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IN THE NAME OF GOD

Plant Physiology

*M. Gholami*



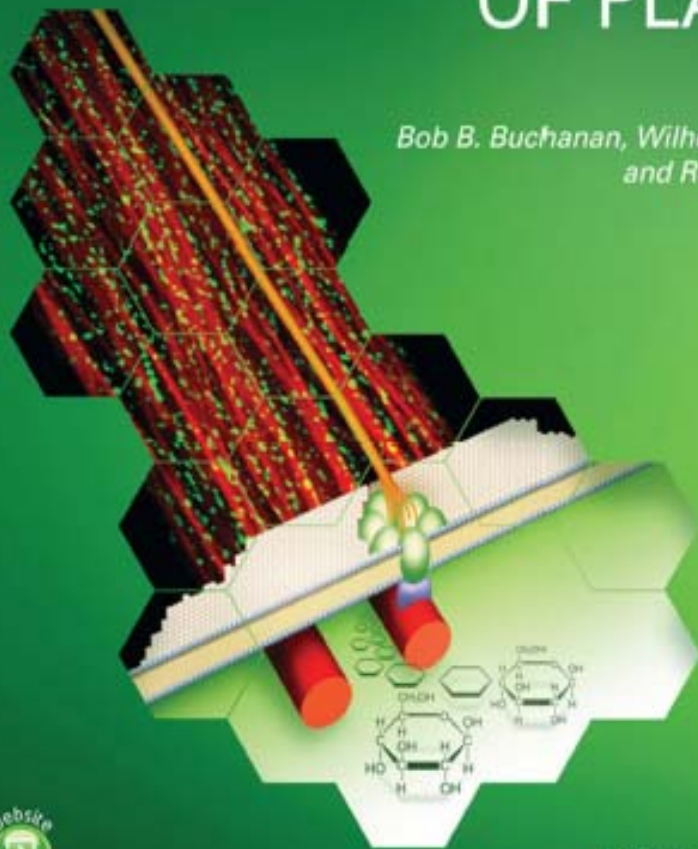
American Society  
of Plant Biologists

SECOND EDITION

# BIOCHEMISTRY & MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OF PLANTS

EDITED BY

*Bob B. Buchanan, Wilhelm Grissem,  
and Russell L. Jones*



WILEY Blackwell

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## **AIMS :**

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- 1. To study chemical and physical processes associated with life as they occur in plants.**
  - At the small scale like molecular interactions in photosynthesis, internal diffusion of water, minerals and nutrients.**
  - At large scale like processes of development, seasonality, dormancy etc.**

## What is Plant Physiology?

- **Literal Definition:**
  - In **Greek**: *physis* = nature and *logos* = word  
“Discourse on the nature of plants”
- **Definition:**  
“Science of how plants develop, grow, and respond to their environment at the cellular & biochemical level”



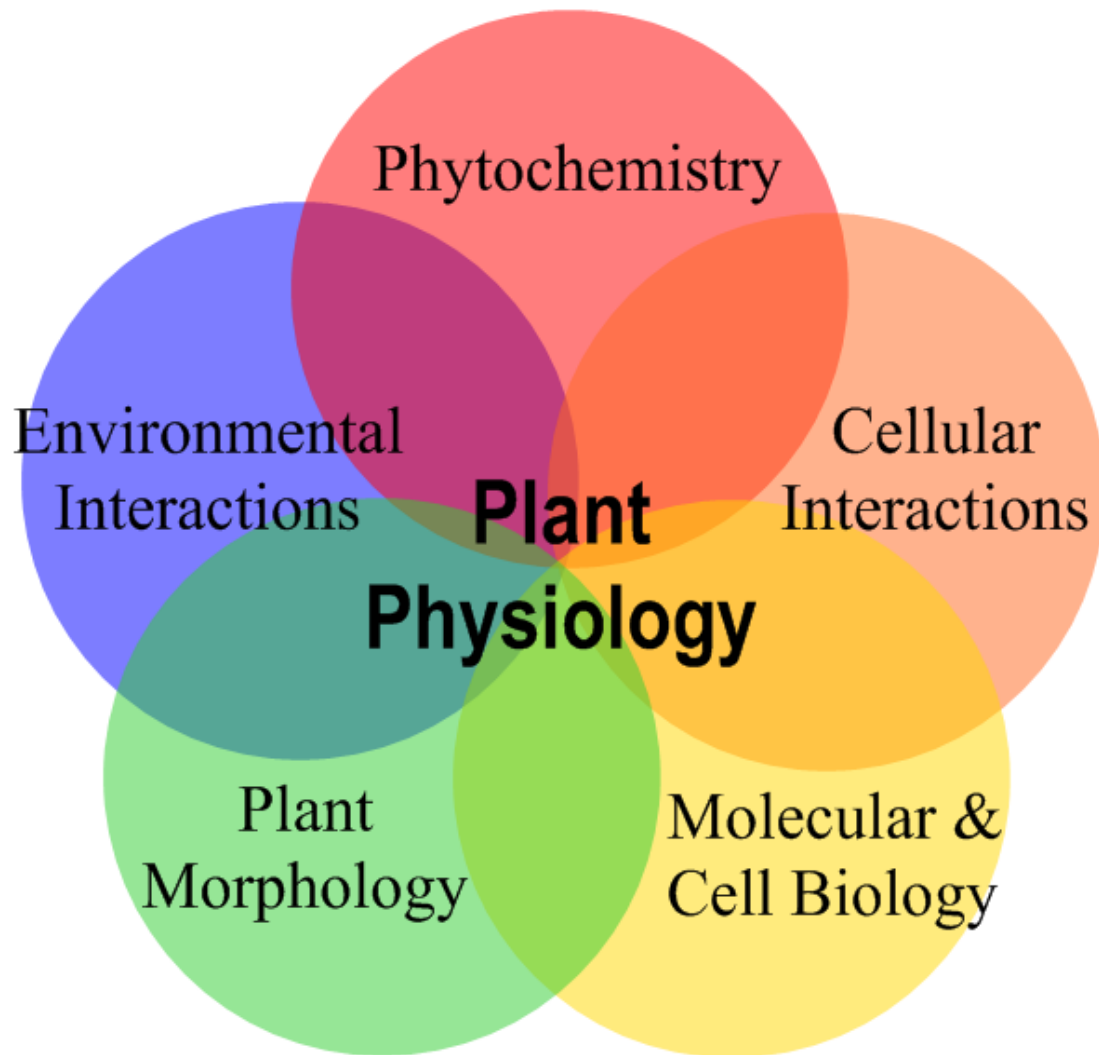
- 
- ❖ Plant physiology is a **lab science**.
  - ❖ Plant physiology is an **experimental science**.
  - ❖ Plant physiology relies heavily on **chemistry and physics**



# HISTORY OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGY

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- ❖ **Sir Francis Bacon published one of the first plant physiology experiments in 1627 in the book, *Sylva Sylvarum*.** (Bacon grew several terrestrial plants, including a rose, in water and concluded that soil was only needed to keep the plant upright)
- ❖ **Jan Baptist van Helmont published what is considered the first quantitative experiment in plant physiology in 1648.** (concluded that plants get all their weight from water, not soil)
- ❖ **In 1699, John Woodward published experiments on growth of spearmint in different sources of water.** (He found that plants grew much better in water with soil added than in distilled water).





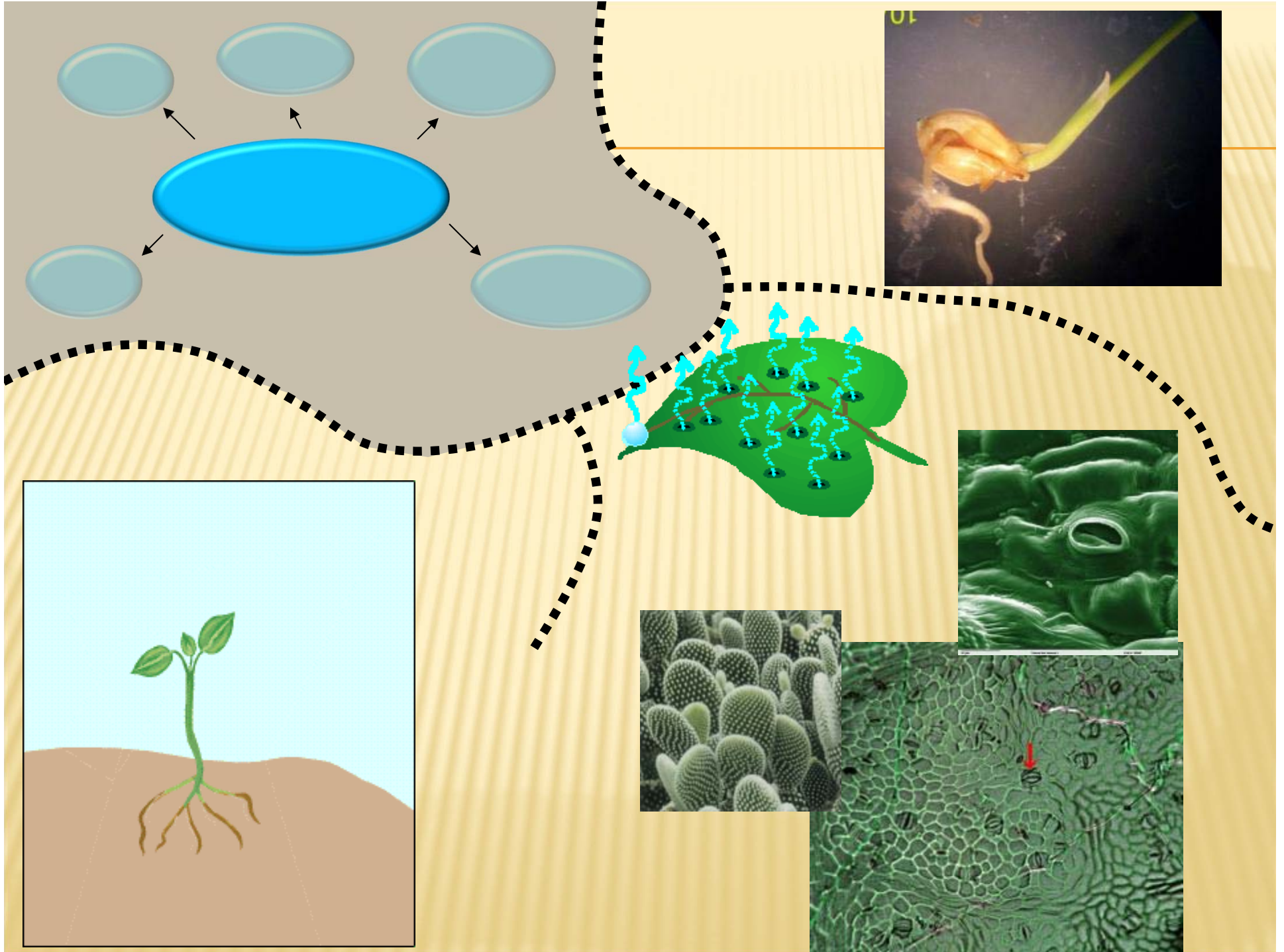
## What does physiology include ?

### \* **Combining what is known about:**

- Structure and anatomy as it relates to plant function
- Sources of energy for growth & development
- Water & nutrient uptake and movement
- Responses to the environment (light, temp., water)
- Plant responses to stresses (abiotic & biotic)

## \* What types of science are involved?

- Plant biology
- Plant anatomy
- Ecology and Environmental Biology
- Cell biology
- Inorganic & organic chemistry
- Biochemistry
- Molecular biology



# Why Study Plants

## 1. Plants provide the Oxygen we breath

➤ 4.5 billion years before

▪ Ancient Atmosphere:

▪  $\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{N}_2 + \text{NH}_3 + \text{CO}_2 + \text{CO} + \text{CH}_4 + \text{H}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{S}$

▪ an anaerobic (no oxygen gas) atmosphere

▪ Toxic to life

\*  $\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{light} + \text{chlorophyll} \rightarrow \text{CH}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_2$

\* potential to change the atmosphere in important ways



## 2. **Plants provide the Ozone UV screen**

- oxygen gas in the atmosphere is routinely converted to ozone by natural processes:
  - $O_2 \rightarrow O_3$
- Ozone
  - absorbs ultraviolet light coming from the sun
  - provided a protective shield allowing life to exist with much less mutation
  - provided stability for life



### 3. **Plants provide a diversity of food**

- **Plants are the source of energy and protein for animals**
  - **Plants are responsible for feeding all the animals on the planet (food web)**
  - **Eating plants rather than animals (vegetarian) makes feeding the world more efficient**
  - **To make one kilogram of beef it takes 10 kilograms of grain! It is more efficient to eat the grain ourselves!**



#### 4. **Plants provide fibers**

- **Not all carbohydrates are digestible**
  - The indigestible carbohydrates include cellulose referred as **“fibers”**
  - it is nevertheless very useful to us
- **Cellulose in plants is deposited into xylem.**
- **In some plants these fibers are long and slender and can be spun together to make thread.**
- **This thread can be woven into fabrics including linen (flax fiber) and cotton (fruit fibers)**



## 5. **Plants provide wood and paper**

- **large concentrations of xylem made the tissue as wood.**
- **This forms the trunks of trees and can be cut into lumber for building houses and ships.**
- **Be burned as fuel for heating homes and cooking food.**
- **The fibers sized together into sheets of paper.**



## 6. **Plants provided fossil fuels**

- **Not all of the plant carbohydrate was eaten with 3-billion years of plants living and dying before animals started eating up everything produced**
- **But much of the plant material remained piling up in the ancient landscape.**
- **The piles were covered over and buried deeply by sediments.**
- **The buried vegetation initially decomposed to form natural gas (CH<sub>4</sub>) in part**





## 7. **Plants provide medicines**

- **Plants are a source of medicines directly**
  - Quinine from plant bark prevents malaria
  - Caffeine from plants is an important daily stimulant for many humans
- **Fossil fuel is also converted into a wide range of synthetic compounds including alcohol and a wide range of medicines**
  - Alcohol was produced from starch early in civilization



## 8. **Plants provide latex**

- **Rubber trees in the tropics bleed a kind of sap when wounded that we can harvest as latex**
- **This natural rubber can be used for making gloves for surgery and dish washing, or washers and water-tight seals**
- **The latex can be combined with sulfur and formed into vulcanized rubber that makes really tough tires**



9. **Plants provide essential oils**

- Used to make our homes and bodies smell better and our food to taste better

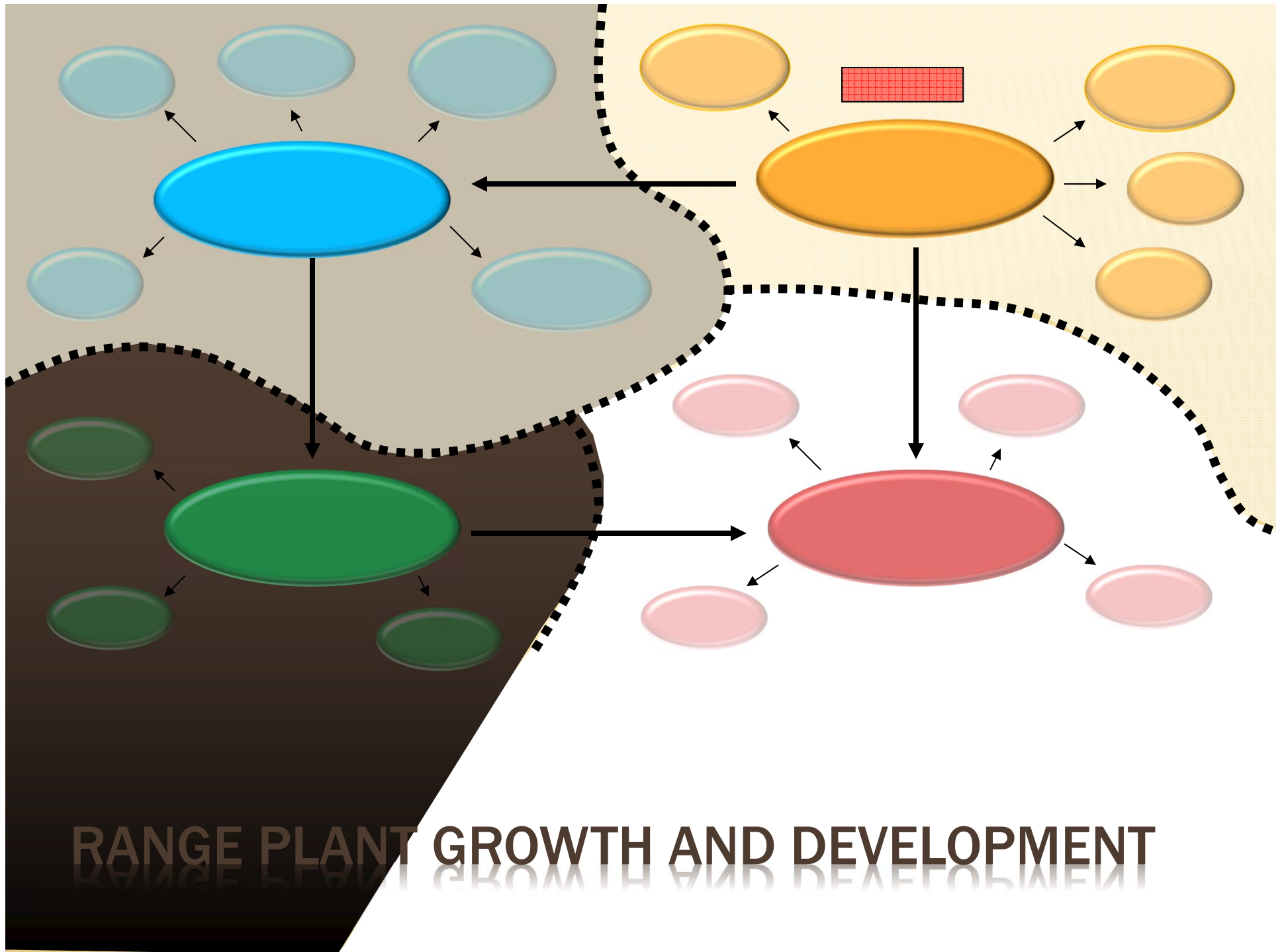
10. **Plants provide decoration**

- used in landscaping towns, businesses, and homes

11. **Plants provide jobs**

- Plants have been a constant source of business and employment throughout human history





RANGE PLANT GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

# WHAT IS PLANT ANATOMY?

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# WHAT IS PLANT PHYSIOLOGY?

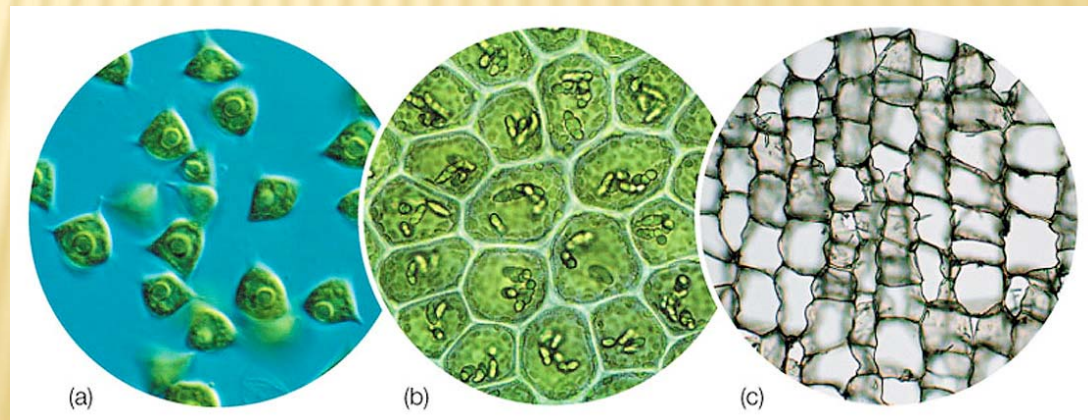
Always keep in mind that in plant anatomy, morphology & physiology...

**“Structure correlates to function”**

# PLANT ANATOMY: CELLS

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atoms > molecules > cells > tissues > organs > whole plant > pop.



# PLANT CELL TYPES

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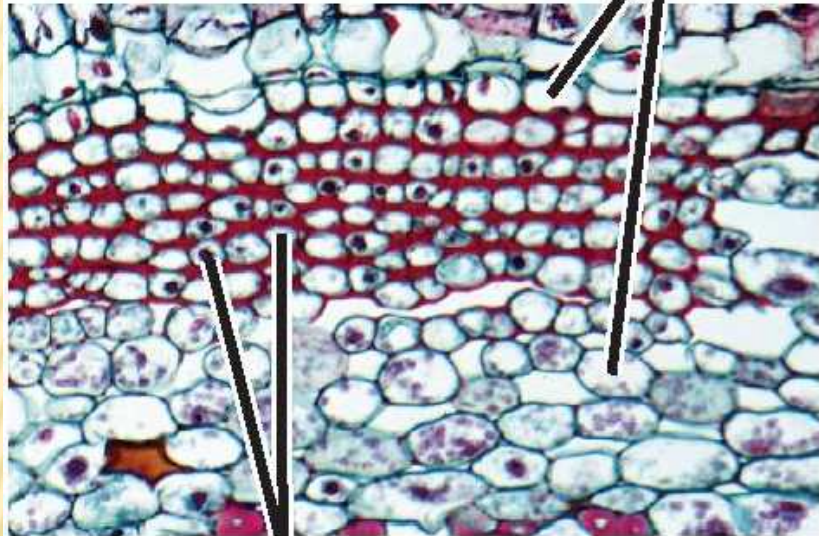
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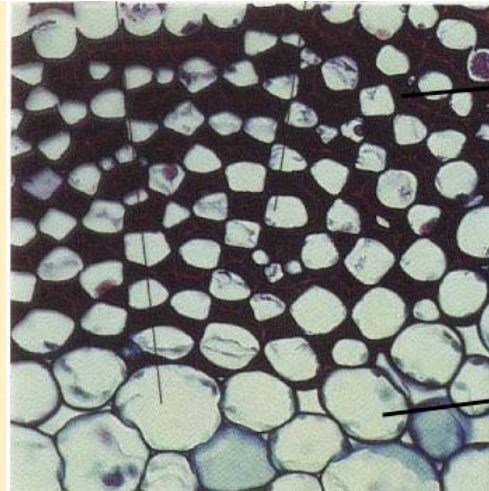
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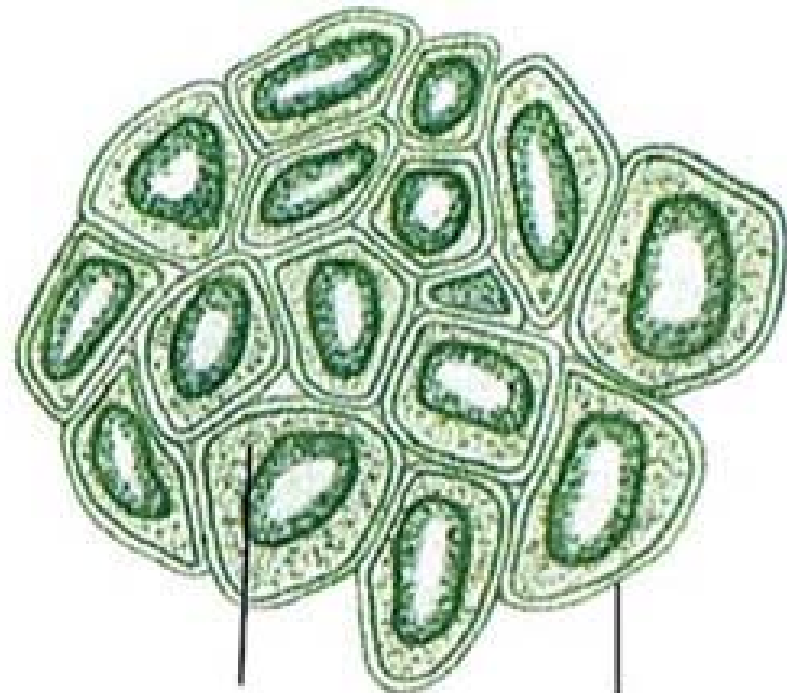
80  $\mu\text{m}$  Cortical parenchyma cells



Collenchyma cells (in cortex of *Sambucus*, elderberry; cell walls stained red)

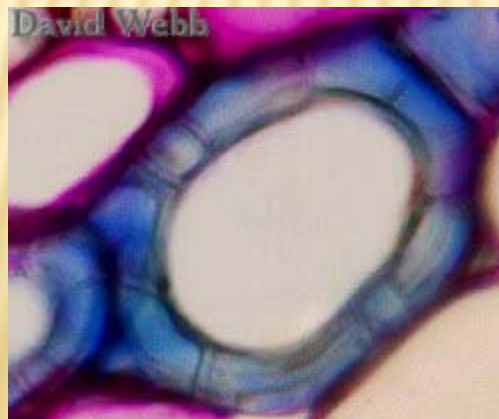


## sclerenchyma



thick secondary cell wall

primary cell wall





# PLANT TISSUES TYPES

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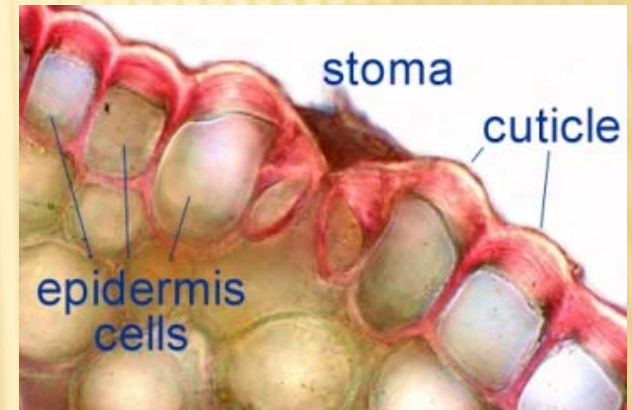


# 1. DERMAL TISSUE

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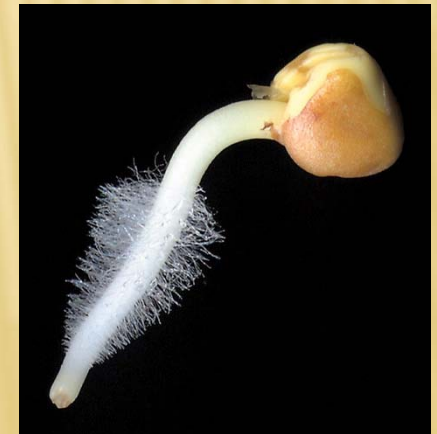
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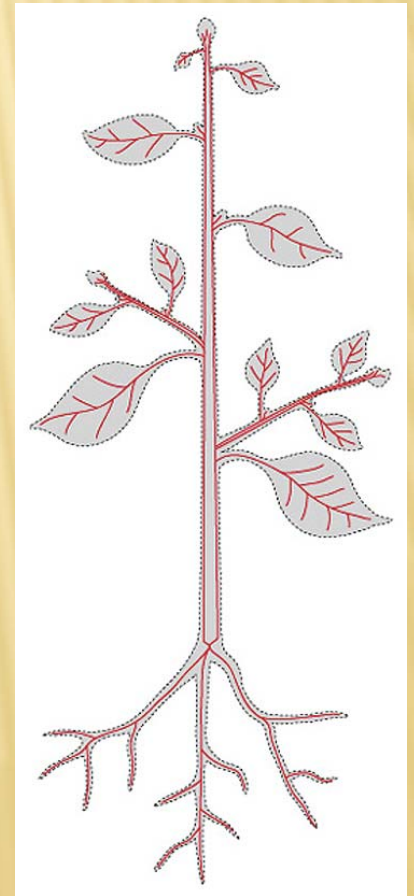


## 2. VASCULAR TISSUE

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- Phloem – carries dissolved sugars from leaves to rest of the plant

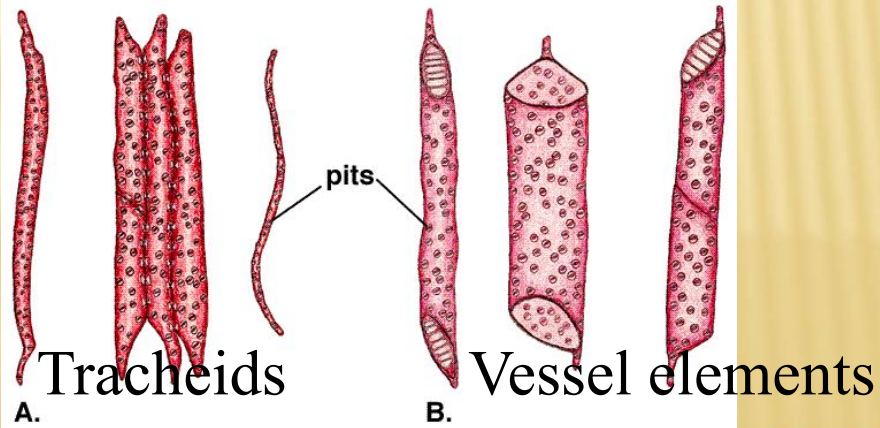


# XYLEM

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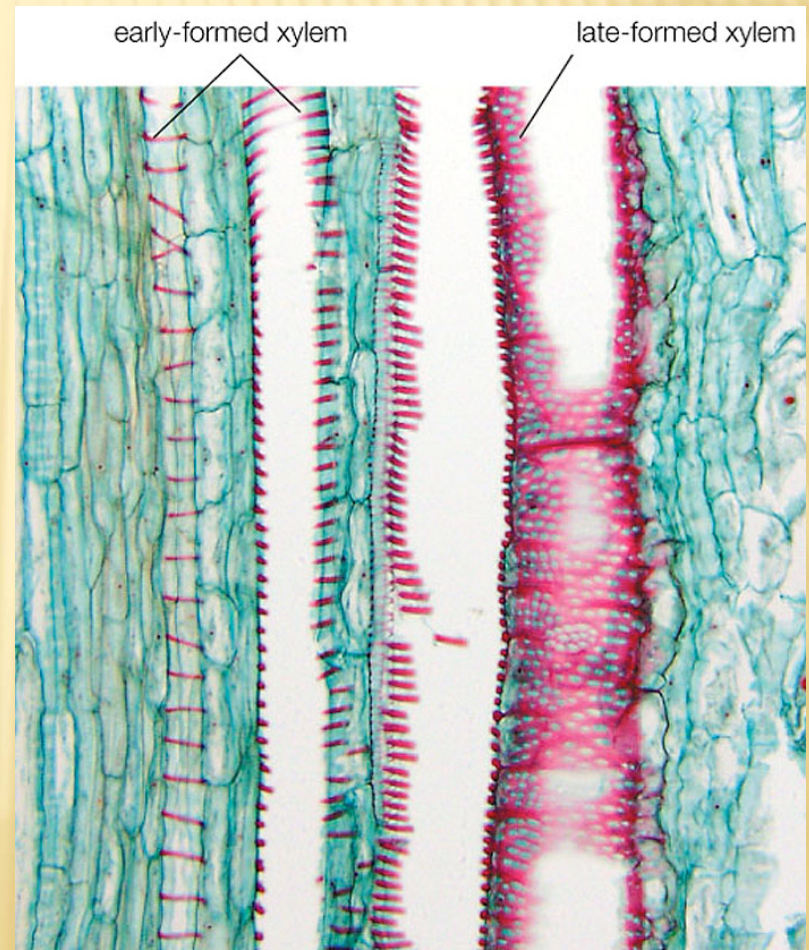
## Water-conducting Cells of Xylem



# XYLEM CELLS

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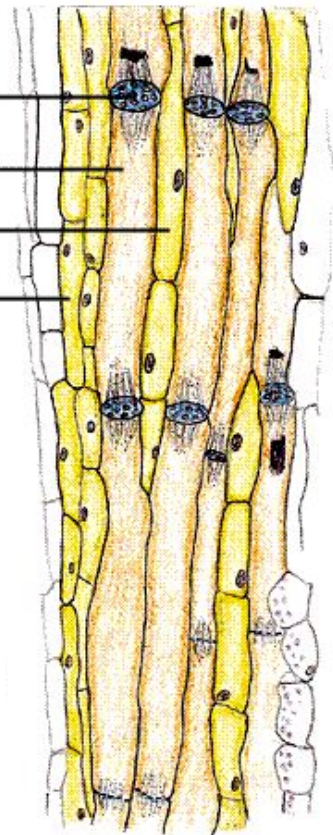


# PHLOEM

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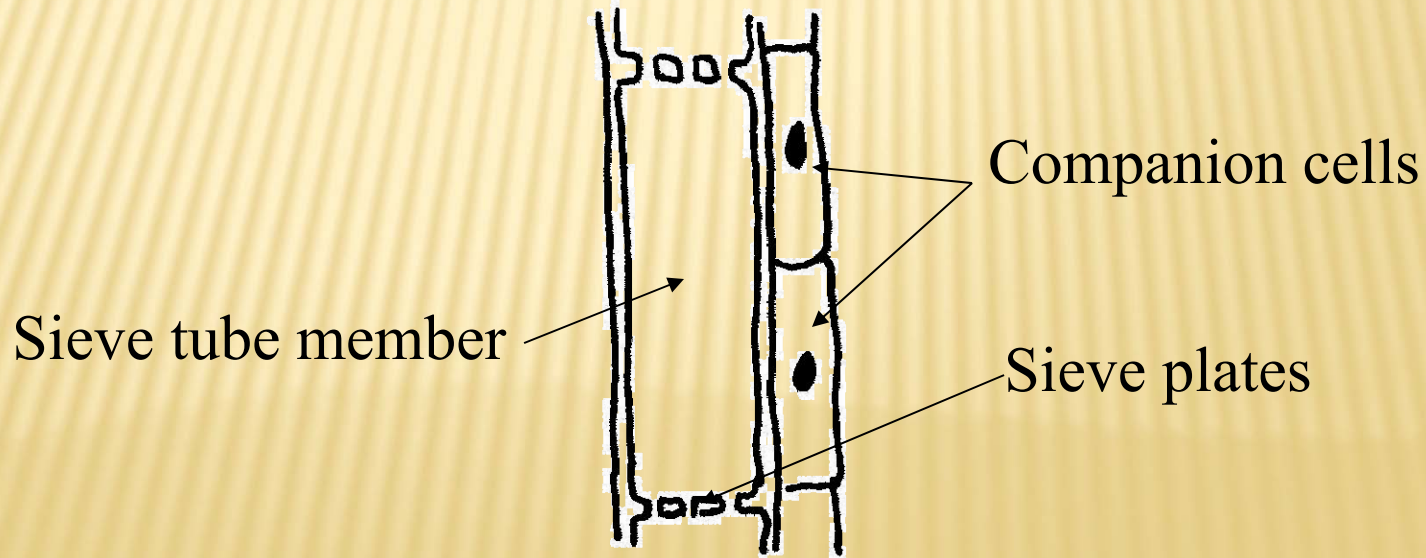
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sieve plate —  
sieve tube member —  
companion cell —  
phloem parenchyma —



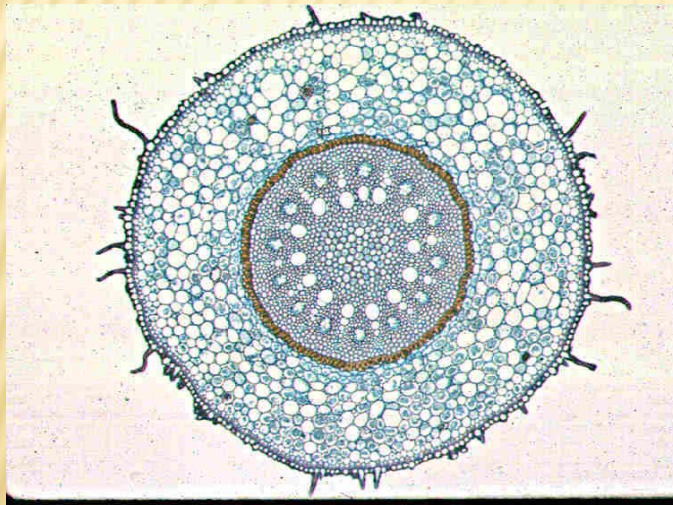
# PHLOEM: TRANSPORTS SUGARS

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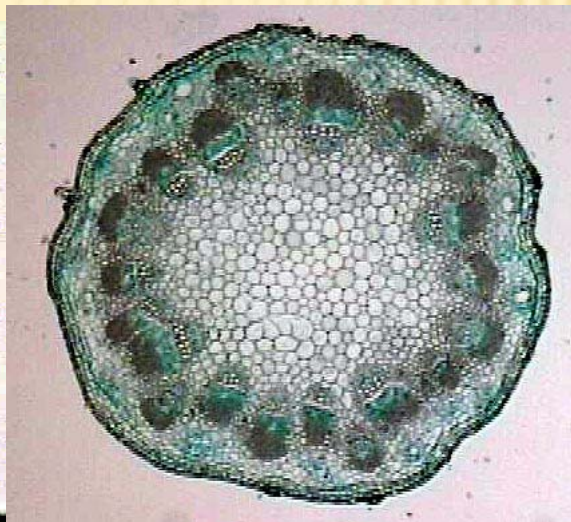


# 3. GROUND TISSUE

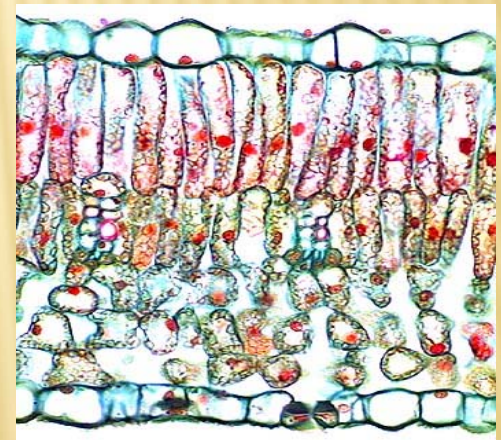
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Root



Stem



Leaf



# PLANT ORGANS



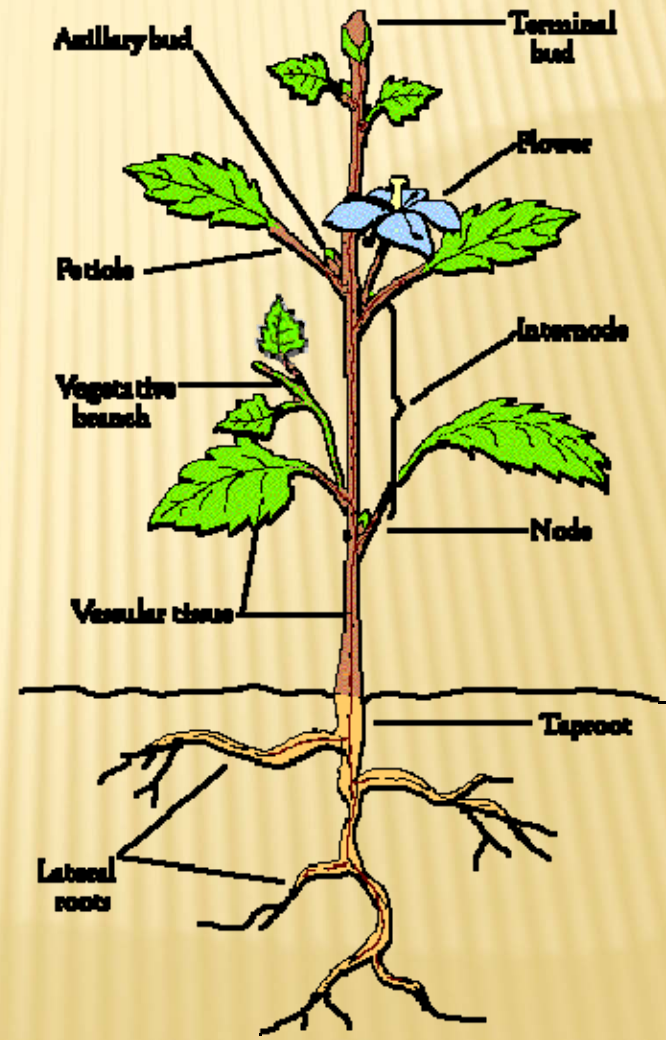
Dermal  
Vascular  
Ground



Dermal  
Vascular  
Ground



Dermal  
Vascular  
Ground



# FUNCTIONS OF PLANT ORGANS:

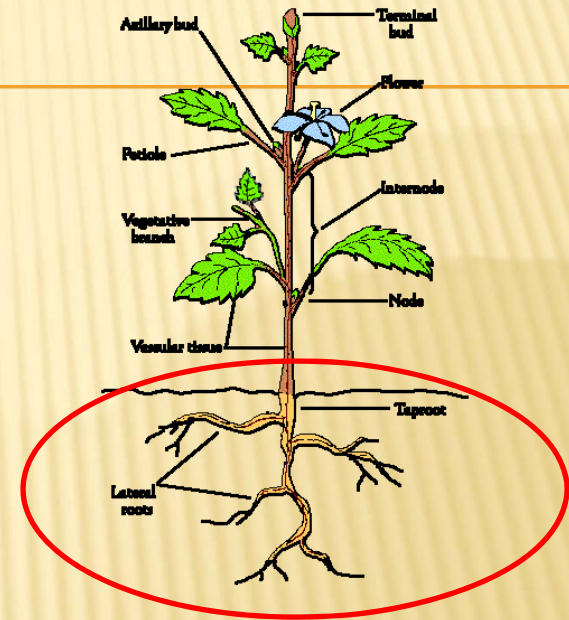
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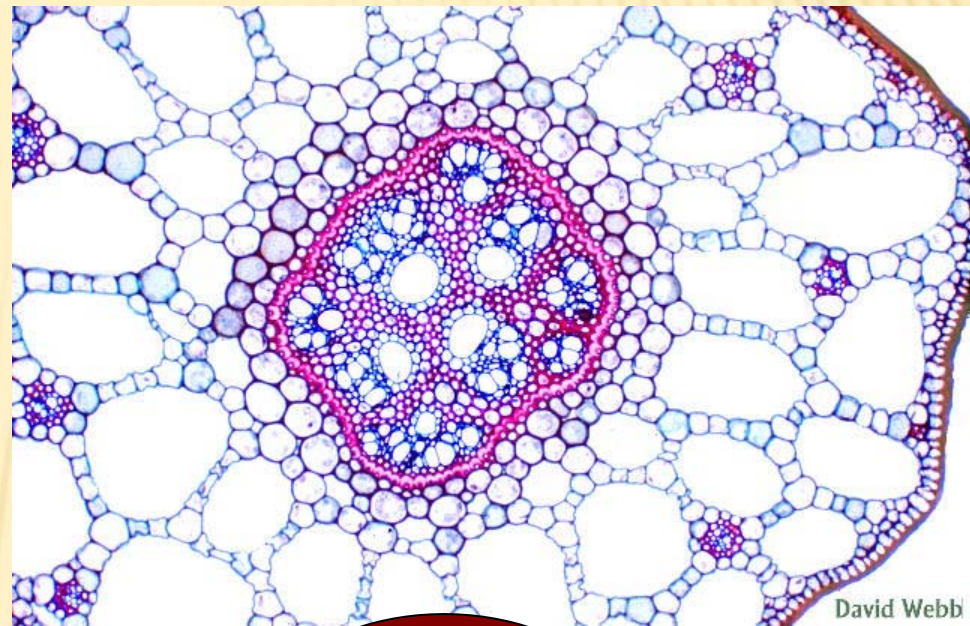
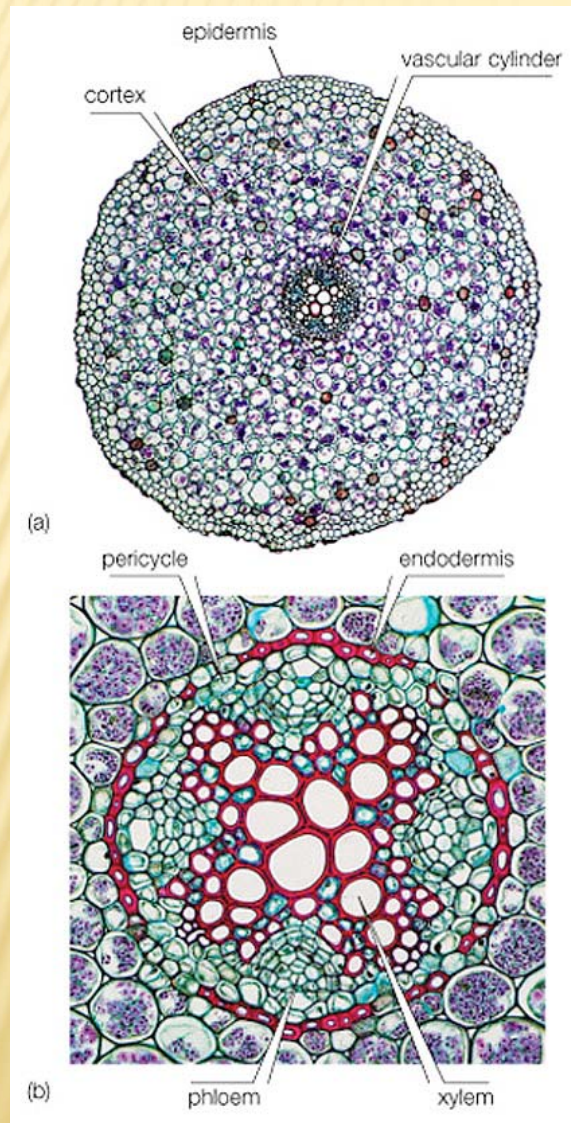
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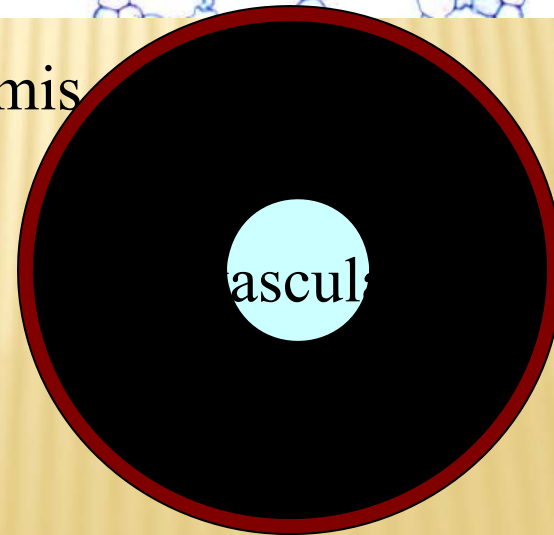
# ROOTS



# ANATOMY OF A ROOT



epidermis



# ROOT EPIDERMIS

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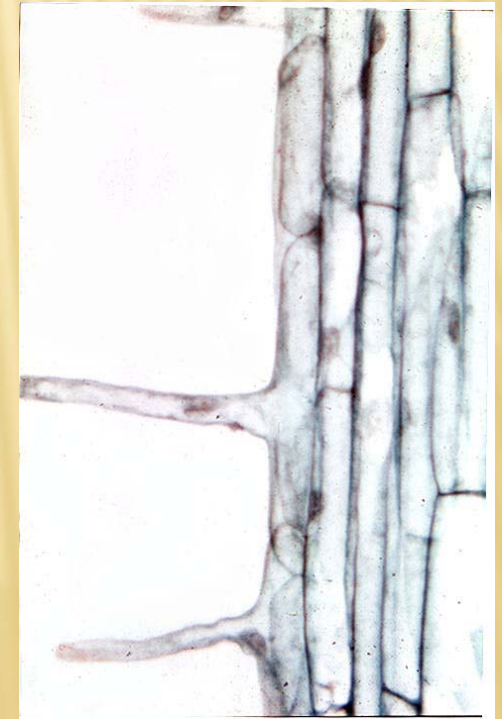
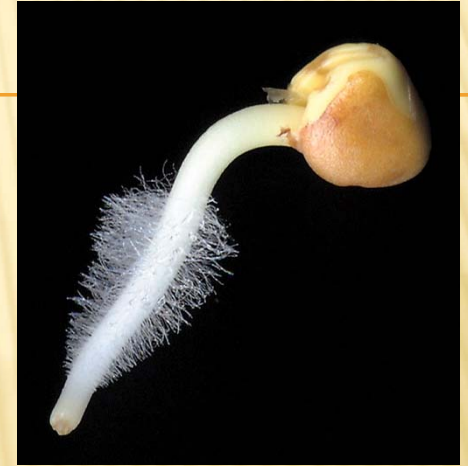
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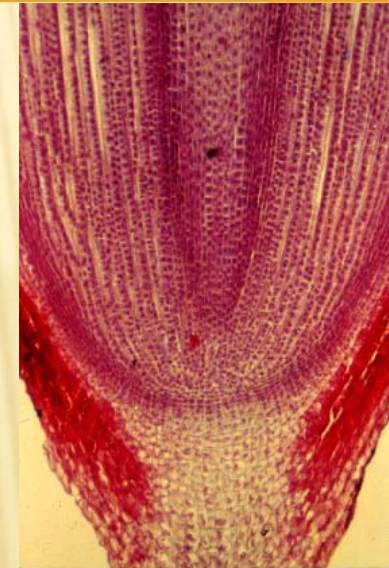
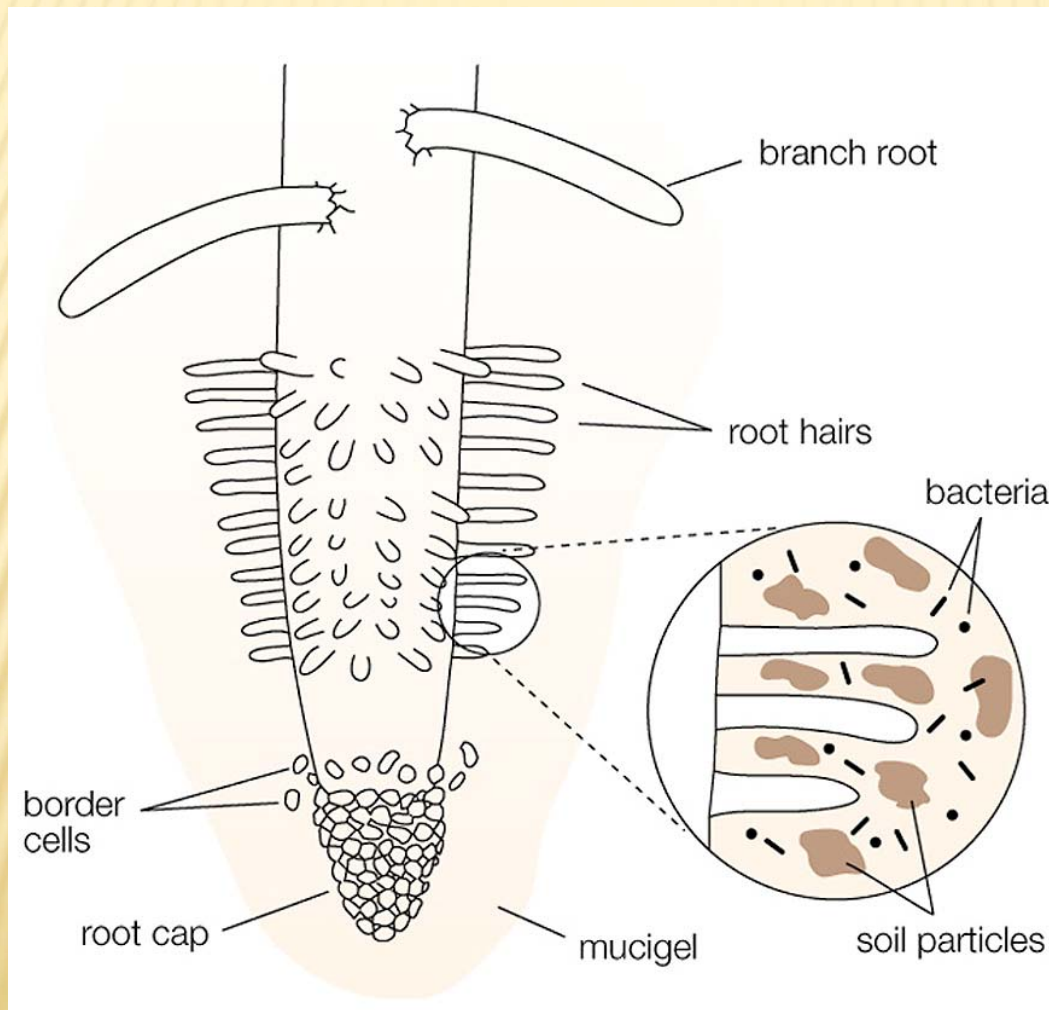
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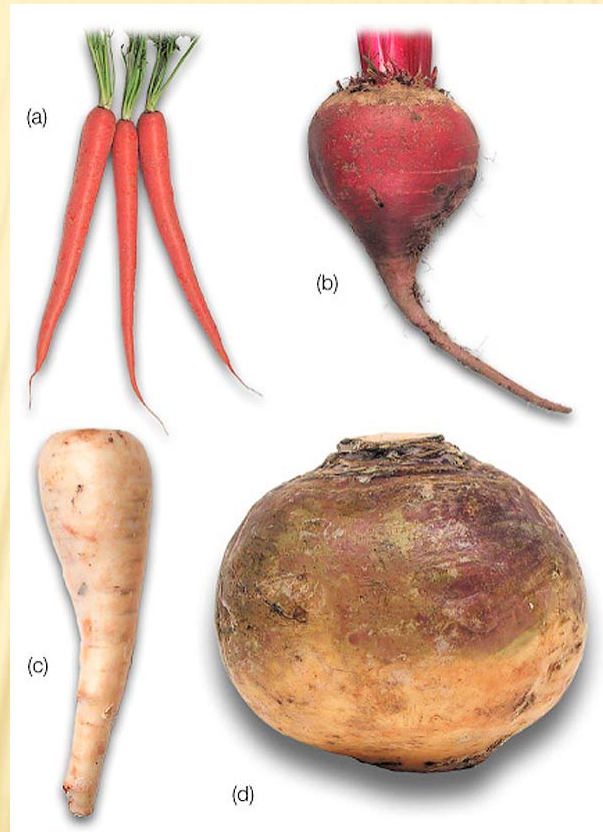
# ROOT HAIRS: WATER AND MINERAL ABSORPTION



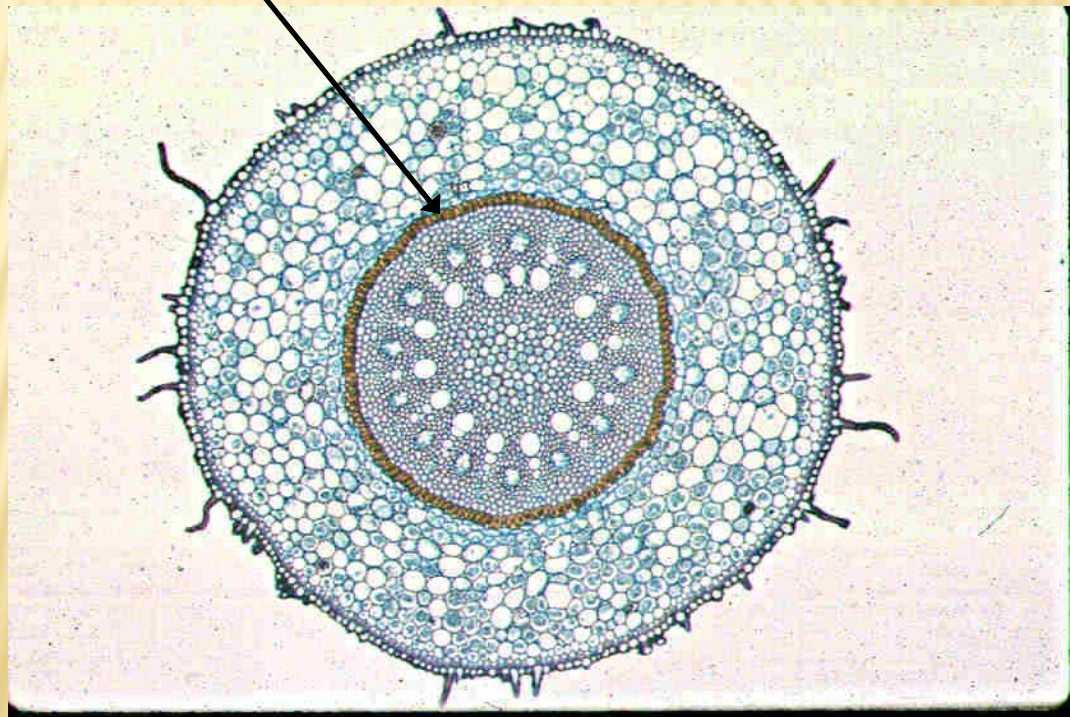
Root tip - cap & apical meristem

**Root hairs** increase surface area for better absorption

# ROOT CORTEX



# ROOT CORTEX: ENDODERMIS

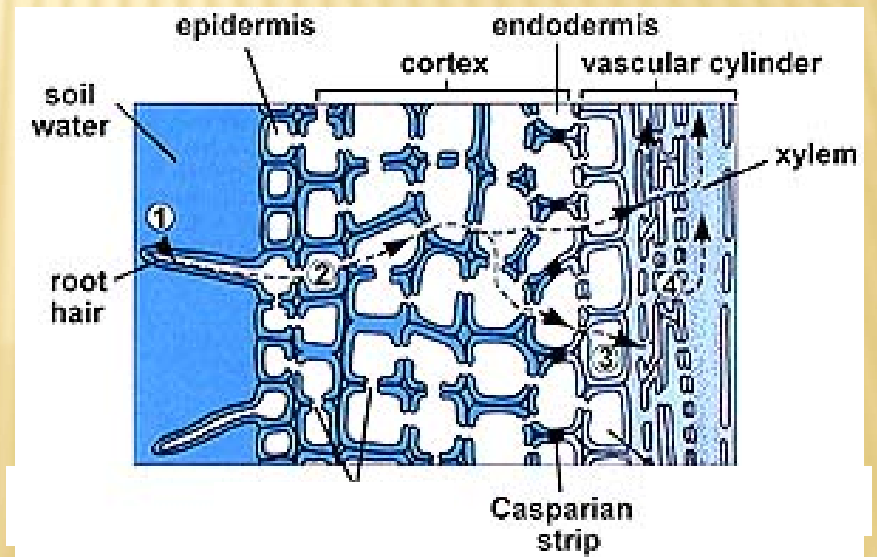
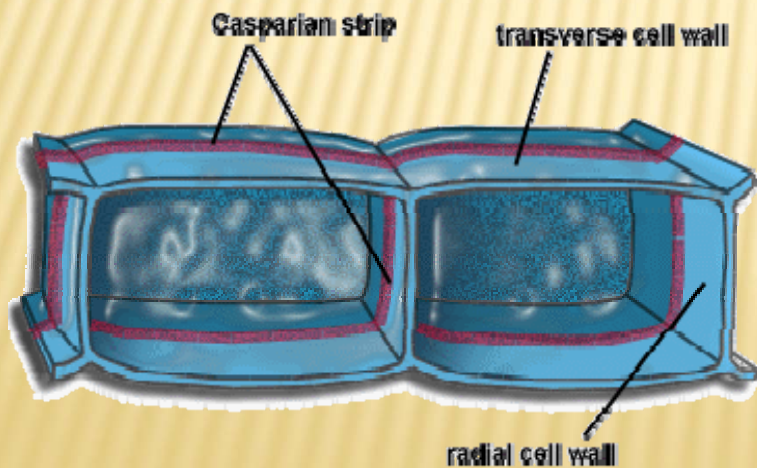




# ROOT CORTEX: CASPARIAN STRIP

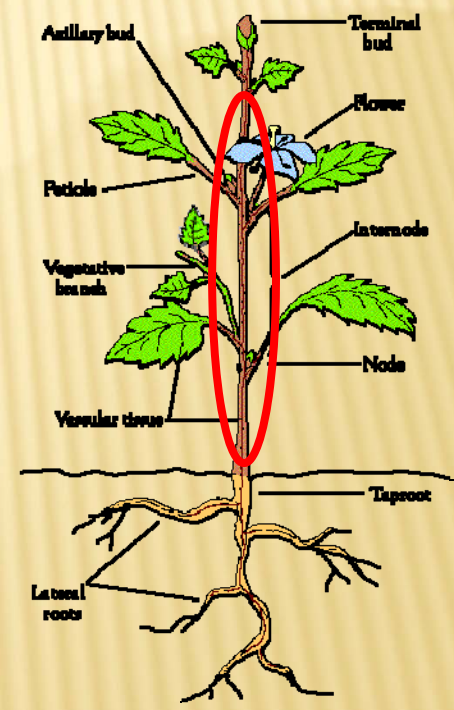
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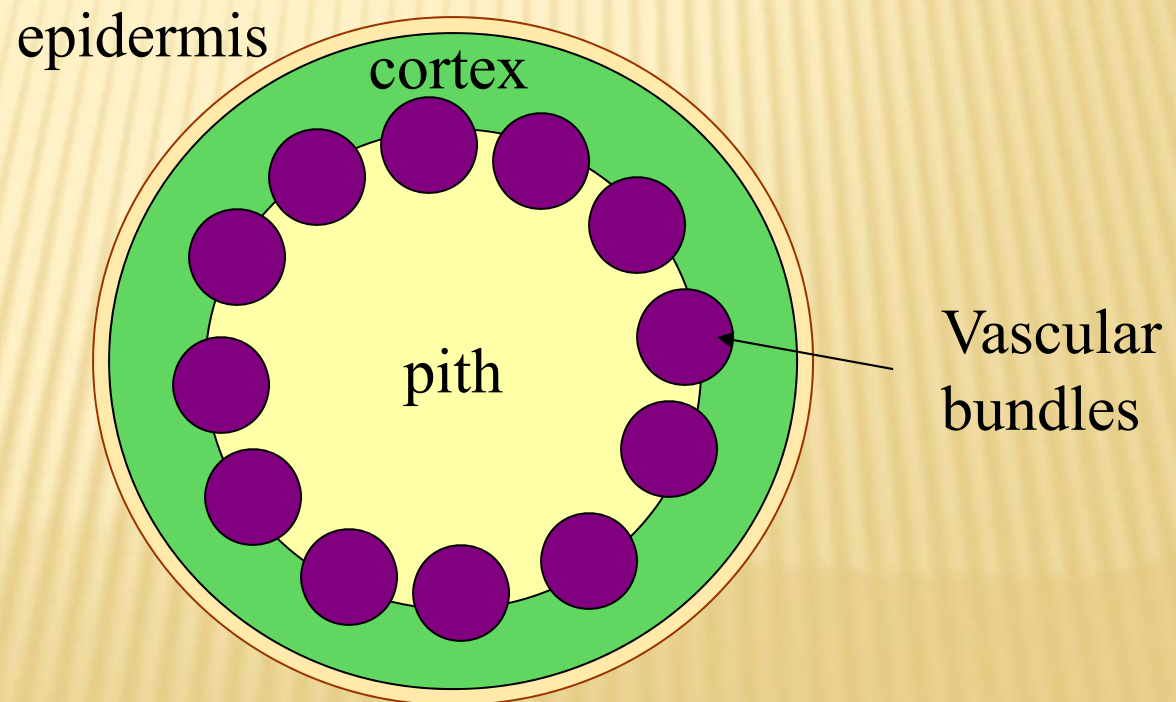


# STEMS

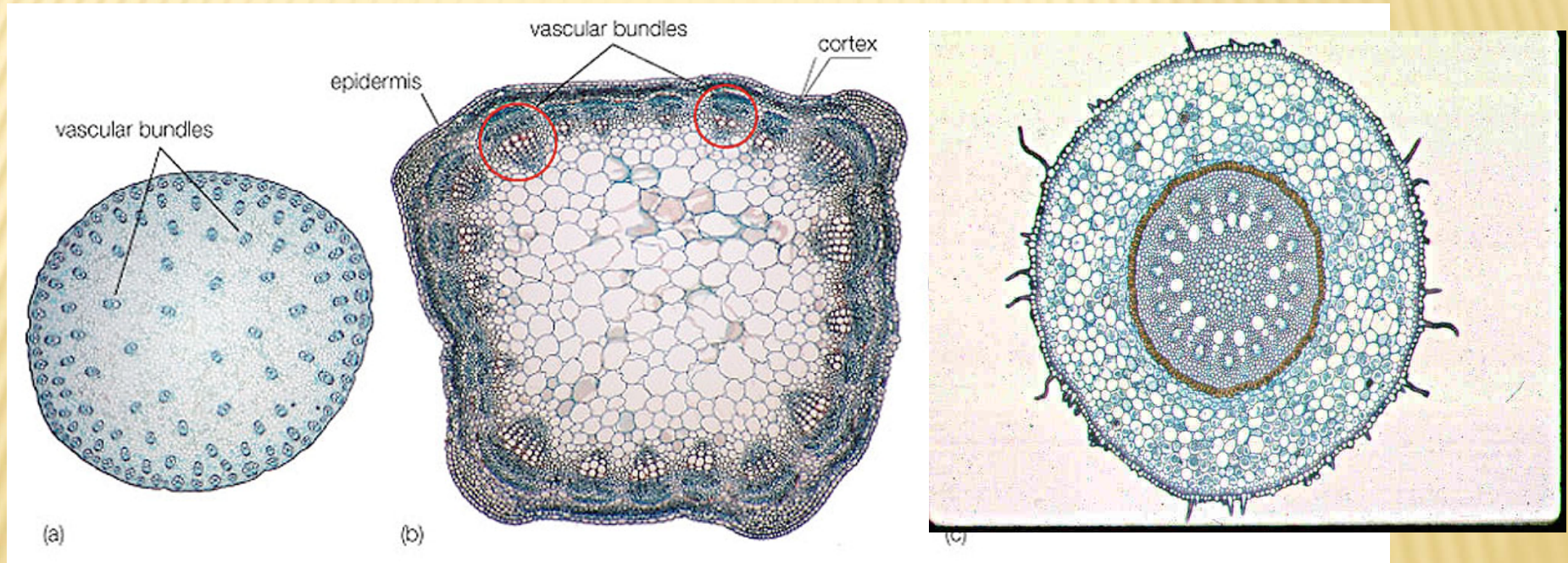
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# STEM ANATOMY



# TYPES OF STEMS



Monocot stem

Dicot stem

Root

# TYPES OF STEMS

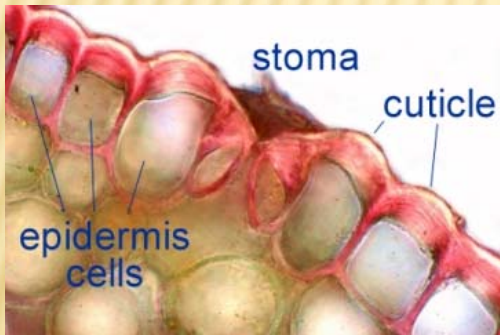


yv1



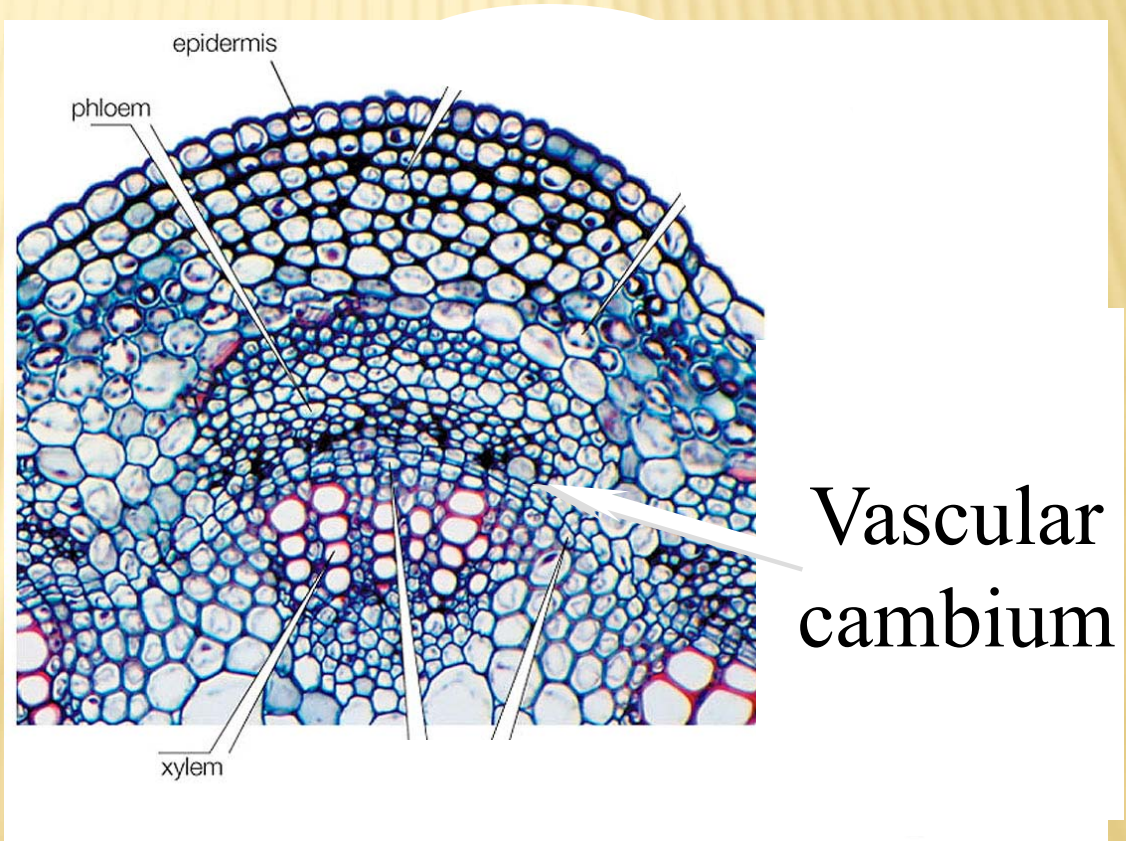
# TISSUES OF STEMS

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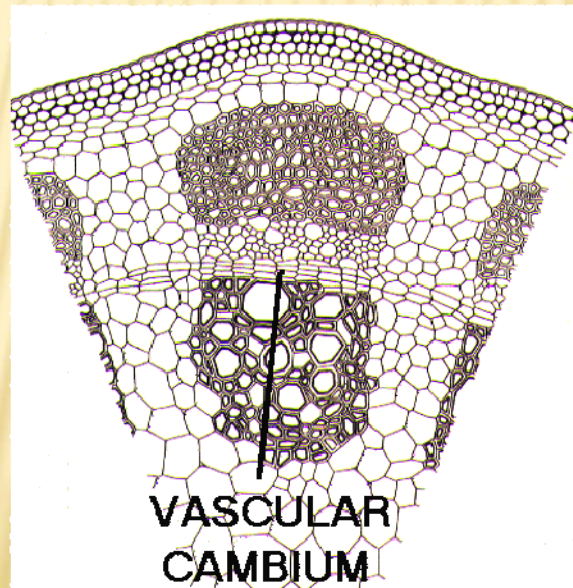


# STEM VASCULAR TISSUE

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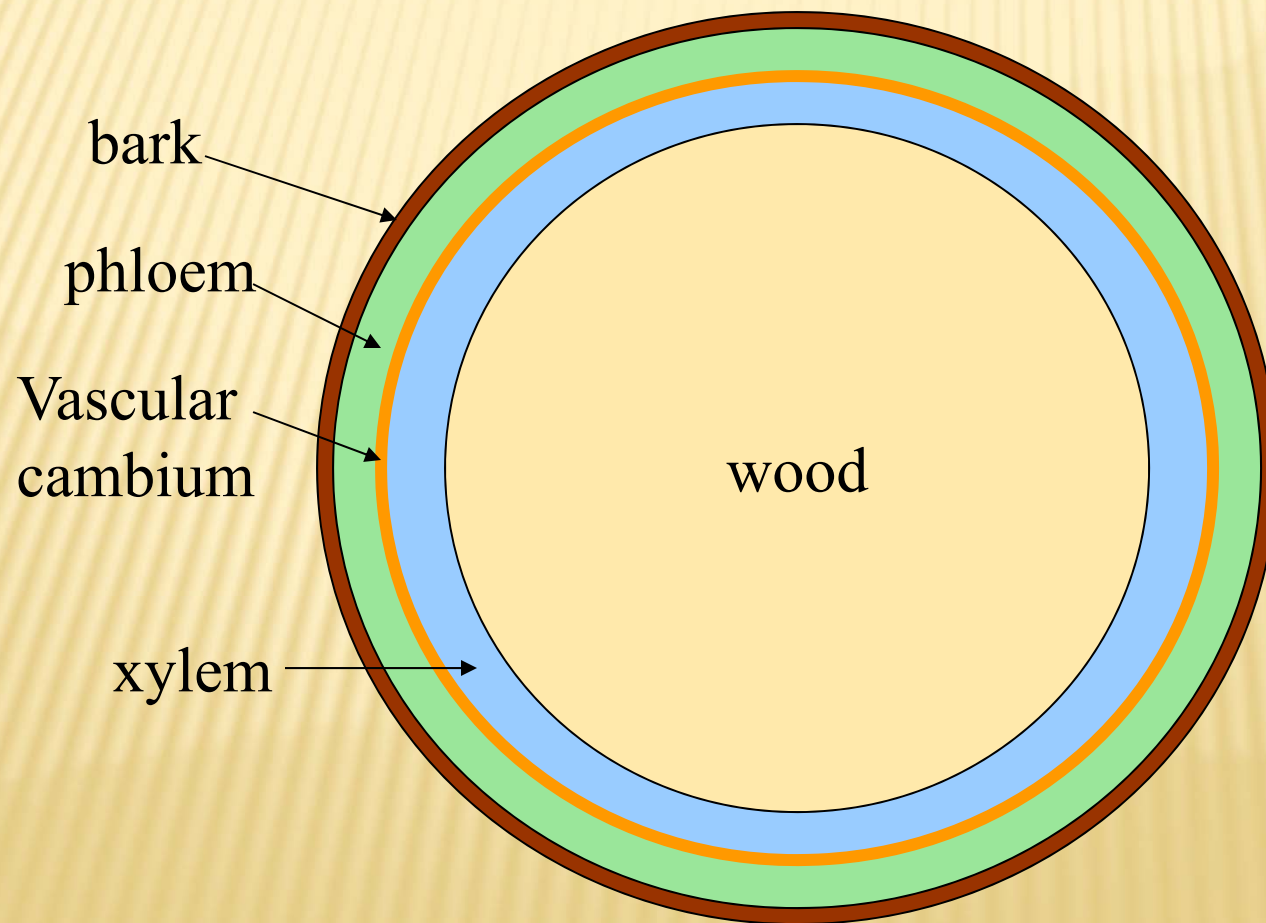
# VASCULAR CAMBIUM





# VASCULAR TISSUE: TREES

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# GIRDLING: CUTTING AROUND A TREE



**Girdling of trunk**

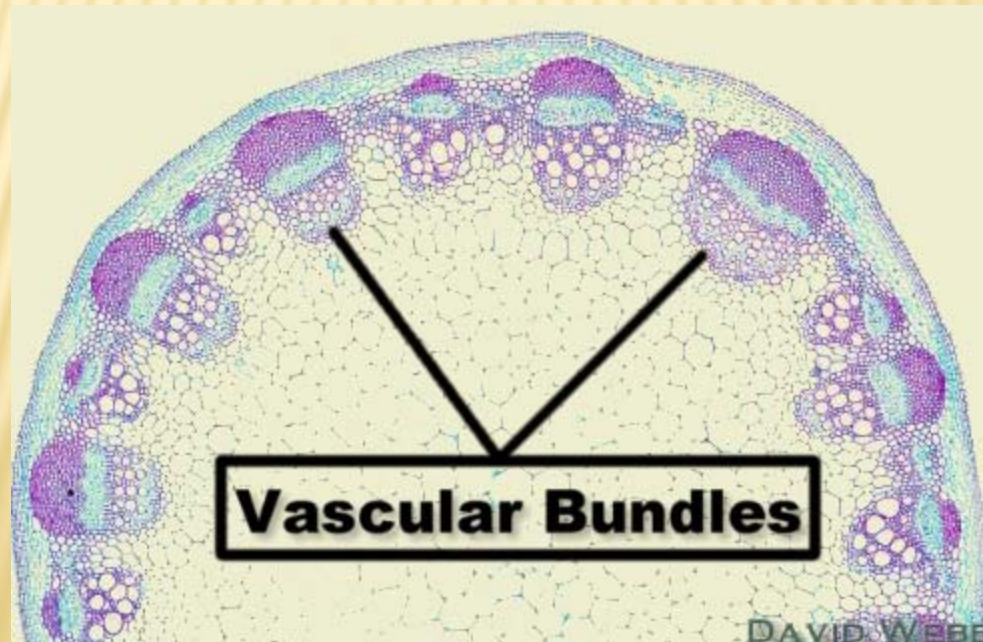


# LATERAL GROWTH

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# LATERAL GROWTH

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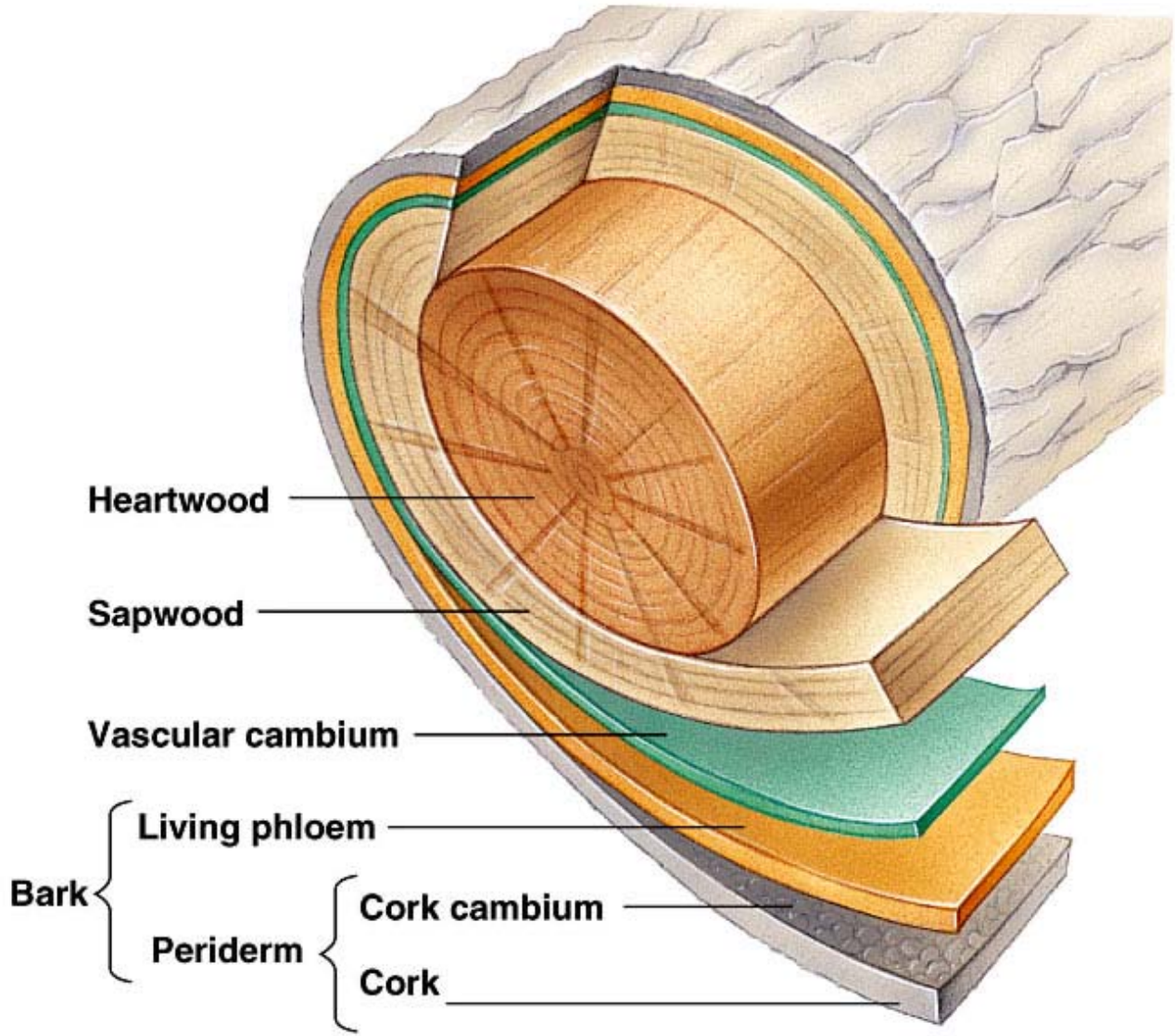
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# LATERAL GROWTH CONTINUED

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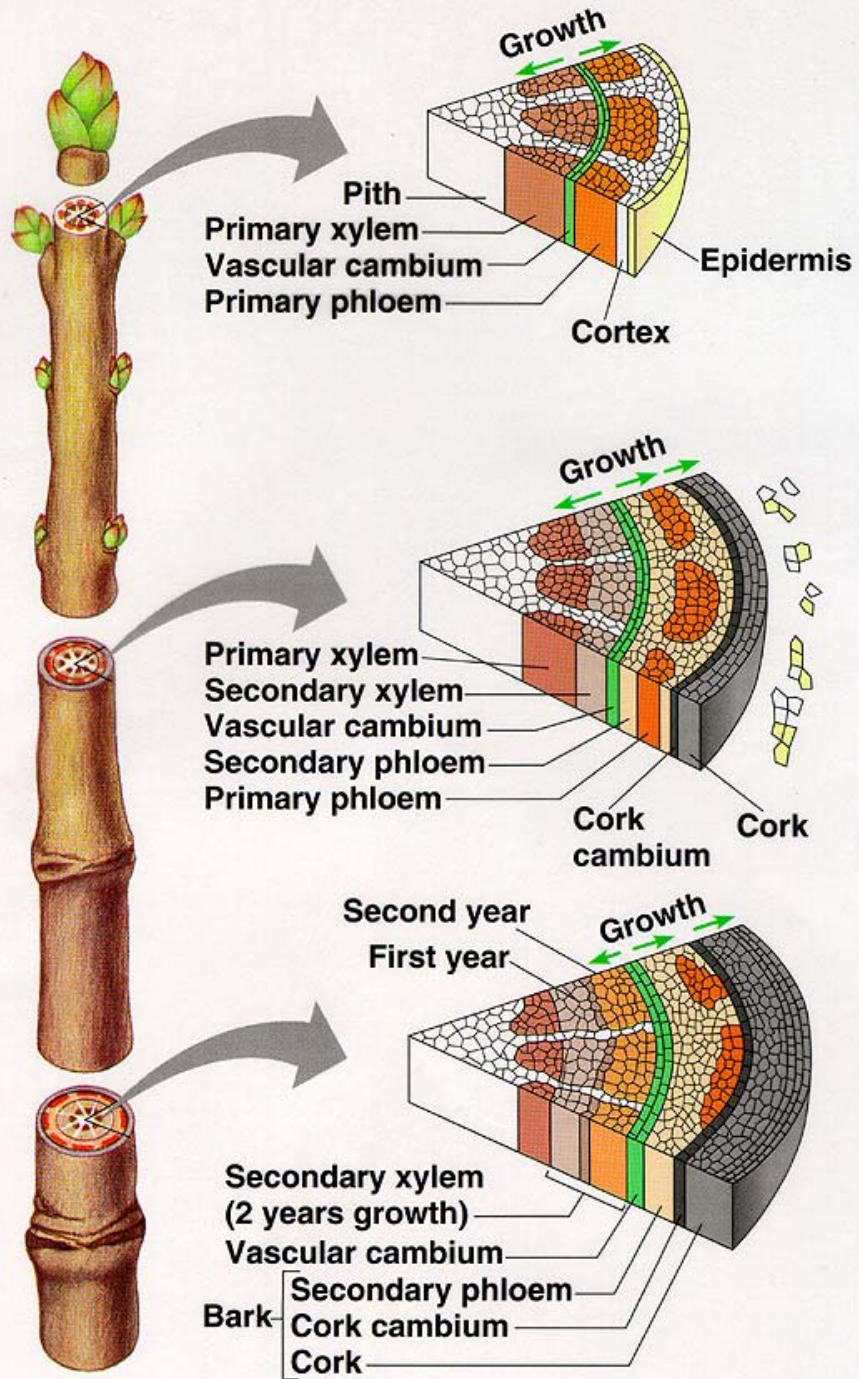


Heartwood = dead, older xylem

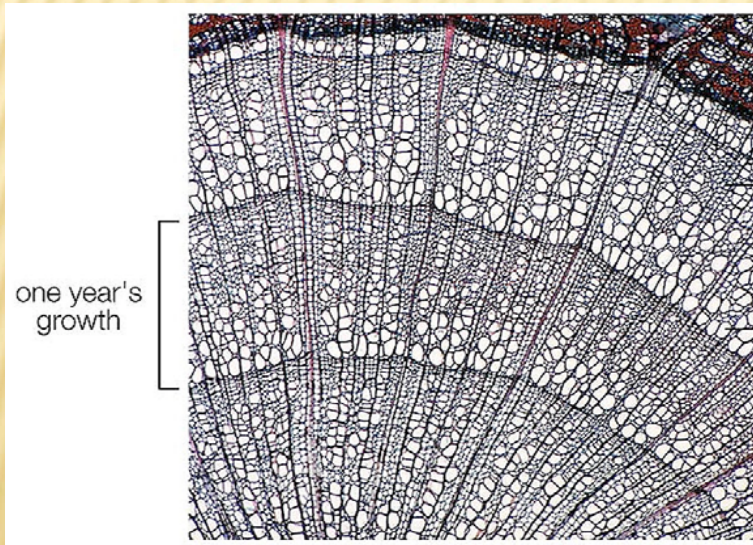
Sapwood = new xylem still carrying water

Phloem – carries food - old phloem sloughs

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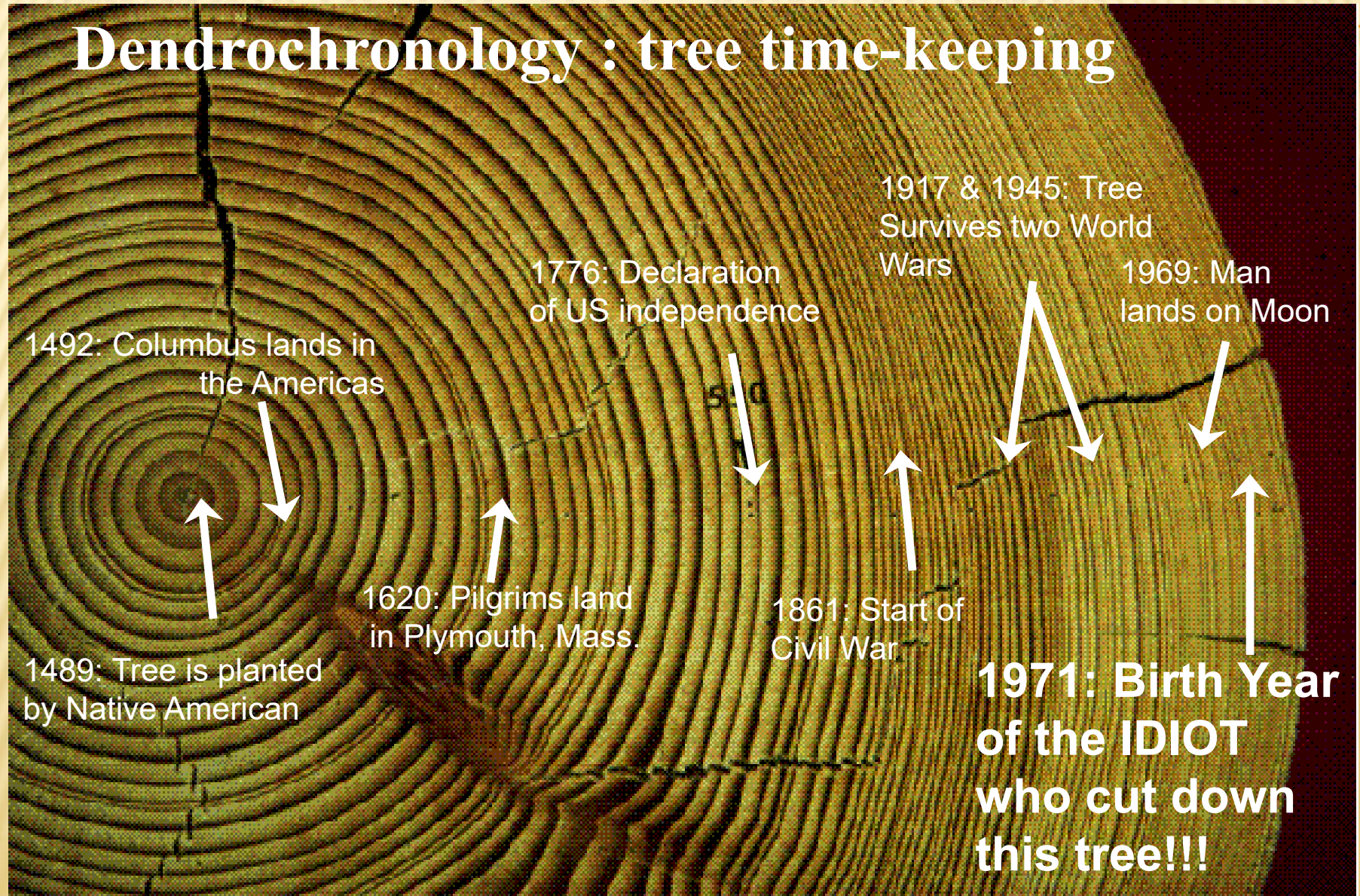
# VASCULAR TISSUE FORMS RINGS IN TREES





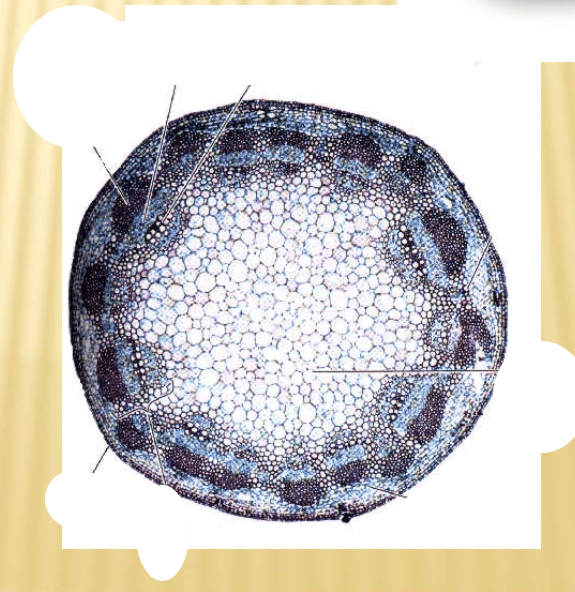
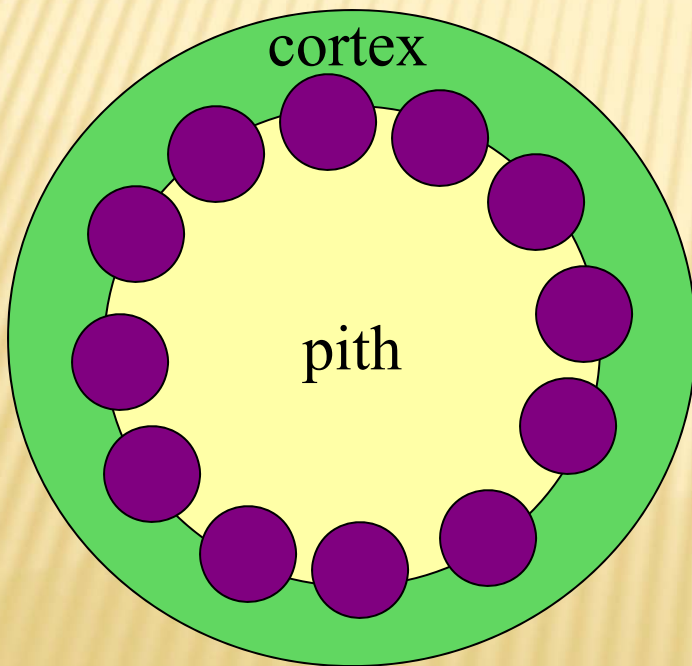
# HISTORY OF THE TREE: ANNUAL RINGS

## Dendrochronology : tree time-keeping



# GROUND TISSUE: CORTEX & PITH

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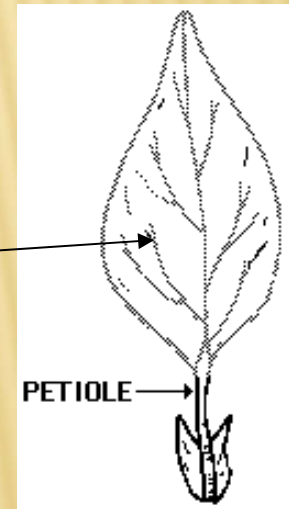


# LEAVES:

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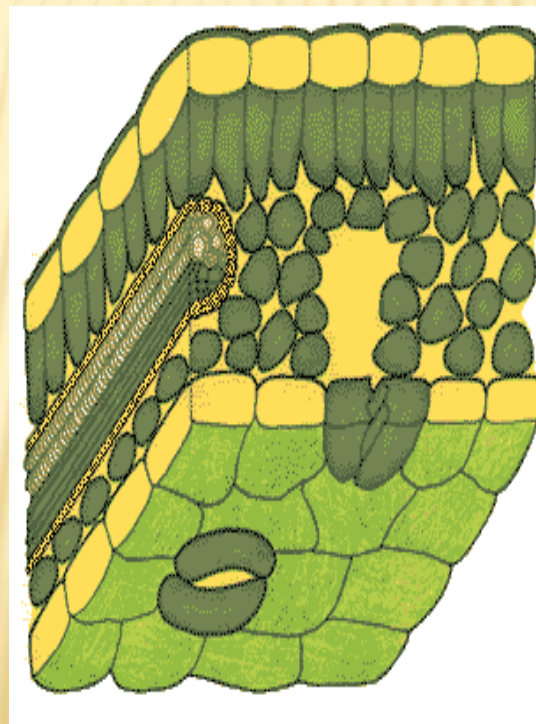
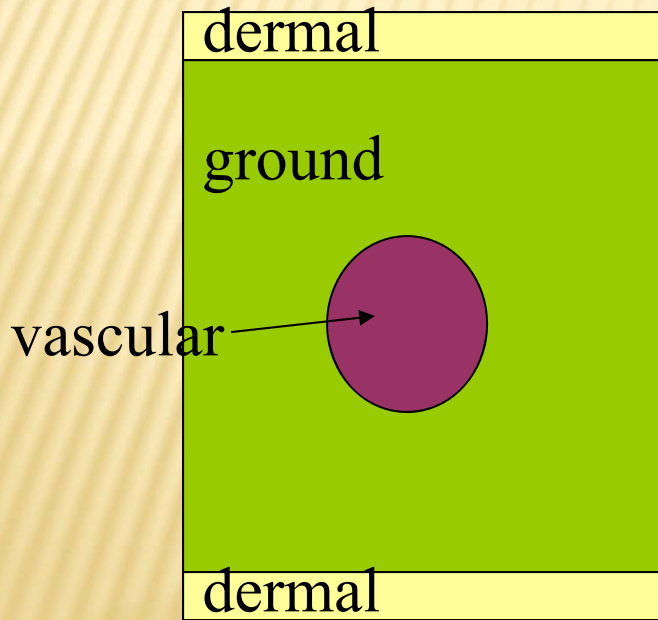
**BLADE**



**PETIOLE**

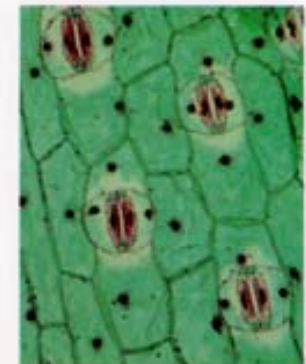
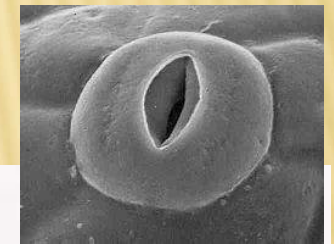
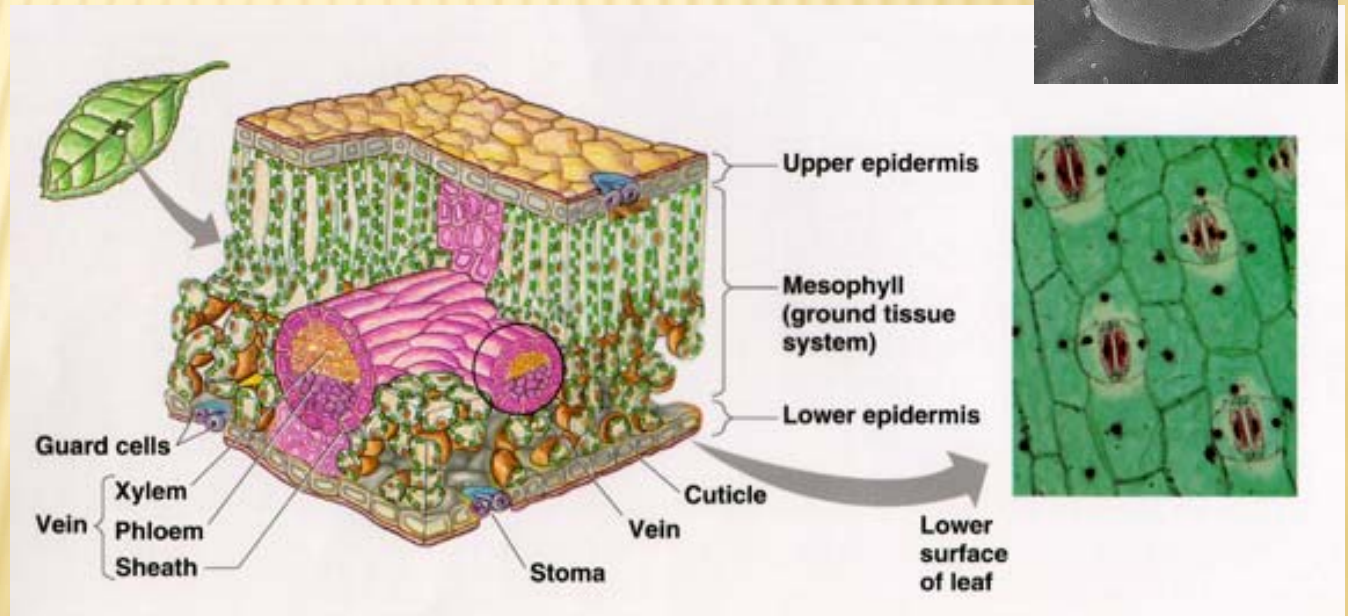
# LEAF ANATOMY

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# LEAF EPIDERMIS

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# LEAF EPIDERMIS



(“Panda plant”)