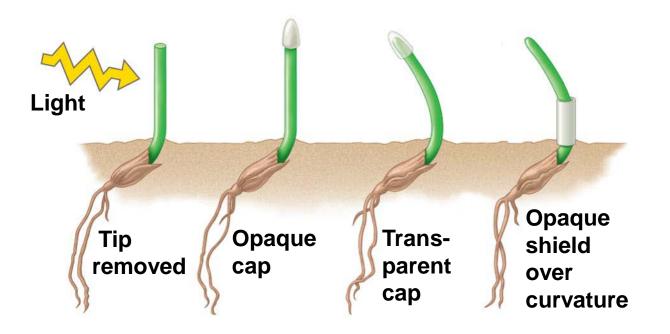
- They postulated that a signal was transmitted from the tip to the elongating region
- In 1913, Peter Boysen-Jensen demonstrated that the signal was a mobile chemical substance

Figure 39.5

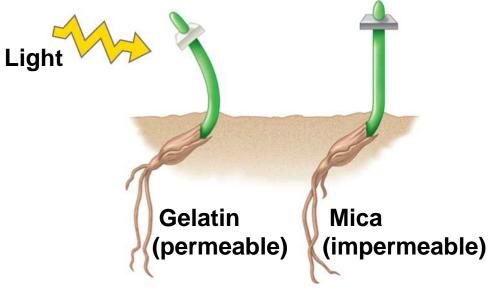




Darwin and Darwin



Boysen-Jensen

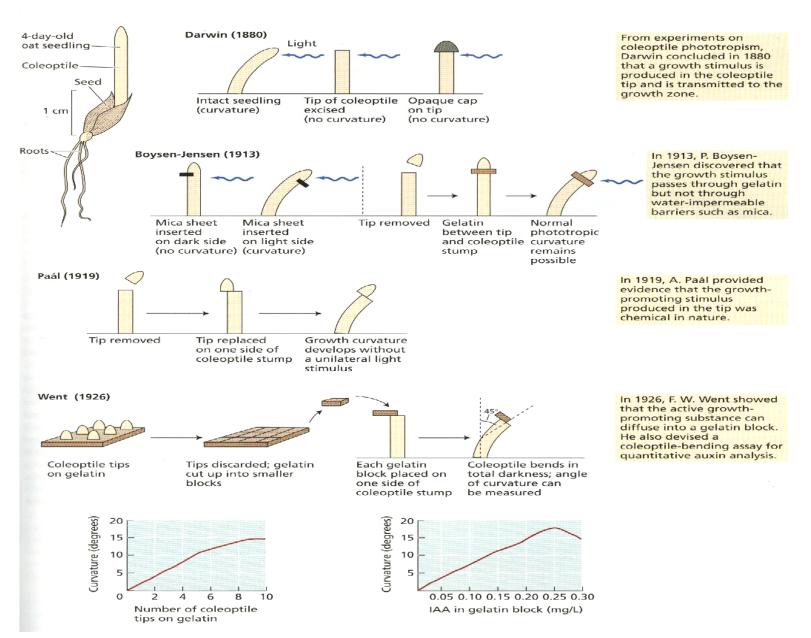


Video: Phototropism

Phototropism in the Mung bean (Vigna radiata)

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Auxin



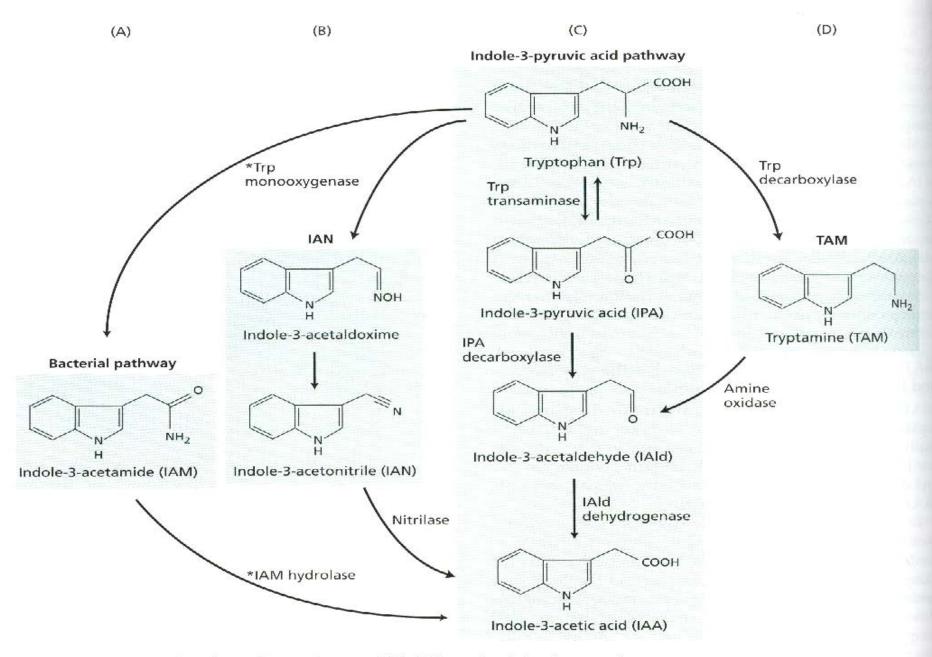
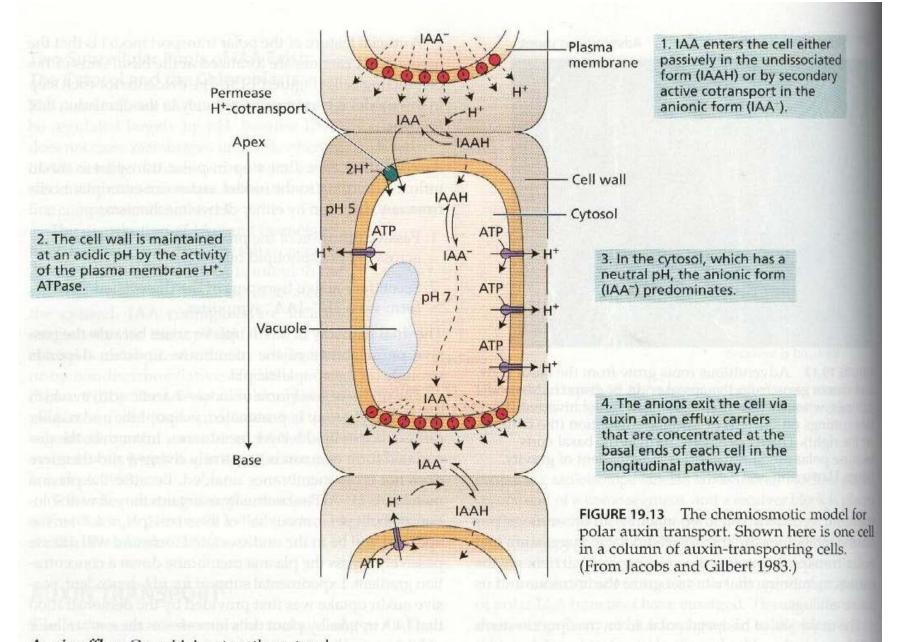
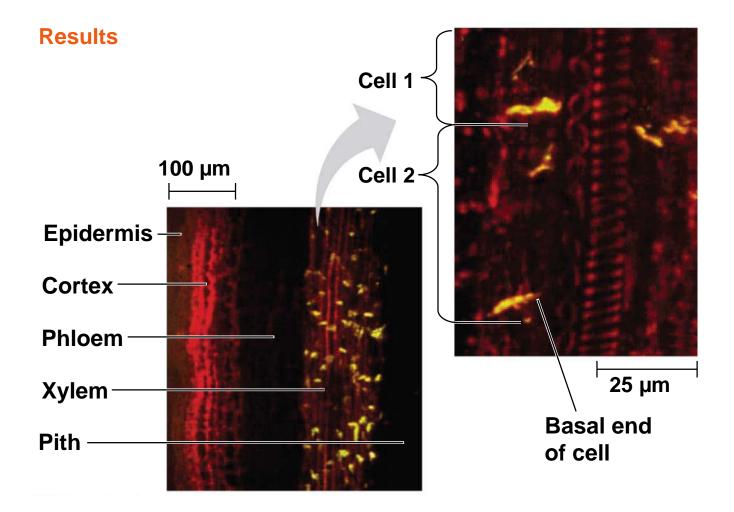


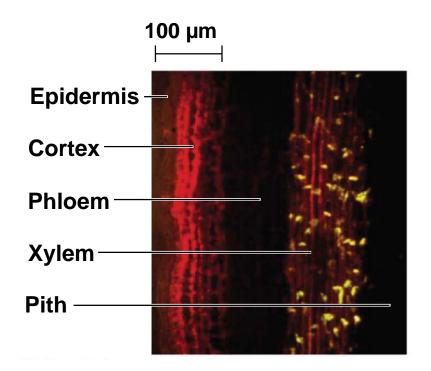
FIGURE 19.6 Tryptophan-dependent pathways of IAA biosynthesis in plants and bacteria. The enzymes that are present only in bacteria are marked with an asterisk. (After Bartel 1997.)

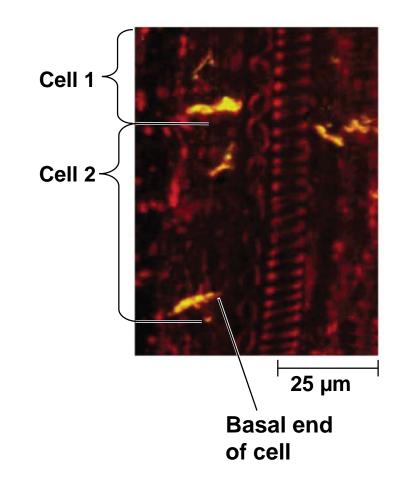
Polar transport



- The term auxin refers to any chemical that promotes elongation of coleoptiles
- Indoleacetic acid (IAA) is a common auxin in plants; in this lecture the term *auxin* refers specifically to IAA
- Auxin is produced in shoot tips and is transported down the stem
- Auxin transporter proteins move the hormone from the basal end of one cell into the apical end of the neighboring cell







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acid growth theory

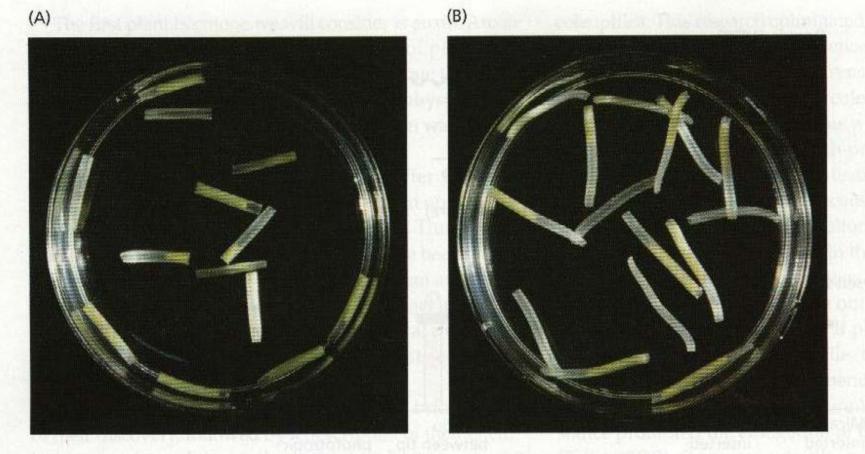


FIGURE 19.2 Auxin stimulates the elongation of oat coleoptile sections. These coleoptile sections were incubated for 18 hours in either water (A) or auxin (B). The yellow tissue inside the translucent coleoptile is the primary leaves. (Photos © M. B. Wilkins.)

The Role of Auxin in Cell Elongation

- According to the acid growth hypothesis, auxin stimulates proton pumps in the plasma membrane
- The proton pumps lower the pH in the cell wall, activating expansions, enzymes that loosen the wall's fabric
- With the cellulose loosened, the cell can elongate

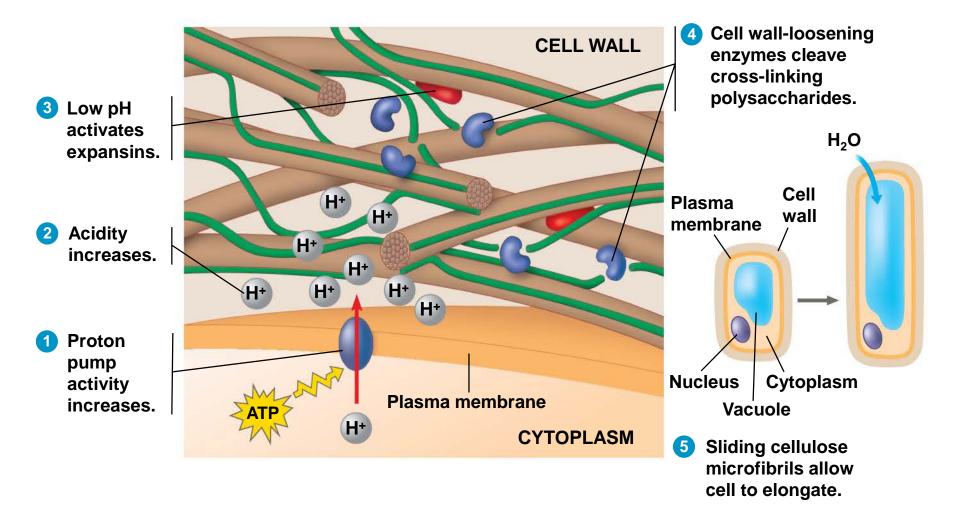
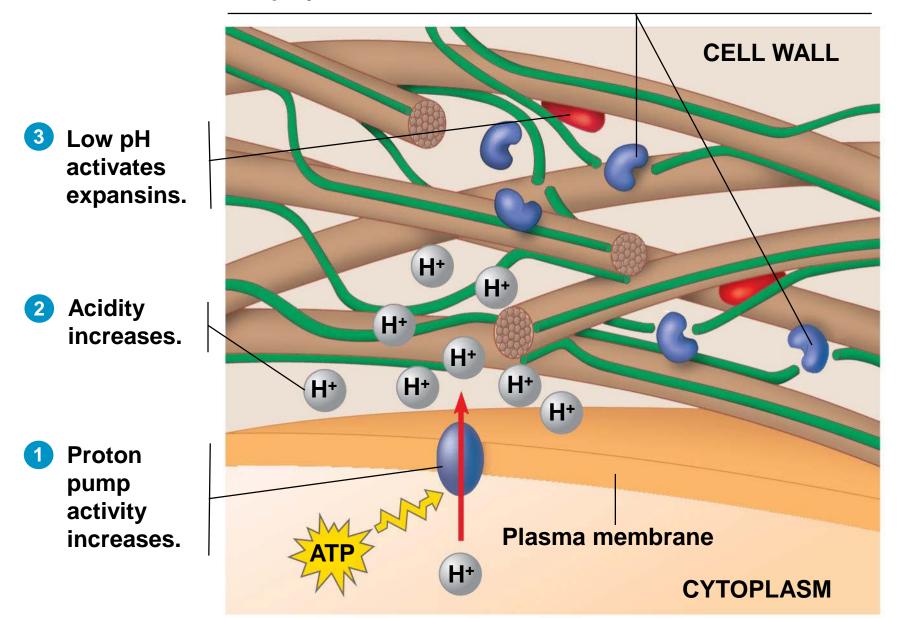
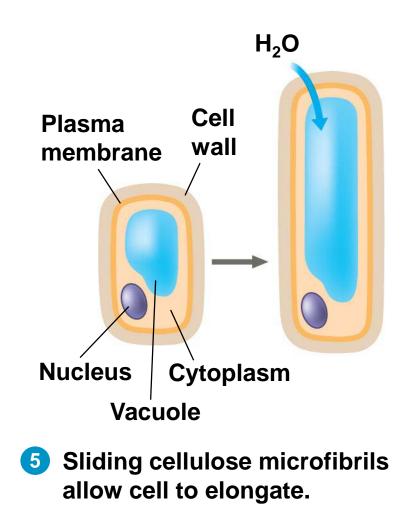


Figure 39.7a

4 Cell wall-loosening enzymes cleave cross-linking polysaccharides.





 Auxin also alters gene expression and stimulates a sustained growth response

Auxin's Role in Plant Development

- Polar transport of auxin plays a role in pattern formation of the developing plant
- Reduced auxin flow from the shoot of a branch stimulates growth in lower branches
- Auxin transport plays a role in phyllotaxy, the arrangement of leaves on the stem
- Polar transport of auxin from leaf margins directs leaf venation pattern
- The activity of the vascular cambium is under control of auxin transport

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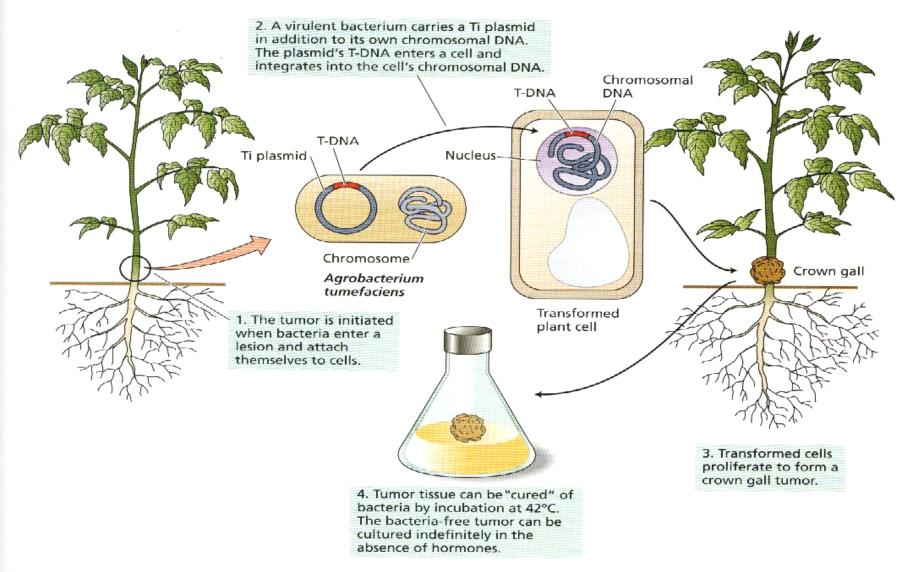
Practical Uses for Auxins

- The auxin indolbutyric acid (IBA) stimulates adventitious roots and is used in vegetative propagation of plants by cuttings
- An overdose of synthetic auxins can kill plants
 - For example 2,4-D is used as an herbicide on eudicots

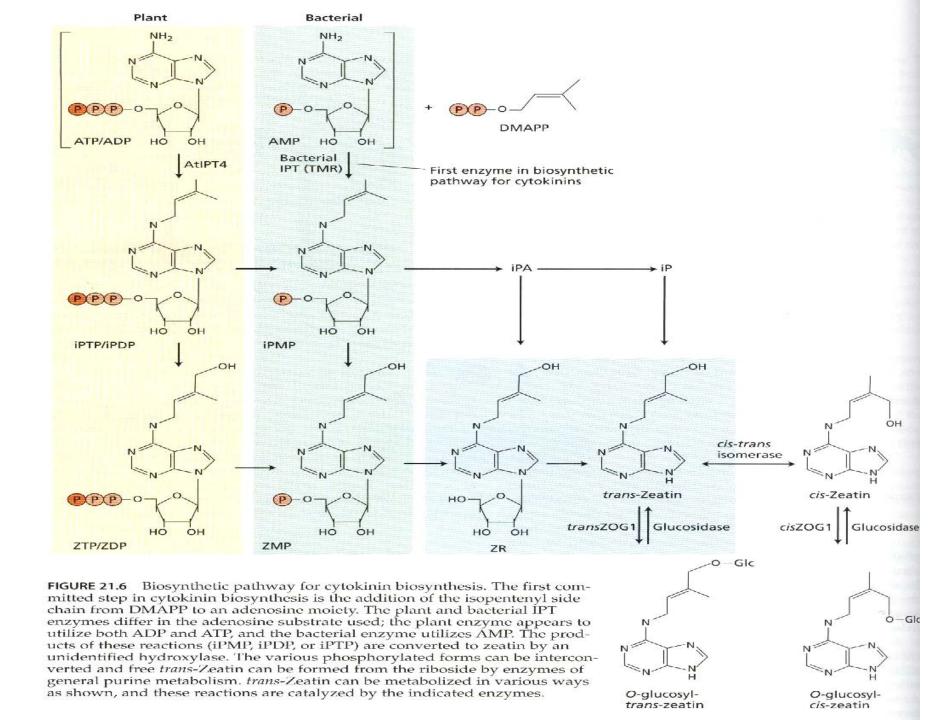
Cytokinins

Cytokinins are so named because they stimulate cytokinesis (cell division)

Cytokinin





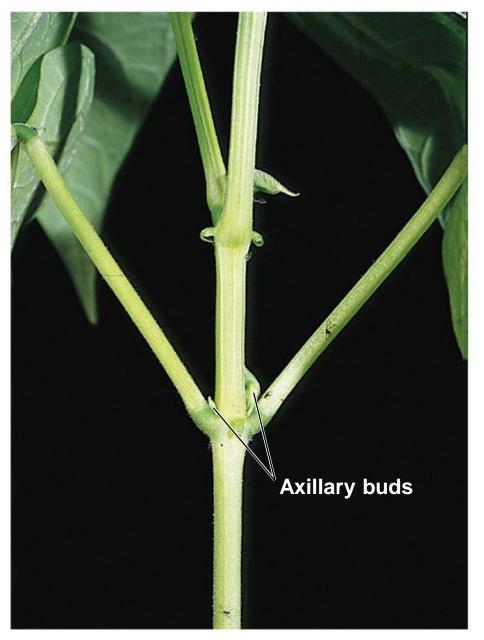


Control of Cell Division and Differentiation

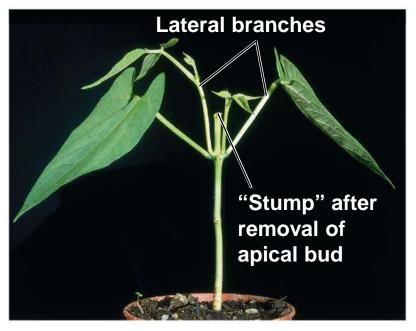
- Cytokinins are produced in actively growing tissues such as roots, embryos, and fruits
- Cytokinins work together with auxin to control cell division and differentiation

Control of Apical Dominance

- Cytokinins, auxin, and strigolactone interact in the control of apical dominance, a terminal bud's ability to suppress development of axillary buds
- If the terminal bud is removed, plants become bushier



(a) Apical bud intact (not shown in photo)



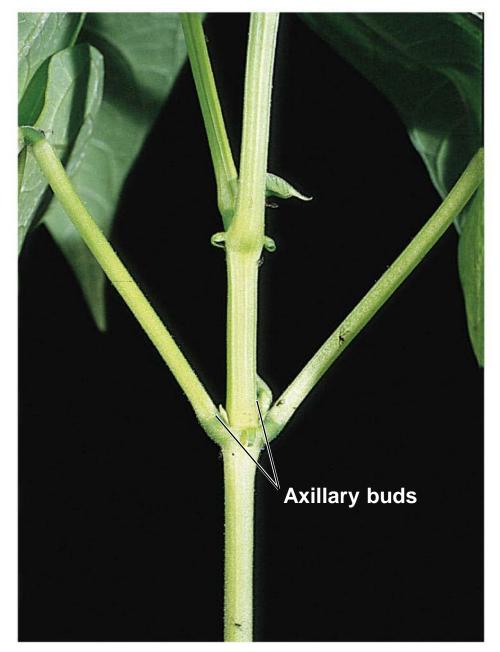
(b) Apical bud removed



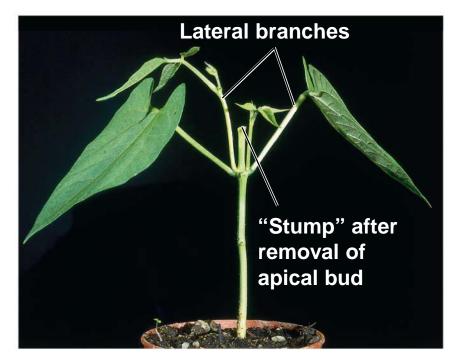
(c) Auxin added to decapitated stem

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Figure 39.8a



(a) Apical bud intact (not shown in photo)



(b) Apical bud removed

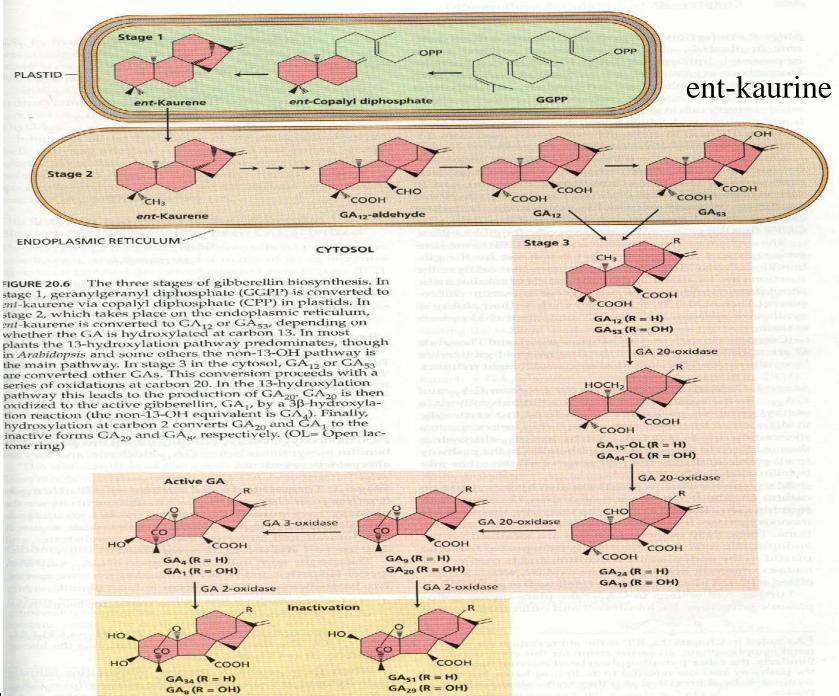


(c) Auxin added to decapitated stem

Gibberellin



FIGURE 20.5 Gibberellin causes elongation of the leaf sheath of rice seedlings, and this response is used in the dwarf rice leaf sheath bioassay. Here 4-day-old seedlings were treated with different amounts of GA and allowed to grow for another 5 days. (Courtesy of P. Davies.)



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Anti-Aging Effects

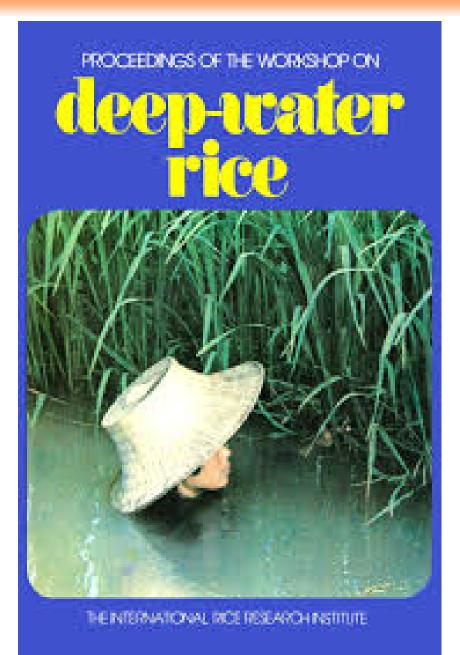
 Cytokinins slow the aging of some plant organs by inhibiting protein breakdown, stimulating RNA and protein synthesis, and mobilizing nutrients from surrounding tissues

Gibberellins

 Gibberellins have a variety of effects, such as stem elongation, fruit growth, and seed germination

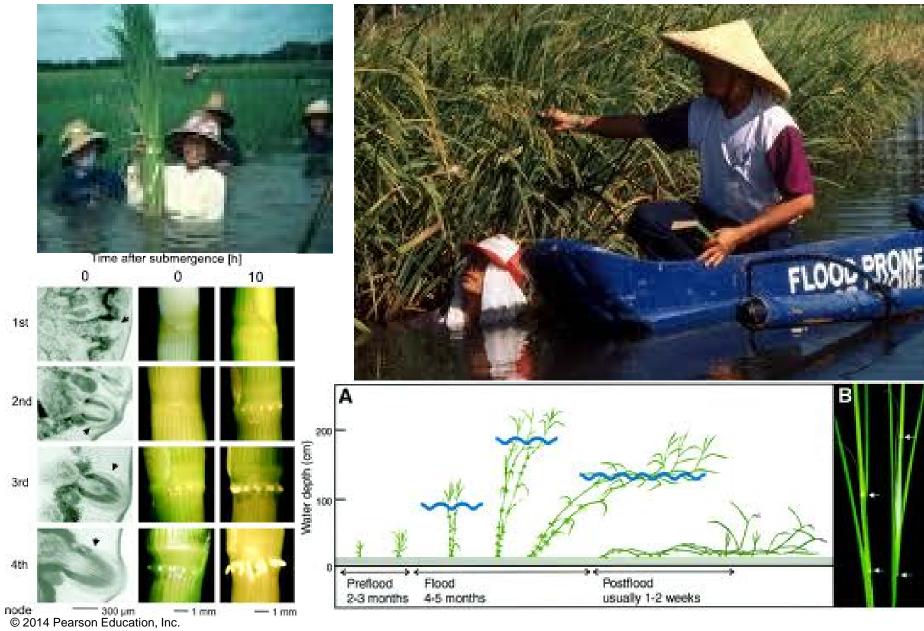
Stem Elongation

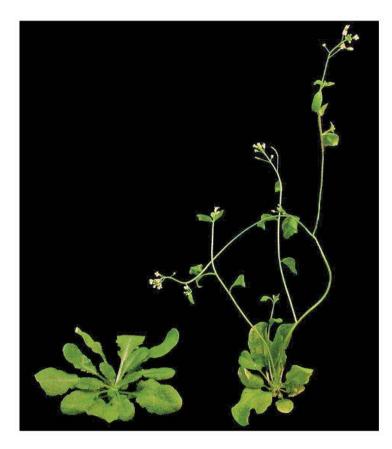
- Gibberellins are produced in young roots and leaves
- Gibberellins stimulate growth of leaves and stems
- In stems, they stimulate cell elongation and cell division



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Deepwater rice-vietnam

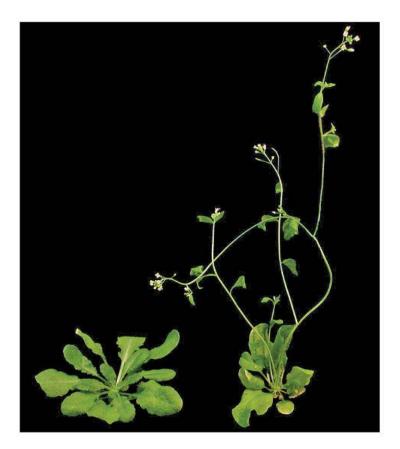




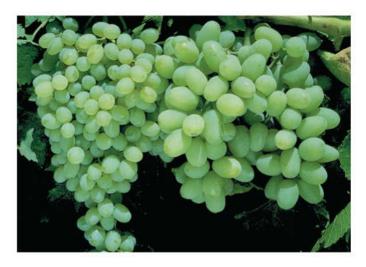


(b) Grapes from control vine (left) and gibberellintreated vine (right)

(a) Rosette form (left) and gibberellin-induced bolting 螺栓 (right)



(a) Rosette form (left) and gibberellin-induced bolting (right)



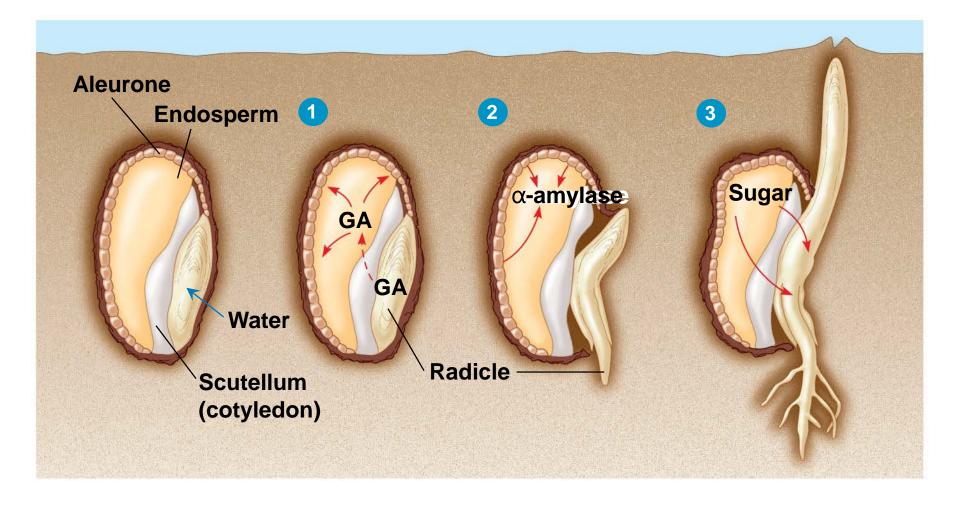
(b) Grapes from control vine (left) and gibberellintreated vine (right)

Fruit Growth

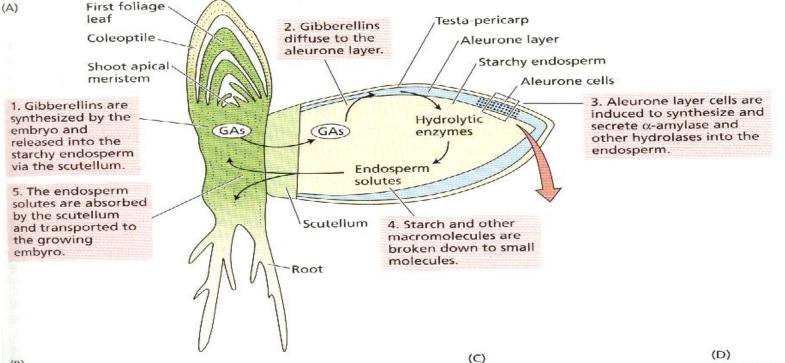
- In many plants, both auxin and gibberellins must be present for fruit to develop
- Gibberellins are used in spraying of Thompson seedless grapes

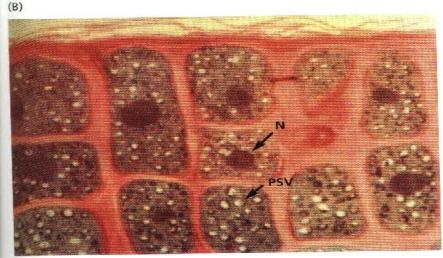
Germination

 After water is imbibed, release of gibberellins from the embryo signals seeds to germinate



Germination aleurone layer endosperm





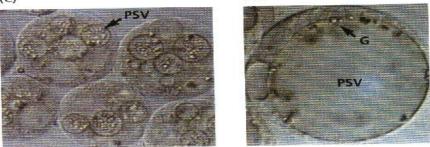
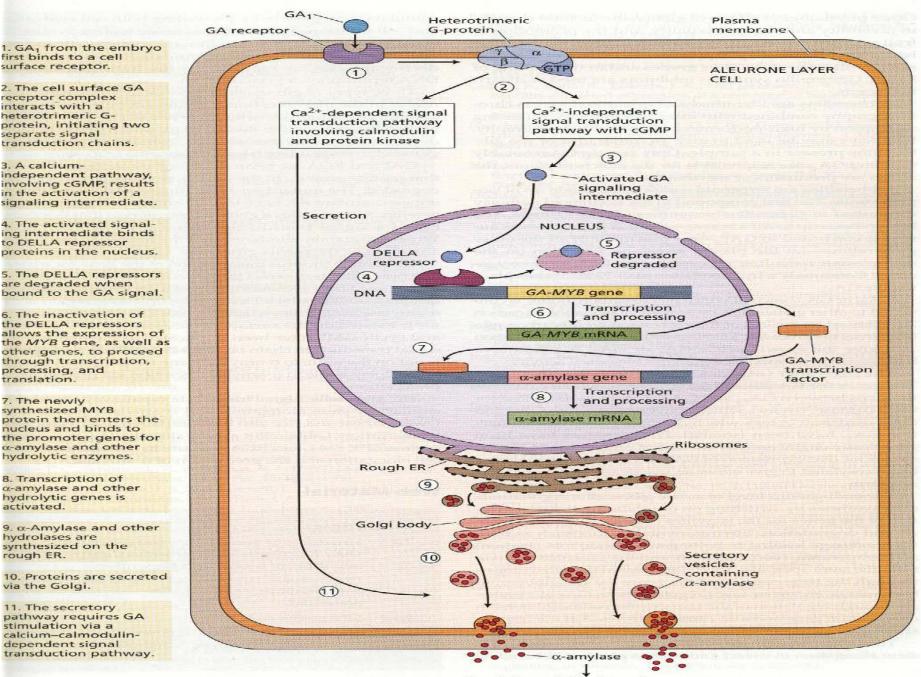


FIGURE 20.33 Structure of a barley grain and the functions of various tissues during germination (A). Microscope photos of the barley alcurone layer (B) and barley alcurone protoplasts at an early (C) and late stage (D) of amylase production. Protein storage vesicles (PSV) can be seen in each cell. G = phytin globoid; N = nucleus. (Photos from Bethke et al. 1997, courtesy of P. Bethke.)



Starch degradation in endosperm

Abscisic Acid

- Abscisic acid (ABA) slows growth
- Two of the many effects of ABA
 - Seed dormancy
 - Drought tolerance

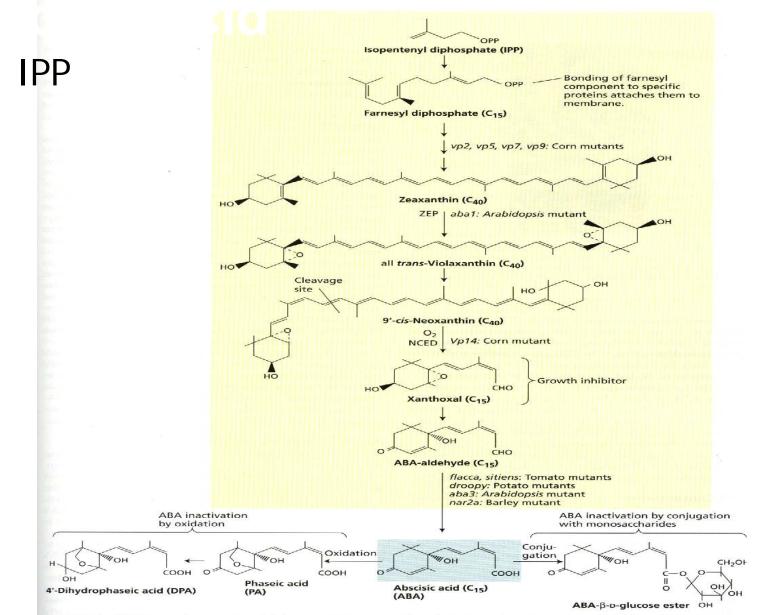


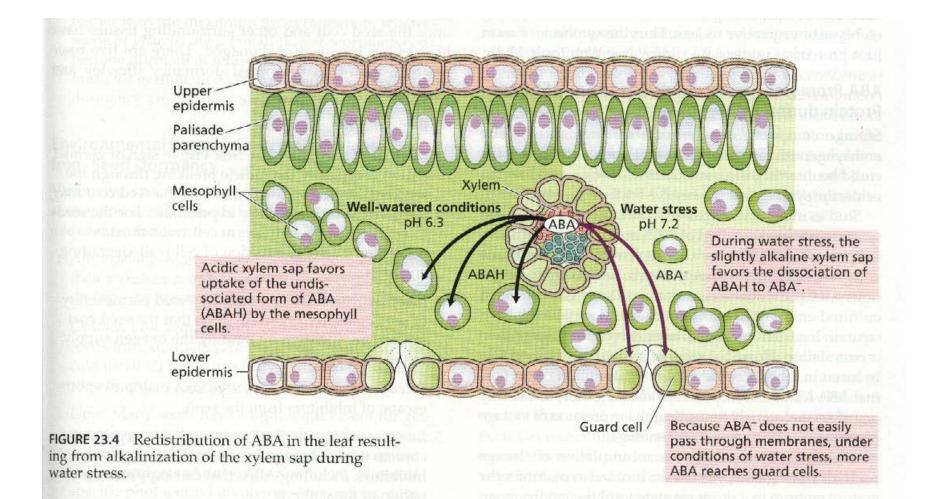
FIGURE 23.2 ABA biosynthesis and metabolism. In higher plants, ABA is synthesized via the terpenoid pathway (see Chapter 13). Some ABA-deficient mutants that have been helpful in elucidating the pathway are shown at the steps at which they are blocked. The pathways for ABA catabo-

lism include conjugation to form ABA- β -D-glucosyl ester or oxidation to form phaseic acid and then dihydrophaseic acid. ZEP = zeaxanthin epoxidase; NCED = 9-cis-epoxy-carotenoids dioxygenase.



FIGURE 23.3 Precocious germination in the ABA-deficient *vp14* mutant of maize. The VP14 protein catalyzes the cleavage of 9-*cis*-epoxycarotenoids to form xanthoxal, a precursor of ABA. (Courtesy of Bao Cai Tan and Don McCarty.)

Stomotal opening



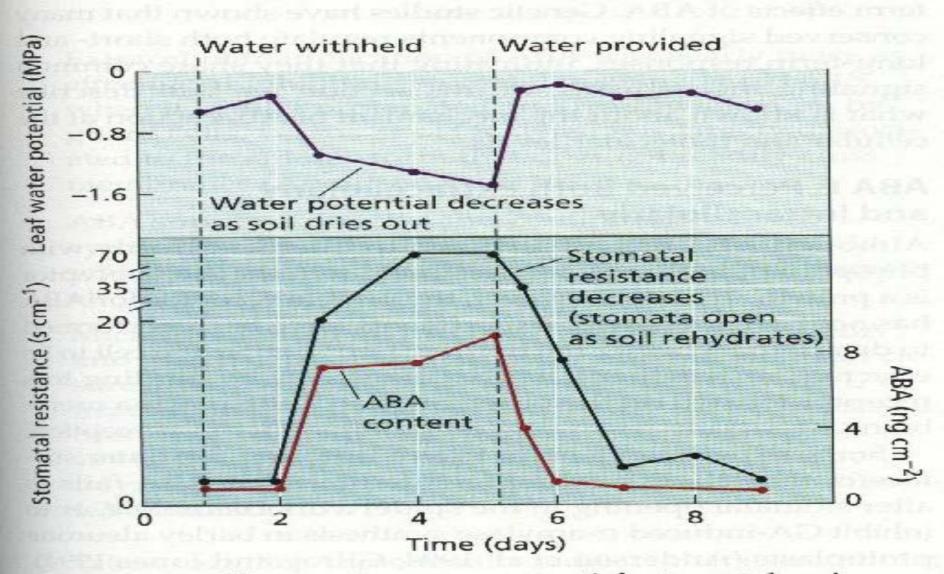


FIGURE 23.5 Changes in water potential, stomatal resistance (the inverse of stomatal conductance), and ABA content in maize in response to water stress. As the soil dried out, the water potential of the leaf decreased, and the ABA content and stomatal resistance increased. The process was reversed by rewatering. (After Beardsell and Cohen 1975.)

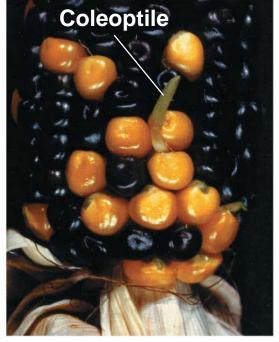
Seed Dormancy

- Seed dormancy ensures that the seed will germinate only in optimal conditions
- In some seeds, dormancy is broken when ABA is removed by heavy rain, light, or prolonged cold
- Precocious (early) germination can be caused by inactive or low levels of ABA

Figure 39.11



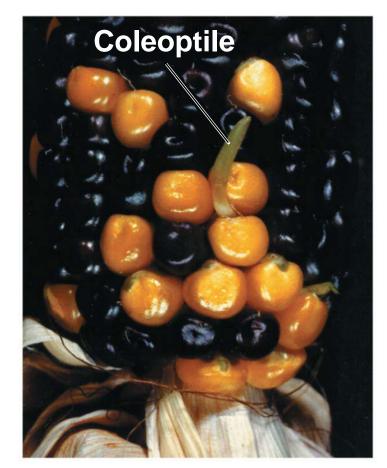
Red mangrove (*Rhizophora mangle*) seeds



Maize mutant



Red mangrove (*Rhizophora mangle*) seeds

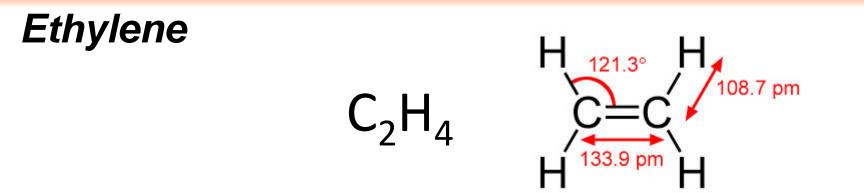


Maize mutant

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Drought Tolerance

- ABA is the primary internal signal that enables plants to withstand drought
- ABA accumulation causes stomata to close rapidly



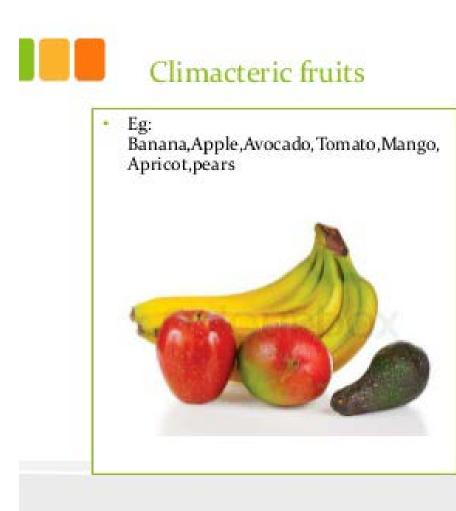
- Plants produce ethylene in response to stresses such as drought, flooding, mechanical pressure, injury, and infection
- The effects of ethylene include response to mechanical stress, senescence, leaf abscission, and fruit ripening

The Role of Ethylene in Post Harvest Biology

Name : T.W.G.F.A Nijamdeen

Reg.No: 612260302

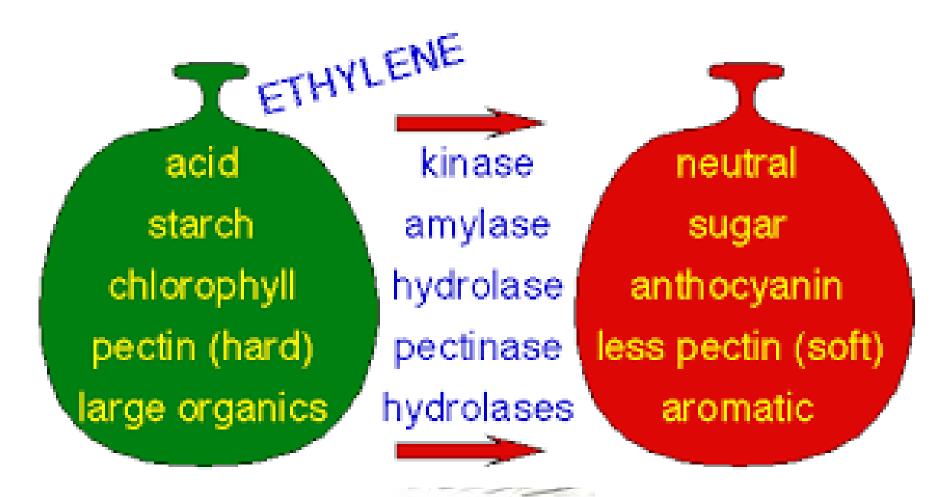




Non-Climacteric fruits

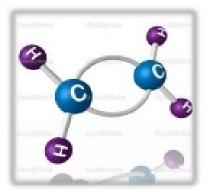
 Eg: Strawberry,Cucumber,Eggplant,Grape,Ora nge.

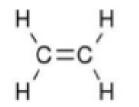




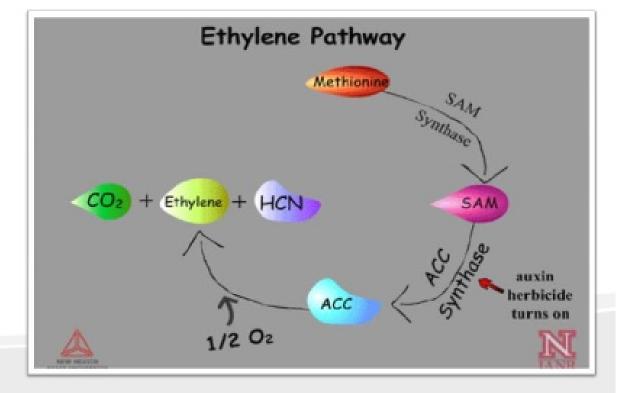
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Ethylene-Structure and Biosynthesis

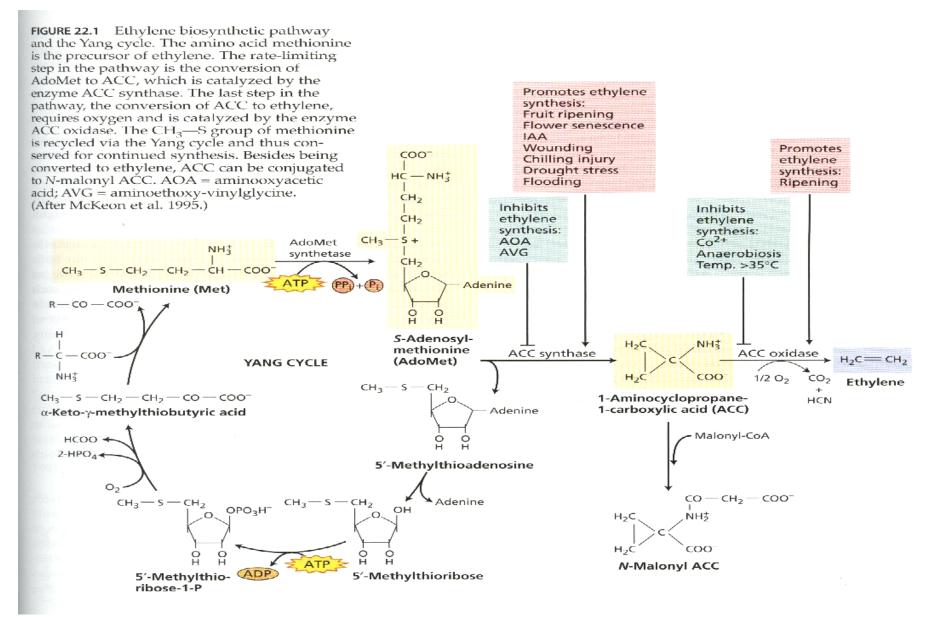


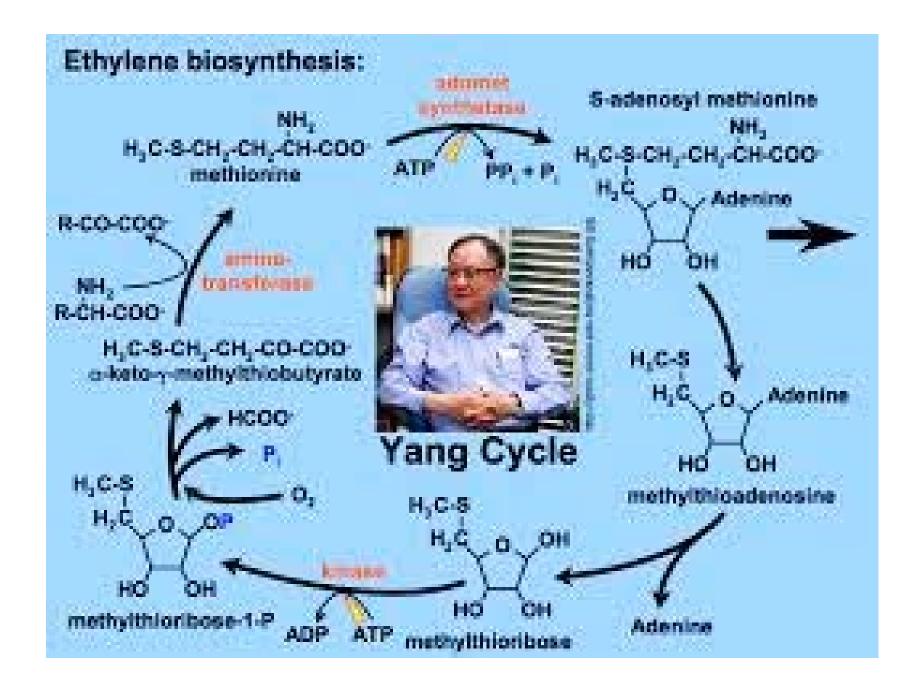


Structure of the ethylene molecule



Ethylene C₂H₄





The Triple Response to Mechanical Stress

- Ethylene induces the triple response, which allows a growing shoot to avoid obstacles
- The triple response consists of a slowing of stem elongation, a thickening of the stem, and horizontal growth



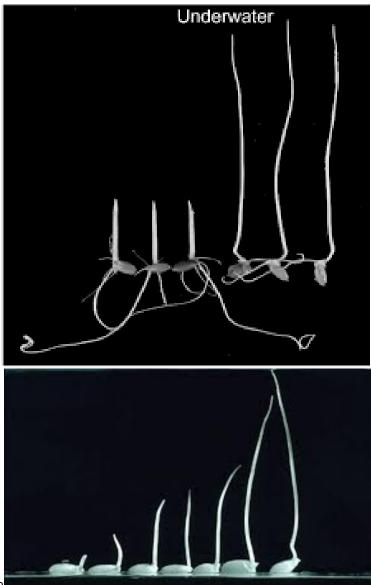


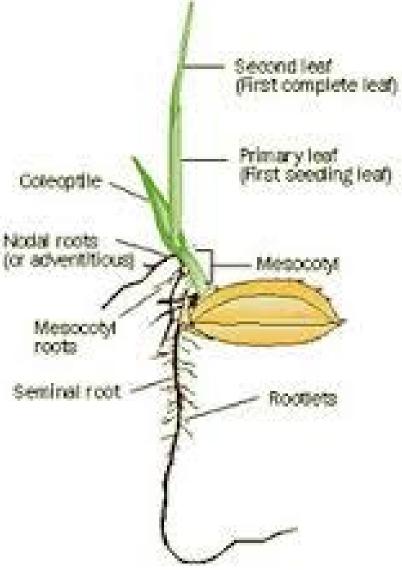
Ethylene concentration (parts per million)

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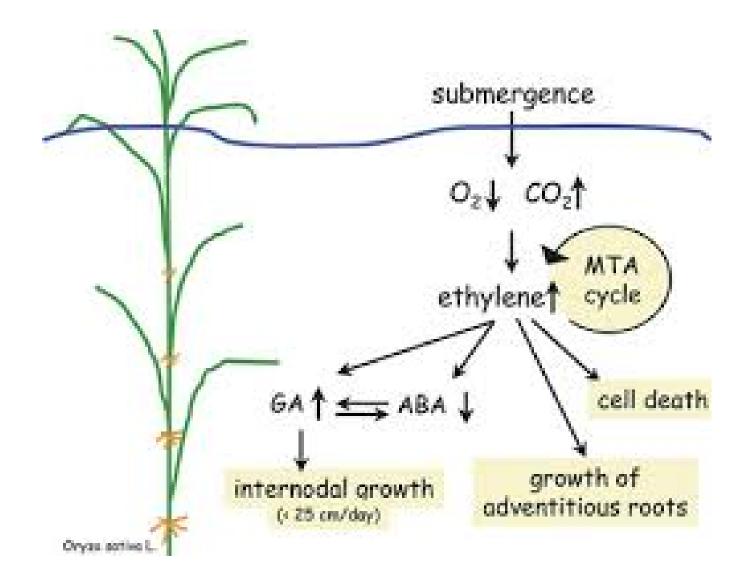
- Ethylene-insensitive mutants fail to undergo the triple response after exposure to ethylene
- Other mutants undergo the triple response in air but do not respond to inhibitors of ethylene synthesis

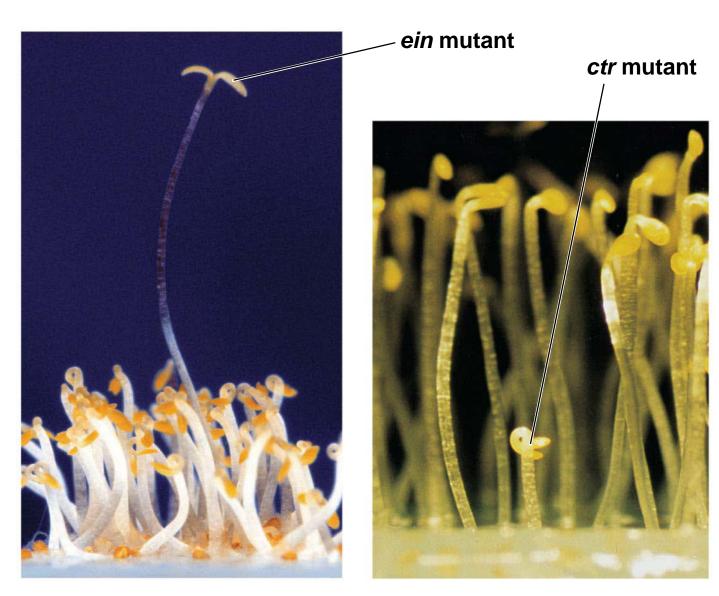
Rice coleoptile elongation – anoxia and ethylene





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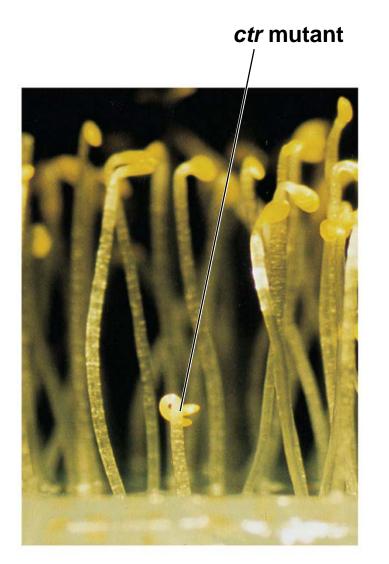


(a) ein mutant

(b) ctr mutant



(a) *ein* mutant



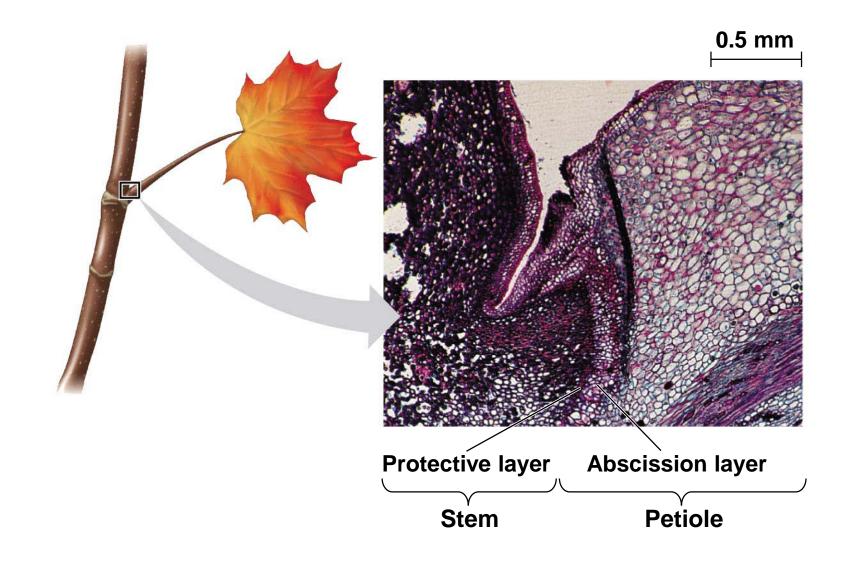
(b) ctr mutant

Senescence

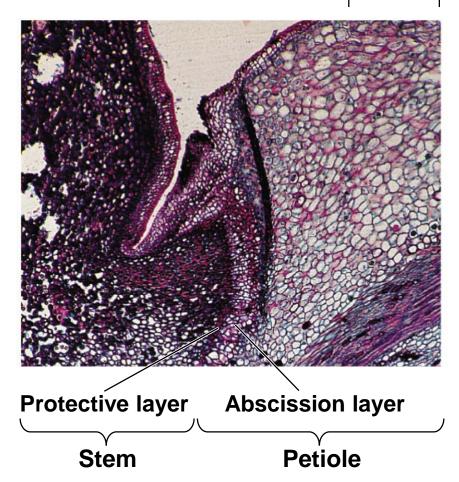
- Senescence is the programmed death of cells or organs
- A burst of ethylene is associated with apoptosis, the programmed destruction of cells, organs, or whole plants

Leaf Abscission

 A change in the balance of auxin and ethylene controls leaf abscission, the process that occurs in autumn when a leaf falls







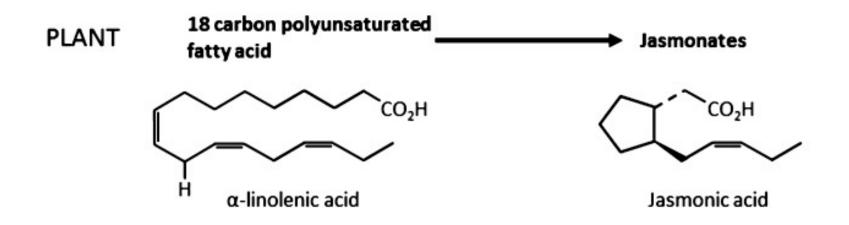
Fruit Ripening

- A burst of ethylene production in a fruit triggers the ripening process
- Ethylene triggers ripening, and ripening triggers release of more ethylene
- Fruit producers can control ripening by picking green fruit and controlling ethylene levels

More Recently Discovered Plant Hormones

- Brassinosteroids are chemically similar to the sex hormones of animals
- They induce cell elongation and division in stem segments
- They slow leaf abscission and promote xylem differentiation

- Jasmonates, including jasmonate (JA) and methyl jasmonate (MeJA) play important roles in plant defense and development
- They are produced in response to wounding and involved in controlling plant defenses



- Jasmonates also regulate many other physiological processes, including
 - Nectar secretion
 - Fruit ripening
 - Pollen production
 - Flowering time
 - Seed germination
 - Root growth
 - Tuber formation
 - Mycorrhizal symbiosis
 - Tendril coiling

- Strigolactones are xylem-mobile chemicals that
 - Stimulate seed germination
 - Suppress adventitious root formation
 - Help establish mycorrhizal associations
 - Help control apical dominance
- Strigolactones are named for parasitic Striga plants
- Striga seeds germinate when host plants exude strigolactones through their roots