

Primary growth

Apical meristem

Secondary growth

Lateral meristem

Meristematic phase

Cells are rich in protoplasm, large conspicuous nucleus, thin cellulosic cell wall, abundant plasmodesmatal connections

Elongation phase

New cell wall deposition,
cell enlargement and
increased vacuolation

Maturation phase

Maximal cell wall
thickening and
protoplasmic
modifications

Arithmetic growth

Linear growth

E.g. root elongation

Geometrical growth

Sigmoid curve

E.g. Cell culture, tree showing seasonal activities

Differentiation

Cells mature to perform specific function, e.g. apical meristem and cambium cells differentiate

Dedifferentiation

Regaining the capacity to divide after differentiation, e.g. parenchyma cells dedifferentiate to form interfascicular cambium, cork

Redifferentiation

Dedifferentiated cells again lose the capacity to divide and mature to perform specific functions, e.g. secondary xylem, phloem, etc.

Plasticity

Different kinds of plant structures in different phases of life or environmental conditions, e.g. heterophylly in larkspur and buttercup

Auxin

Indole compounds
Natural- IAA, IBA
Synthetic- NAA, 2,4-D

Isolated by F.W. Went from coleoptile of oat seedlings

First isolated from human urine

Produced by growing root and shoot apices

Auxin functions

Apical dominance

Root initiation in stem cuttings, xylem differentiation and cell division

Promotes flowering in pineapple, parthenocarpy in tomatoes

Cytokinins

Adenine derivatives
Natural- Zeatin
Synthetic- Kinetin

Skoog and Miller identified and crystallised for the first time

Natural source is yeast extract, DNA, coconut milk

Cytokinin functions

Promotes lateral and adventitious shoot growth

Delay of leaf senescence

Chloroplast formation

Gibberellins

Terpenes

E. Kurosawa identified and discovered gibberellic acid in rice seedlings infected by fungus *Gibberella fujikuroi* causing foolish seedling disease

Gibberellin functions

Promotes stem elongation in sugarcane, grapes and elongation of fruits like apple

Early seed production in conifers

Bolting or internode elongation in beet, cabbage, etc.

Ethylene

Gaseous hormone

Reported by Cousins as a volatile substance in ripened oranges

Ethylene functions

Induces fruit ripening,
increases respiration rate

Breaks seed and bud
dormancy, initiates seed
germination in peanuts and
sprouting in potato tubers

Promotes senescence and
abscission of flowers and
leaves

Abscissic acid

Carotenoids

Plant growth inhibitor, stress
hormone

E.g. inhibitor-B, abscission II
and dormin

Antagonist to GAs

Regulates abscission and
dormancy

Abscissic acid functions

Inhibits seed germination and
stimulates stomatal closure

Help plant withstand
desiccation and tolerate
various stress conditions