

اسم المقرر: علم الكيمياء النباتية  
رمز المقرر: 473 نبت

**Phytochemistry 473 BOT**

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**تعريف بعضو هيئة التدريس ومعلومات التواصل**

اسم أستاذ المقرر للجزء النظري: د. فيصل الحربي

الكلية : كلية العلوم

القسم : النبات والأحياء الدقيقة

البريد الإلكتروني:

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## خطة المقرر

وصف عام للمقرر:

- مقدمة عن كيمياء النبات و أهميتها - المكونات الكيميائية للخلايا والأنسجة النباتية واستخداماتها - الصبغات - الأصماغ - القلويدات - اللين النباتي - البروتينات - الكربوهيدرات - الدهون و الزيوت الطيارة والعطرية - استخلاص وفصل المركبات الكيميائية المختلفة في النبات.

قائمة الموضوعات
مقدمة عن كيمياء النبات و أهميتها
المكونات الكيميائية للخلايا والأنسجة النباتية واستخداماتها
الصبغات النباتية والأصماغ النباتية و اللين النباتي
والكربوهيدرات والتعرف عليها وفاندها في النبات
البروتينات والتعرف عليها وفاندها في النبات
الدهون و الزيوت الطيارة والعطرية
استخلاص وفصل المركبات الكيميائية المختلفة في النبات.

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## قائمة - الكتب و المراجع :

Paul Haas (2010) an introduction to the chemistry of plant products. Nabu Press

Andrew Pengelly (2004) The constituents of medicinal plants : an introduction to the chemistry and therapeutics of herbal medicine [2nd ed]. Allen & Unwin

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## سياسة التقييم وتوزيع الدرجات

بناء على قرار مجلس الكلية:

**يتم توزيع درجة المقرر الكلية (100 درجة) كالآتي:**

1. درجة الأعمال الفصلية (60 درجة)

أ. الجزء النظري من المقرر (30 درجة) ويتم تدريسه من قبل د. فيصل الحربي.

ب. الجزء العملي من المقرر (30 درجة) ويتم تدريسه من قبل الأستاذ المسؤول عن العملي.

2. درجة الاختبار النهائي (40 درجة)

**مواعيد الاختبارات الشهرية والنهائية:**

1. الاختبار الفصلي للجزء النظري سوف يتم عقده في الفترة ما بين الأسبوع السابع الى التاسع من بداية الفصل الدراسي، وسوف يتم إعلام الطلاب بالموعد المحدد والمؤكد قبل الاختبار بأسبوع كامل.

2. الاختبار النهائي محدد مواعده في البوابة الاكاديمية للطالب.

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## Introduction

**Phytochemistry** is the study of **phytochemicals**, which are chemicals derived from plants.

**Phyto = Plants** **chemistry**

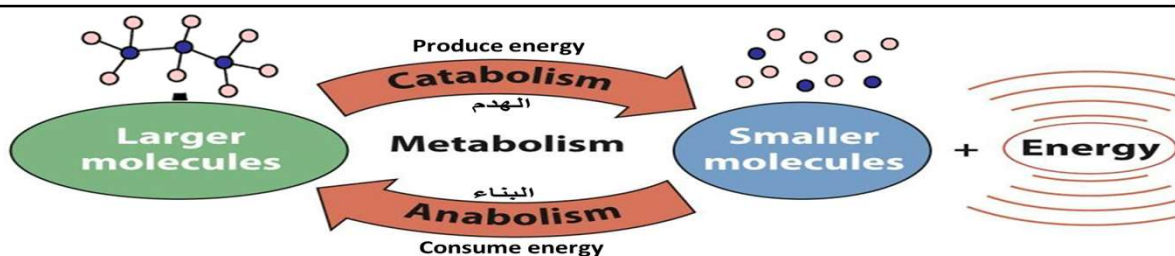


There are about 320,000 species of plants

Phytochemicals are **chemical compounds** produced by **plants**. (chemicals of plant origin)

- chemicals produced by plants through **primary** or **secondary** metabolism
- They generally have **biological activity** (**Bioactive compound**) in the plant host and play a role in plant growth or defense against competitors, pathogens, or predators
- In total, there has been over **25,000 phytochemicals** discovered
- Phytochemists study phytochemicals by first **extracting and isolating** compounds from the origin plant, followed by defining their structure or **testing** in laboratory model systems, such as cell cultures, in vitro experiments, or in vivo studies using laboratory animals.

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➤ Based on the **biological requirements** in plants, the naturally occurring **phytochemicals** can be broadly classified into **primary** metabolites and **secondary** metabolites

#### • Plant metabolism

##### – Primary

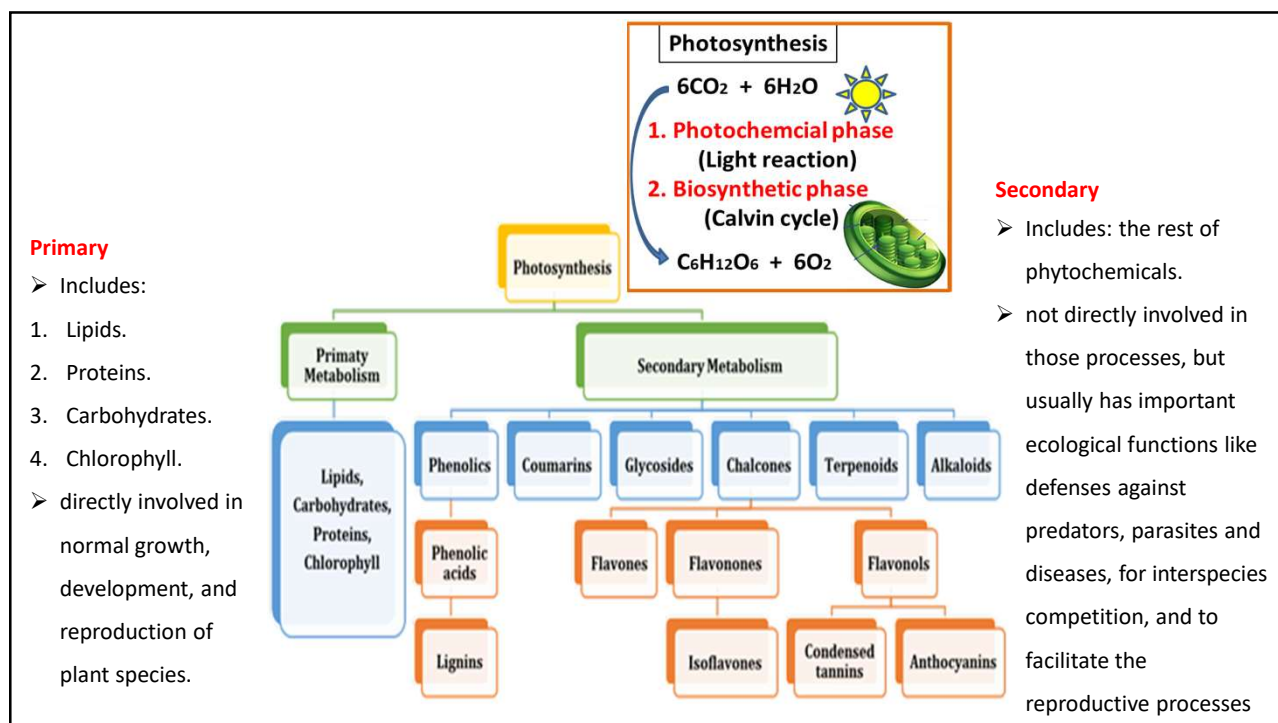
- directly involved in normal growth, development, and reproduction of plant species

##### – Secondary

- not directly involved in those processes, but usually has important ecological functions like defences against predators, parasites and diseases, for interspecies competition, and to facilitate the reproductive processes
- Eg. coloring agents, attractive smells, etc

Both: famous for their beneficial effects on human health

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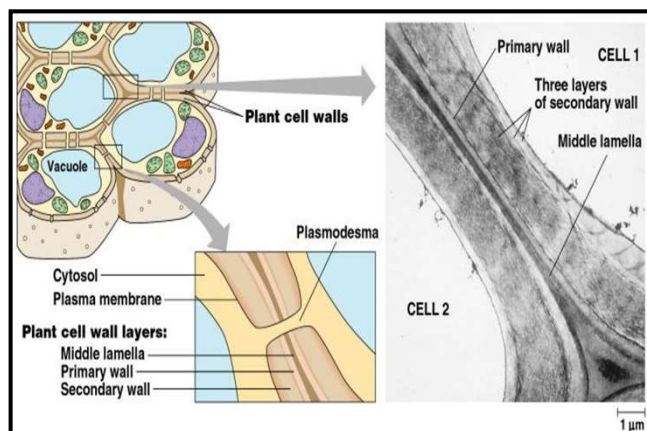


So, from the plant point views (perspectives)

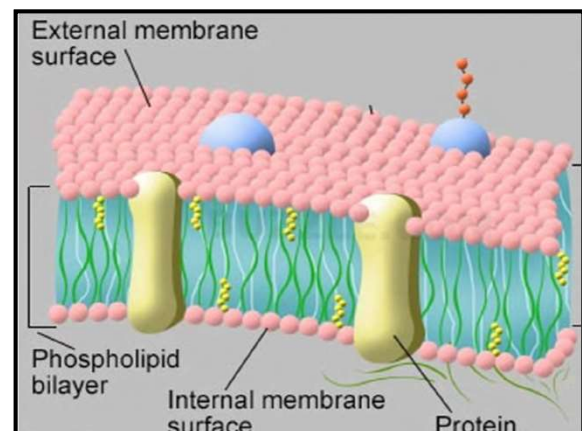
وعليه، فإن فوائد هذه المواد الكيميائية النباتية **بالنسبة للنبات** هي كالآتي

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Primary metabolites are directly involved in normal growth & development



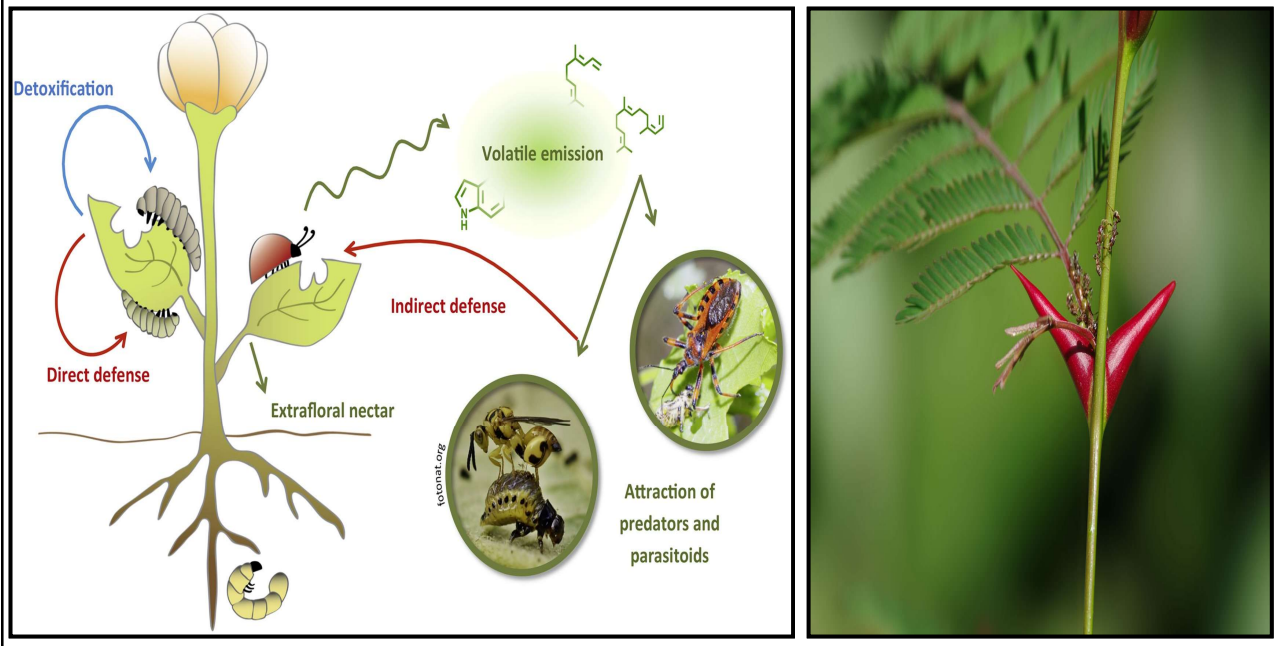
- Cellulose & Hemicellulose (carbohydrates)
  - Proteins
- } Cell wall



- Phospho**lipid**
  - Proteins
- } Plasma membrane

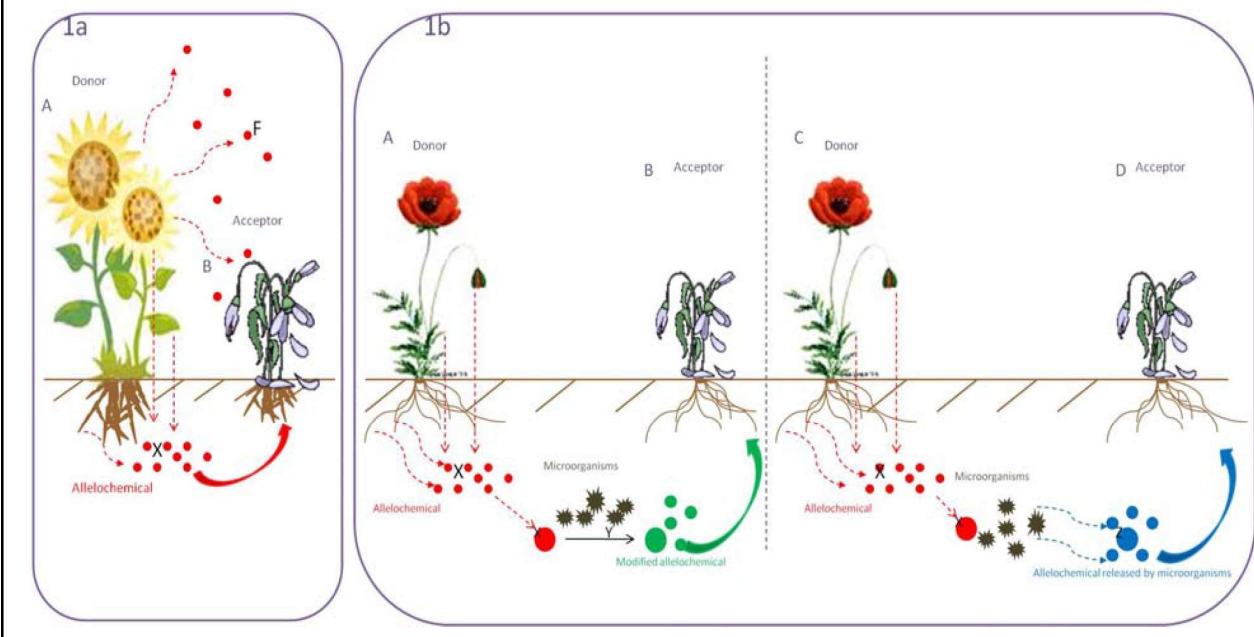
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## Examples of ecological functions like defenses against predators, parasites



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## Examples of ecological functions like interspecies competition (allelopathy)



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### Examples of facilitating the reproductive processes



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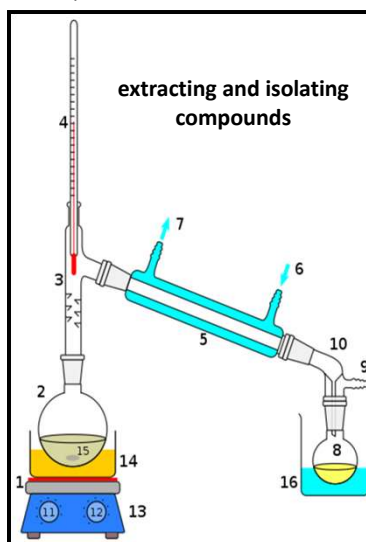
### The interactions between humans and phytochemicals

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- plants have provided the necessities of life such as food, shelter, clothing, and medicine to humanity from the very beginning of human civilization



- Today, phytochemists study phytochemicals by first **extracting and isolating** compounds from the origin plant, followed by defining their structure or **testing** in laboratory model systems, such as cell cultures, in vitro experiments, or in vivo studies using laboratory animals.



cell cultures, in vitro experiments



in vivo studies using laboratory animals

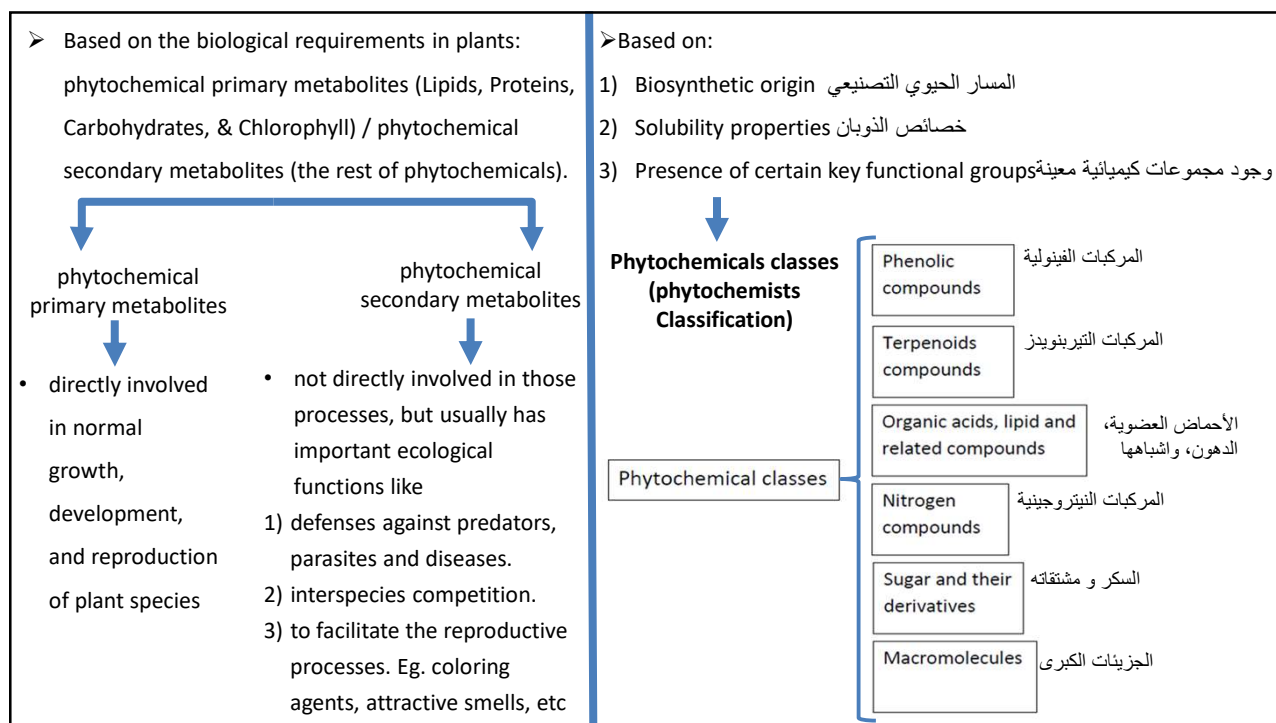


## In last lecture

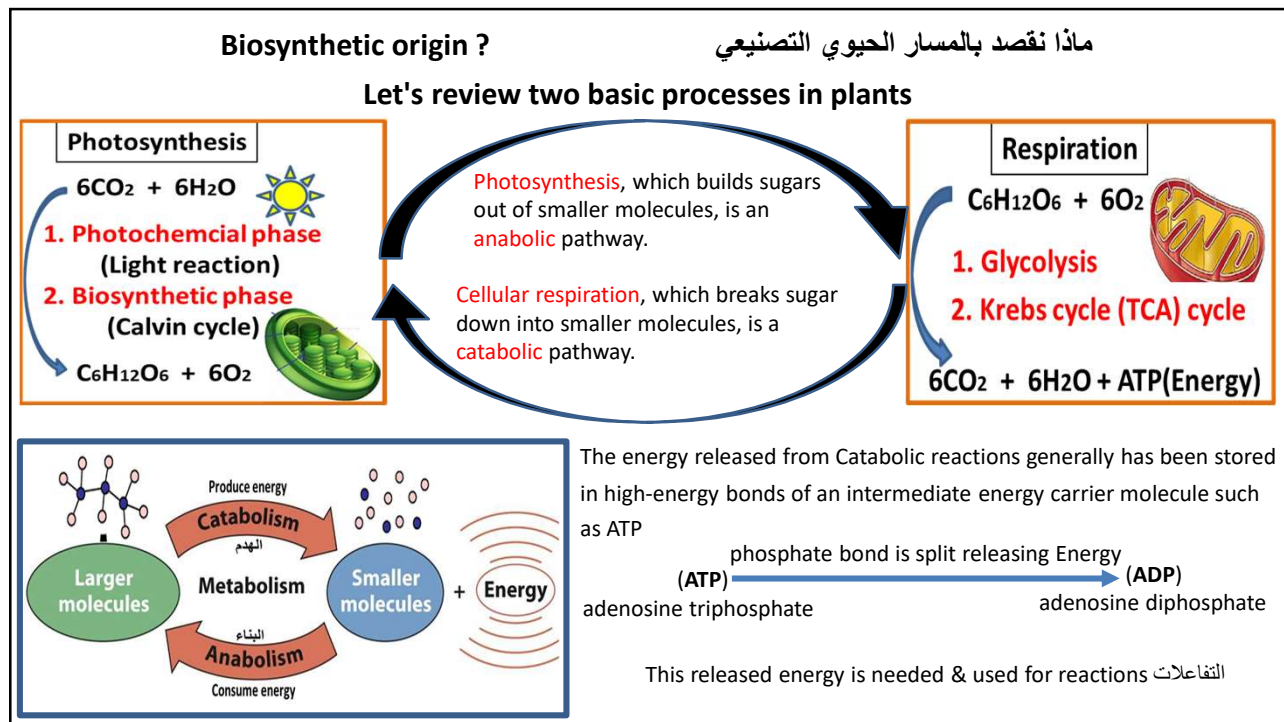
## في المحاضرة السابقة تحدثنا عن

- Phytochemicals → Phyto = Plants
- Over 25,000 phytochemicals discovered
- Bioactive compound (have biological activities: growth, defense, attraction, competition)
- Based on the **biological requirements in plants** →
  - 1) Phytochemical primary metabolites (Lipids, Proteins, Carbohydrates, & Chlorophyll).
  - 2) Phytochemical secondary metabolites (the rest of phytochemicals).
- Based on: **Biosynthetic origin, Solubility properties, Presence of certain key functional groups** → **Phytochemicals classes** (phytochemists Classification)
- **Phytochemical Secondary metabolites** do not fall into the category of essential nutrients.
  - They aren't absolutely needed by the body – in other words, they are **not nutritionally essential**, But some have beneficial effects on human health.
  - Not vitamin.

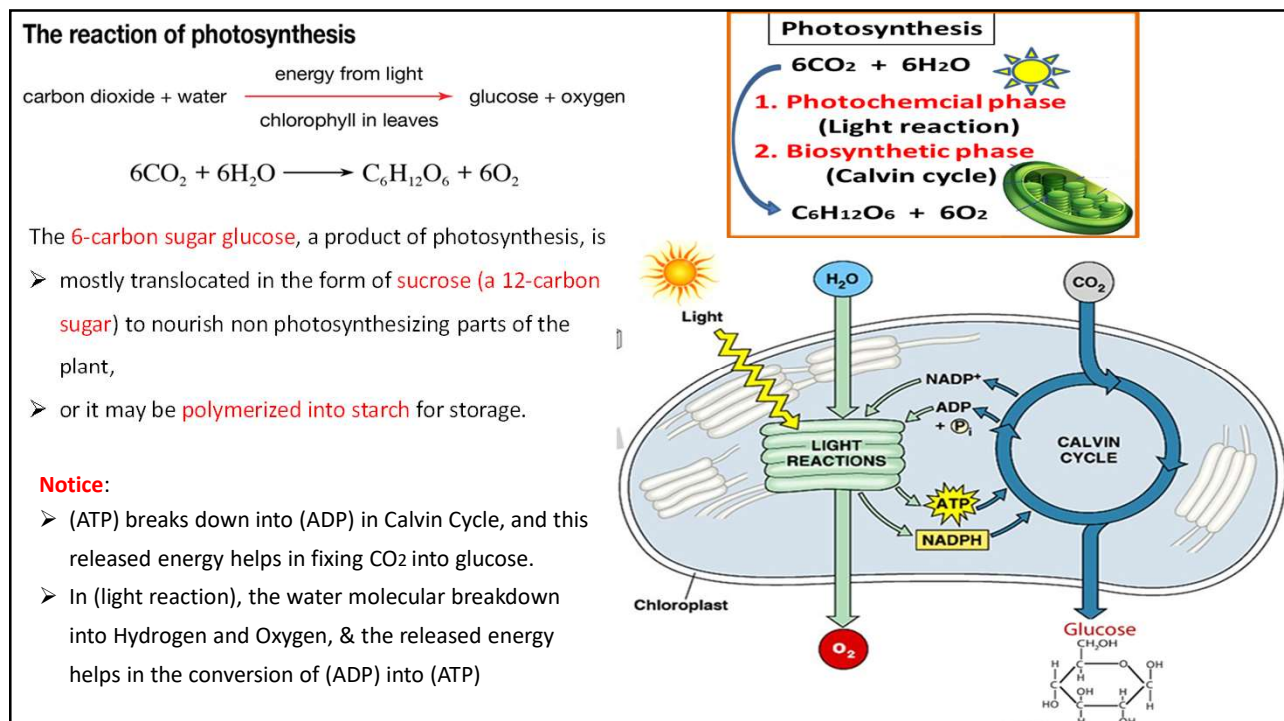
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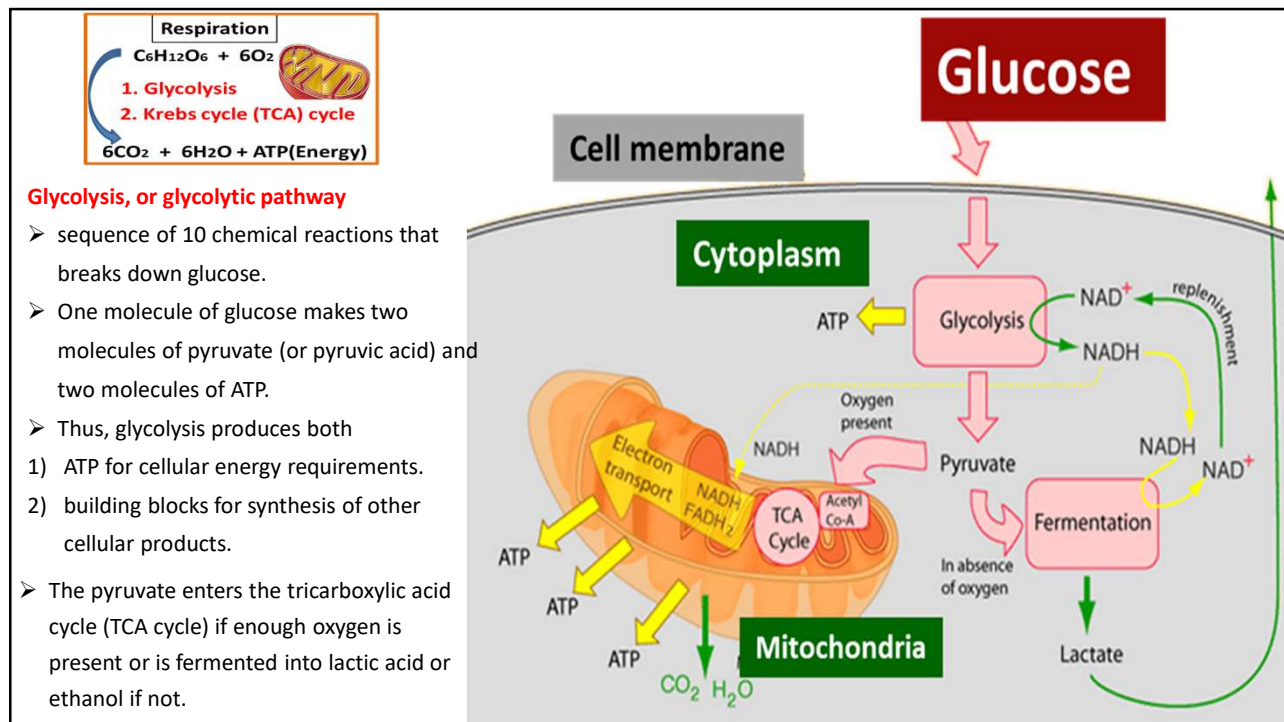
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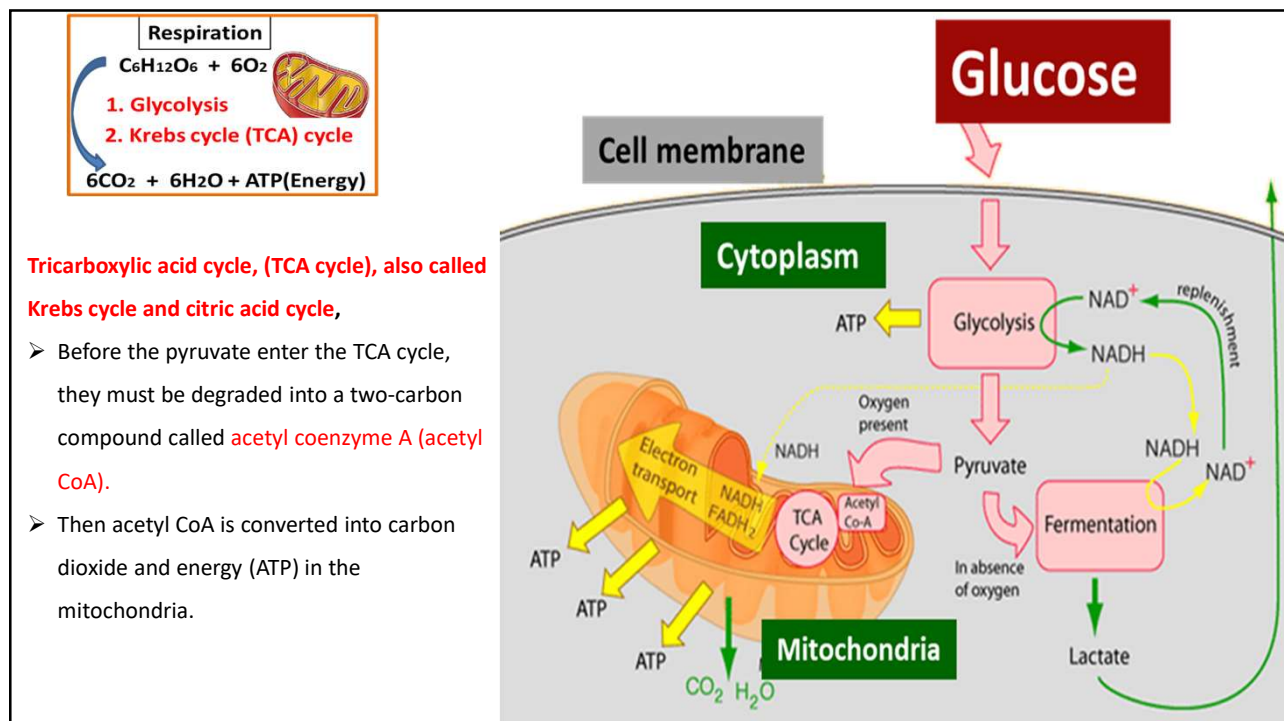
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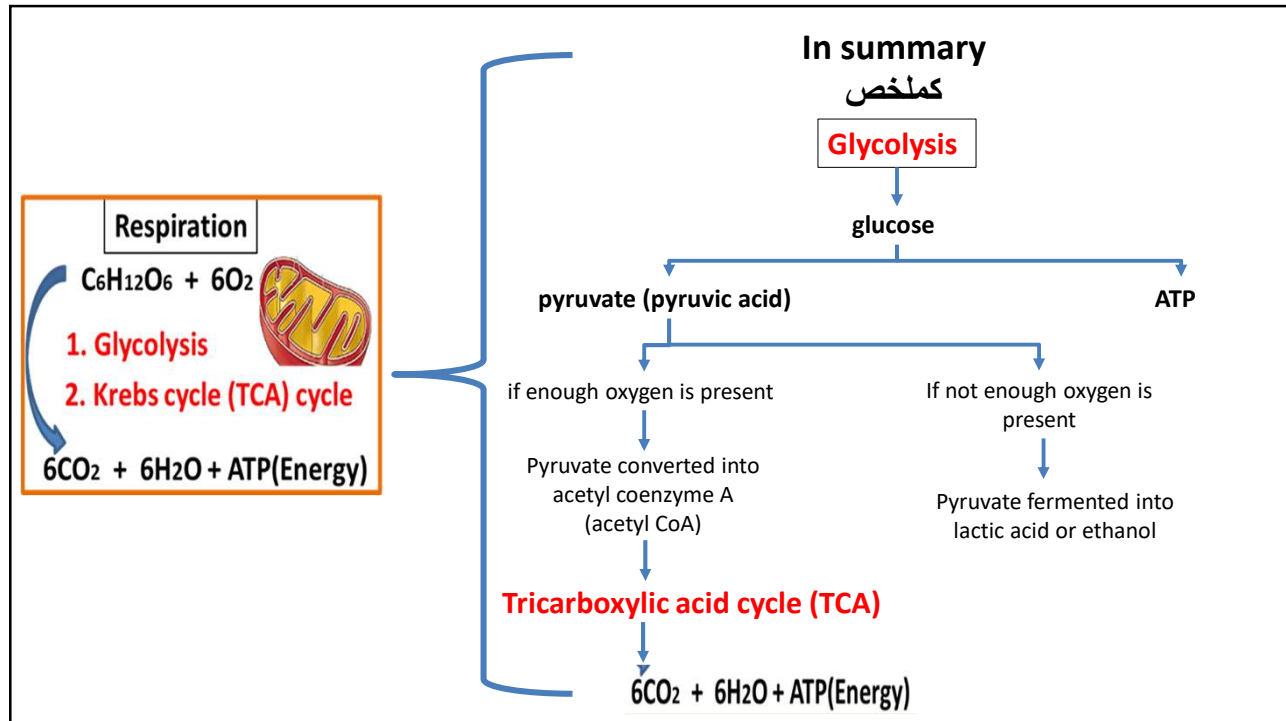
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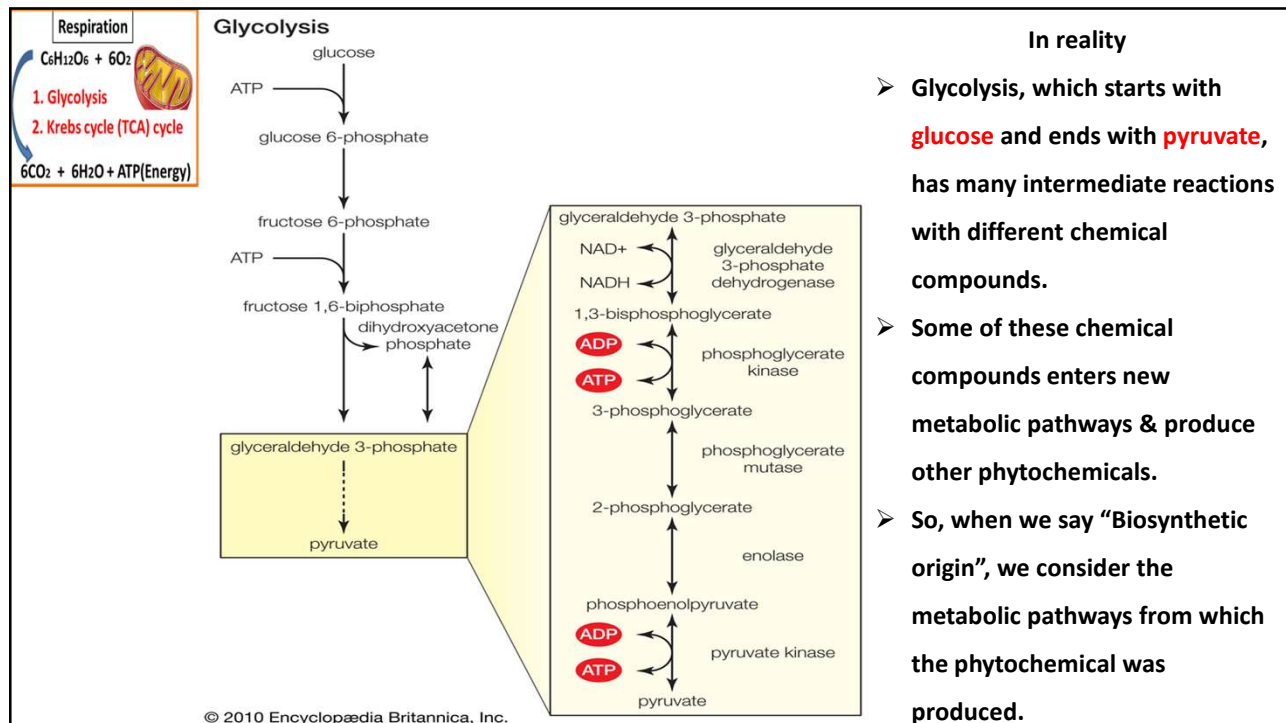
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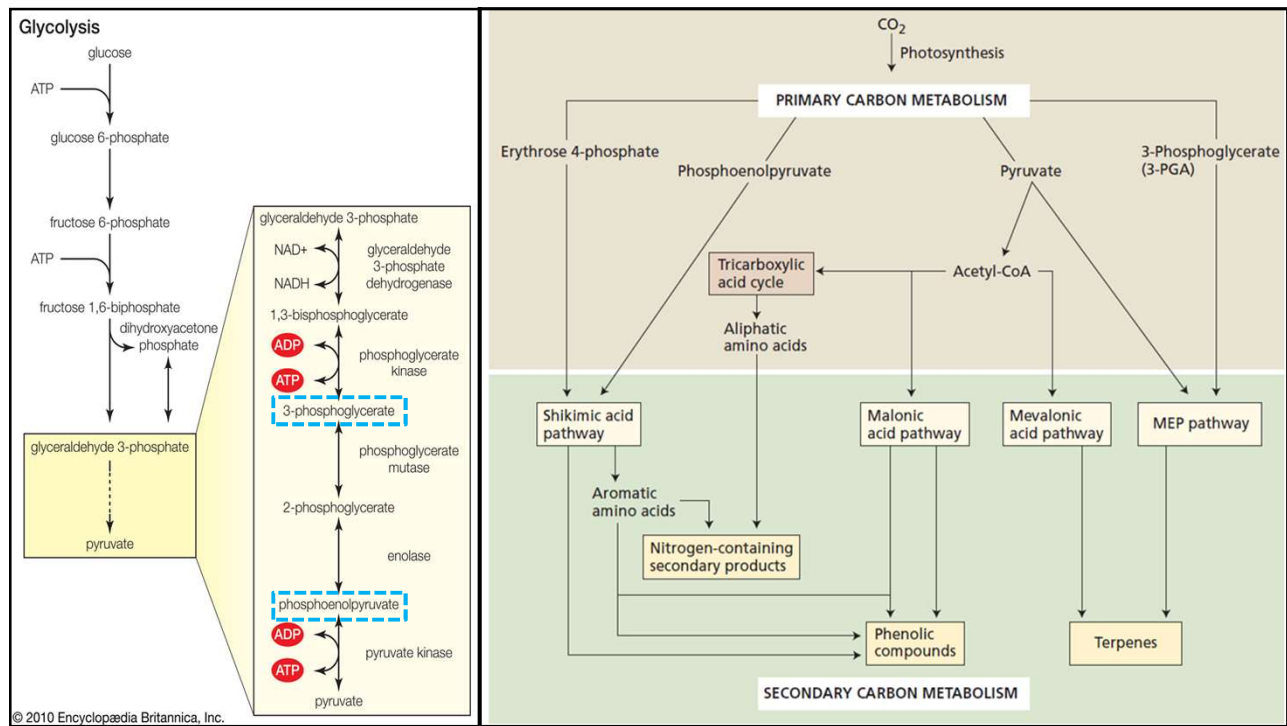


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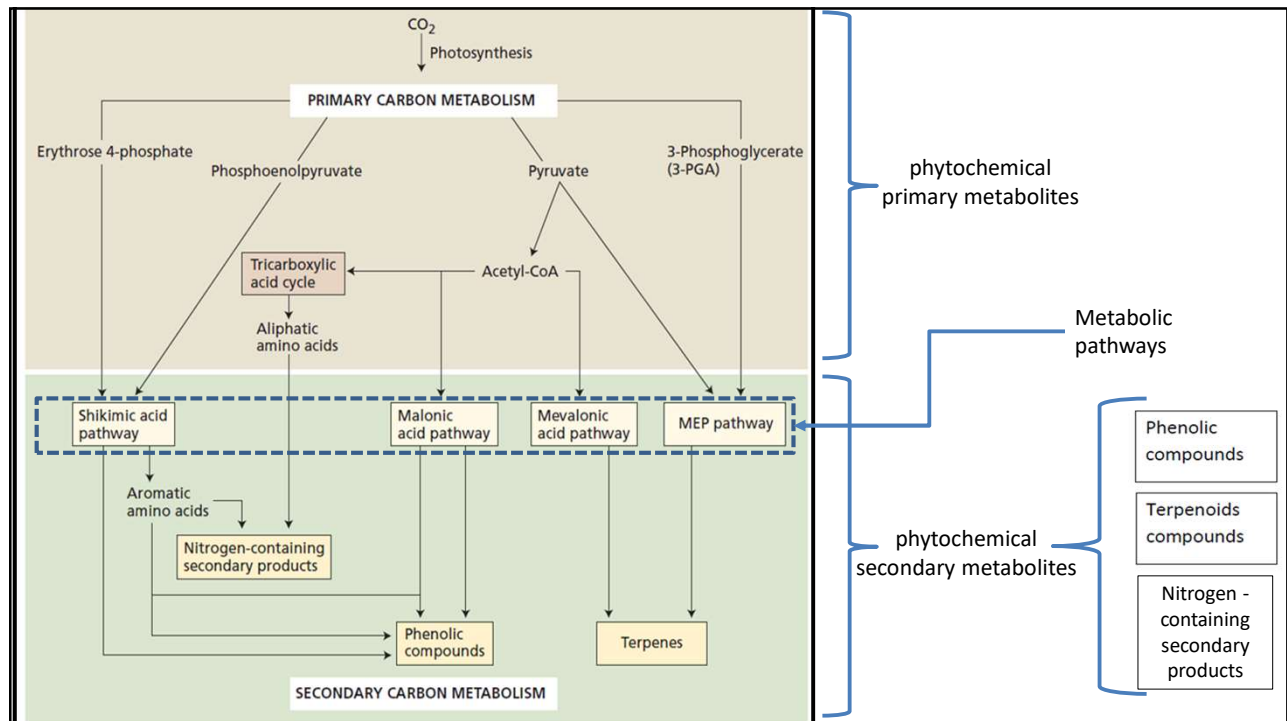


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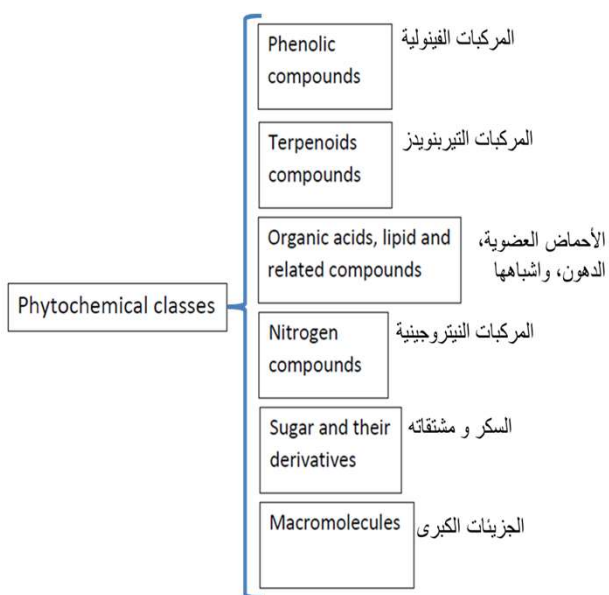


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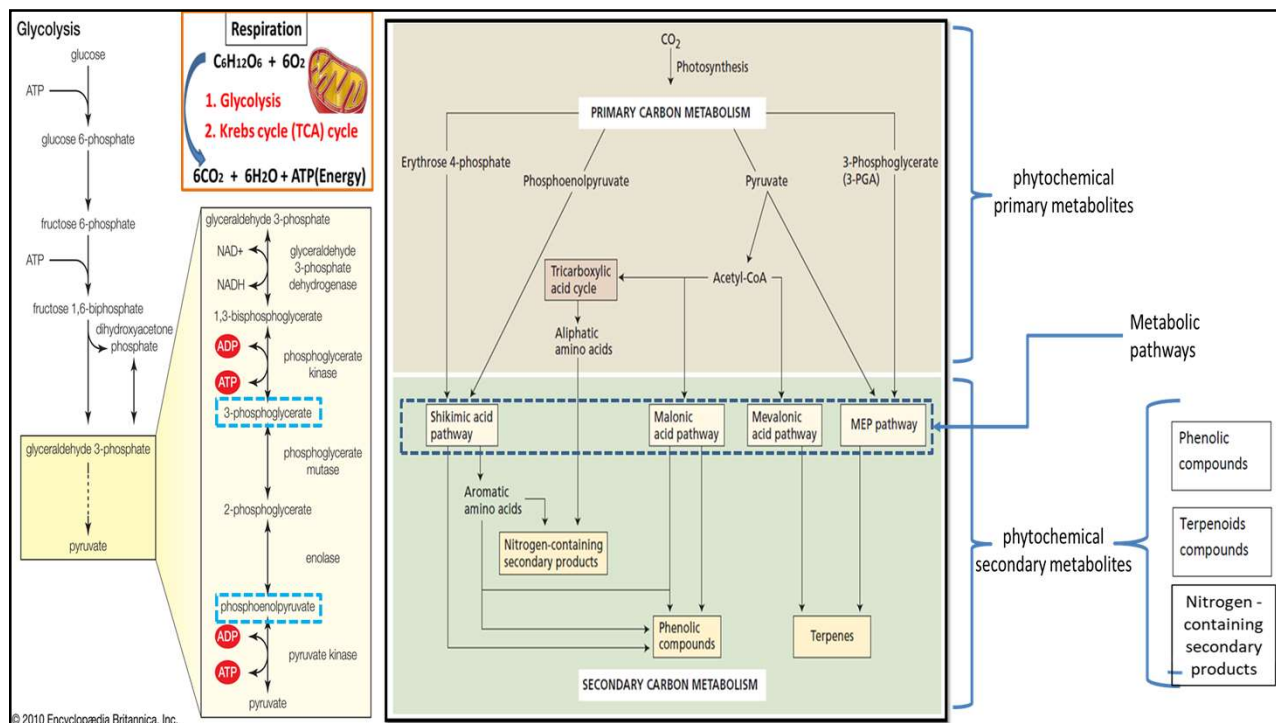
## In last lecture

## في المحاضرة السابقة تحدثنا عن

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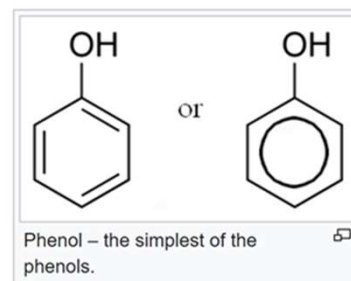
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## Phenolic compounds or phenols

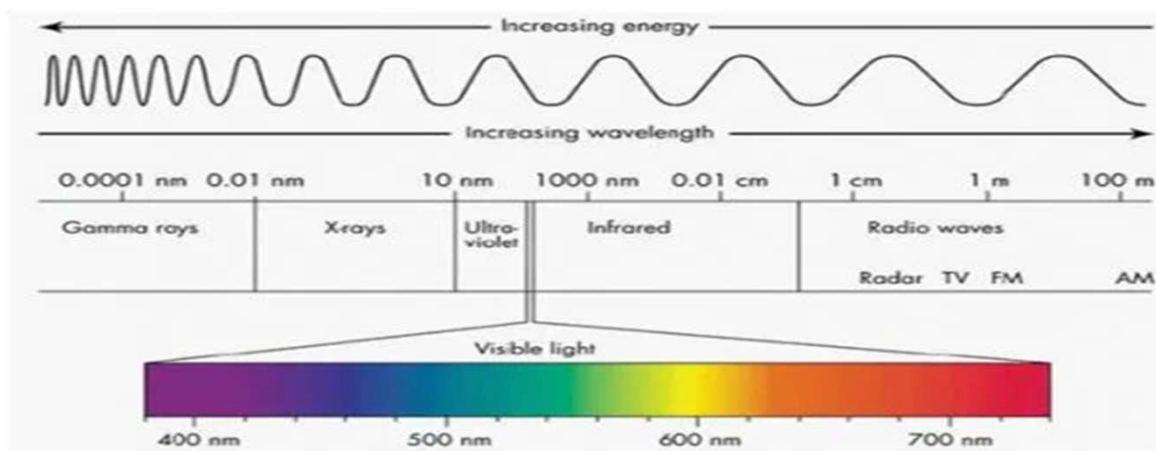
- 1) A class of chemical compounds consisting of one or more hydroxyl groups ( $\text{—OH}$ ) bonded directly to an **aromatic** hydrocarbon group.
- 2) They are **Aromatic compounds** meaning that they contain one or more rings with pi electrons delocalized all the way around them.
- 3) Phenolic compounds are classified as **simple phenols** or **polyphenols** based on the number of phenol units in the molecule.
- 4) The simplest is phenol,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ .
- 5) Phenolic substances tend to be water-soluble, since they are usually located in the vacuole.



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## Phenolic compounds or phenols

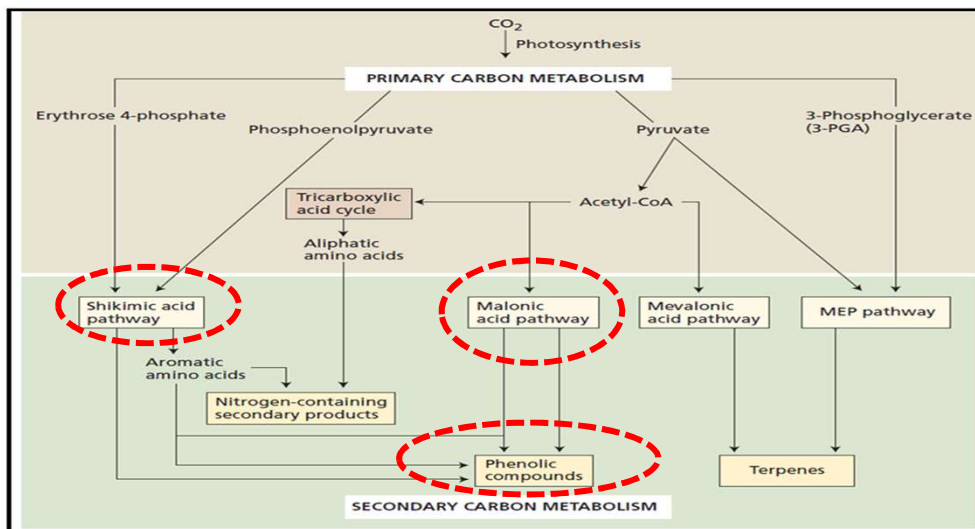
- 6) Because phenols are aromatic compounds, they all show intense absorption in the UV region of the spectrum.



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## Phenolic compounds or phenols

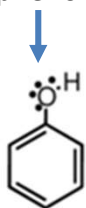
7) Phenolic compounds formed by the shikimic acid pathway or the malonic acid pathway.



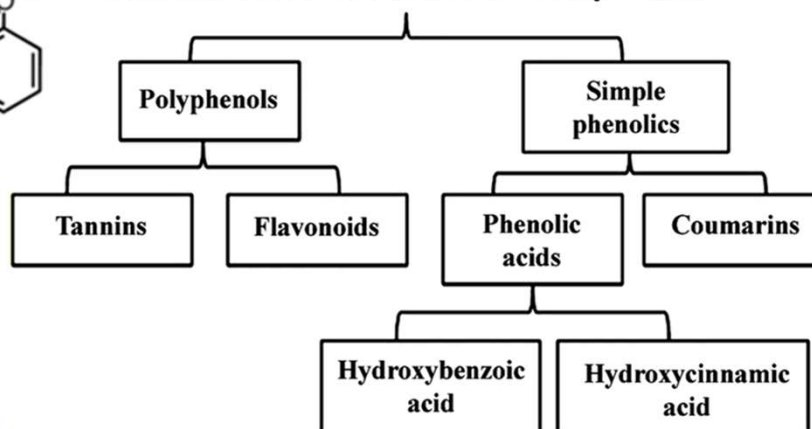
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## Phenolic compounds or phenols

- Phenolic compounds are classified as **simple phenols** or **polyphenols** based on the number of phenol units in the molecule.



### Classification of Phenolic Compounds



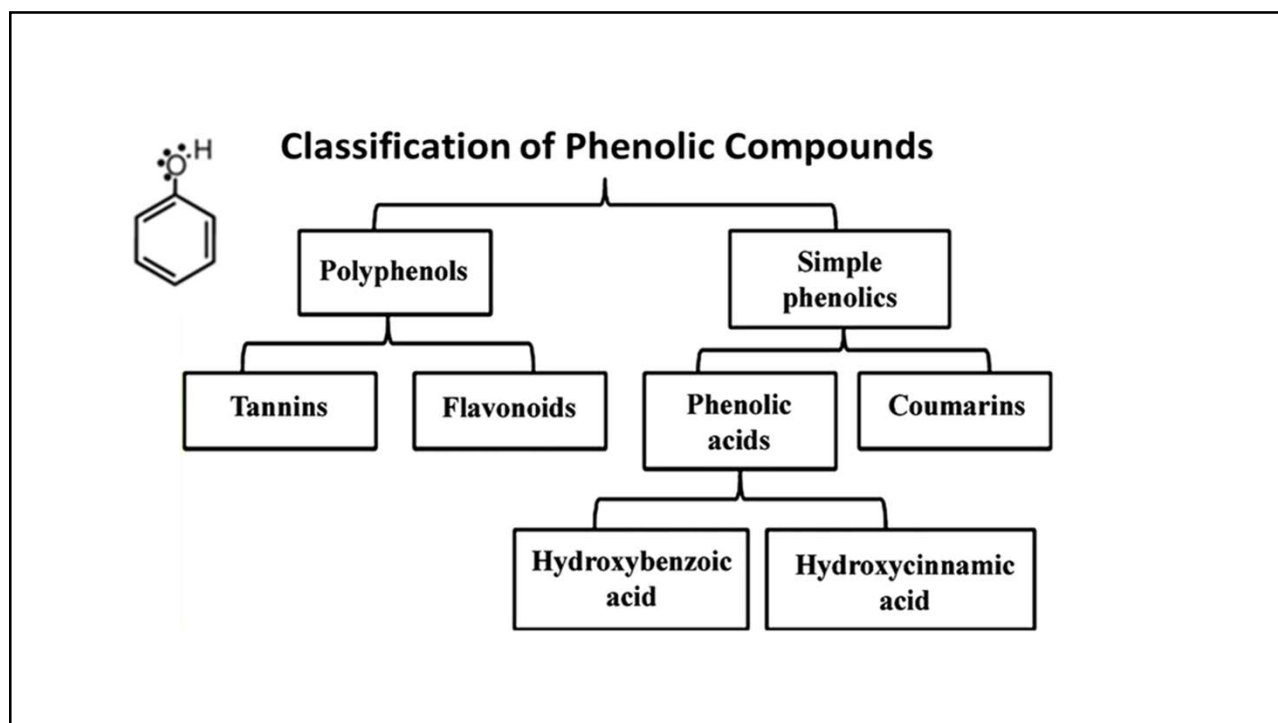
- The flavonoids form the largest group.

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### Phenolics (or phenols) functions:

- They produced by plants as defense compounds against herbivores and pathogens.
- Others functions of the phenolic compounds are:
  1. providing mechanical support.
  2. attracting pollinators and fruit dispersers.
  3. absorbing harmful ultraviolet radiation.
  4. reducing the growth of nearby competing plants.

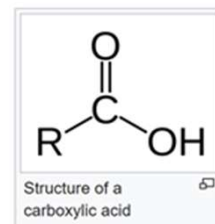
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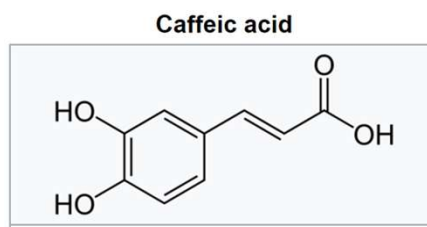
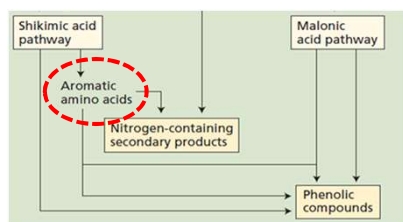
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### Phenolic acids or phenol carboxylic acids or aromatic acids

- They are types of aromatic acid compound, containing a **phenolic ring** and an **organic carboxylic acid functional group** ( $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{OH}$ ), and their basic skeleton based on the number of carbon atoms is (**C6-C1 skeleton**).
- Two important naturally occurring types of phenolic acids are:
  - 1) Hydroxy-benzoic acids. Example, salicylic acid.
  - 2) Hydroxy-cinnamic acids. They are a class of aromatic acids or phenylpropanoids having a C6-C3 skeleton. Example, Caffeic acid.
- Phenylpropanoids have an aromatic ring to which a three-carbon side-chain is attached. Derived biosynthetically from the **aromatic protein amino acid phenylalanine** and they may contain one or more C6-C3 residue.



( $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{OH}$ )



9

### salicylic acid functions as a plant hormone.



Salicylic acid is involved in

- 1) It plays a role in the resistance to pathogens (i.e. systemic acquired resistance by inducing the production of pathogenesis-related proteins and other defensive metabolites.
- 1) Methyl salicylate -- can also diffuse through the air, facilitating plant-plant communication. Methyl salicylate is taken up by the stomata of the nearby plant, where it can induce an immune response after being converted back to salicylic acid.

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**salicylic acid**



الصفصاف الأبيض احد مصادر Salicylic acid

White willow (*Salix alba*)



*Salix alba*

White willow (*Salix alba*) is a natural source of salicylic acid.

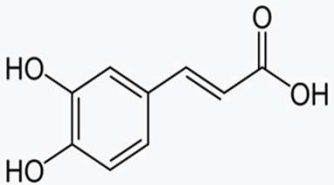


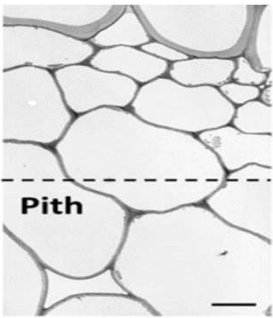
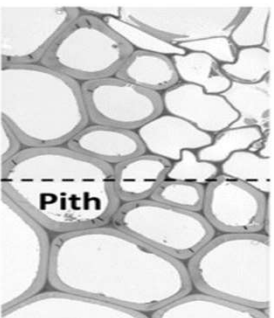
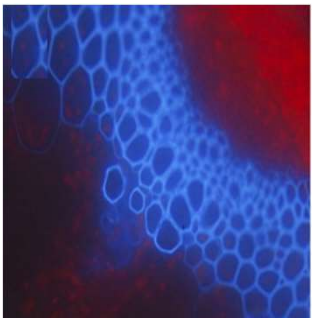
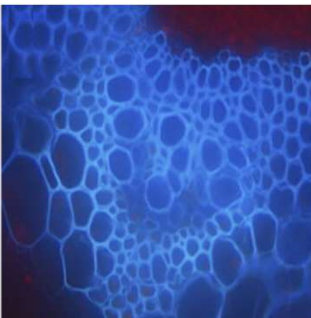
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**Caffeic acid and mechanisms of stress tolerance**

➤ Caffeic acid is actively involved in plant physiology and mechanisms of stress tolerance primarily utilized by plants for the **synthesis of lignin** which ultimately **thickened cell walls** and plant become **resistant to ion toxicity sodium and heavy metal stress**.

**Caffeic acid**



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Caffeic acid is found at a high level in some herbs, especially thyme, sage and spearmint.



thyme



sage



spearmint

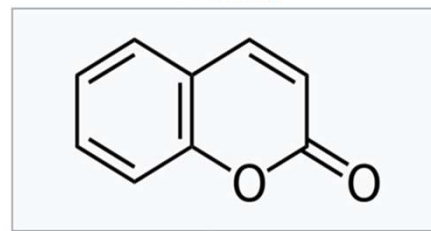
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## Coumarin

1) It is an aromatic organic chemical compound with formula  $C_9H_6O_2$ .

1) Its molecule can be described as a benzene molecule with two adjacent hydrogen atoms replaced by a lactone-like chain  
 $-(CH)=(CH)-(C=O)-O-$

**$C_9H_6O_2$**   
Coumarin



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**Coumarin** is found naturally in many plants, it occurs in vanilla grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*) and sweet grass (*Hierochloa odorata*).

- It is found in many plants, where it may serve as a chemical defense against predators.
- Coumarin has appetite-suppressing properties, which may discourage animals from eating plants that contain it.

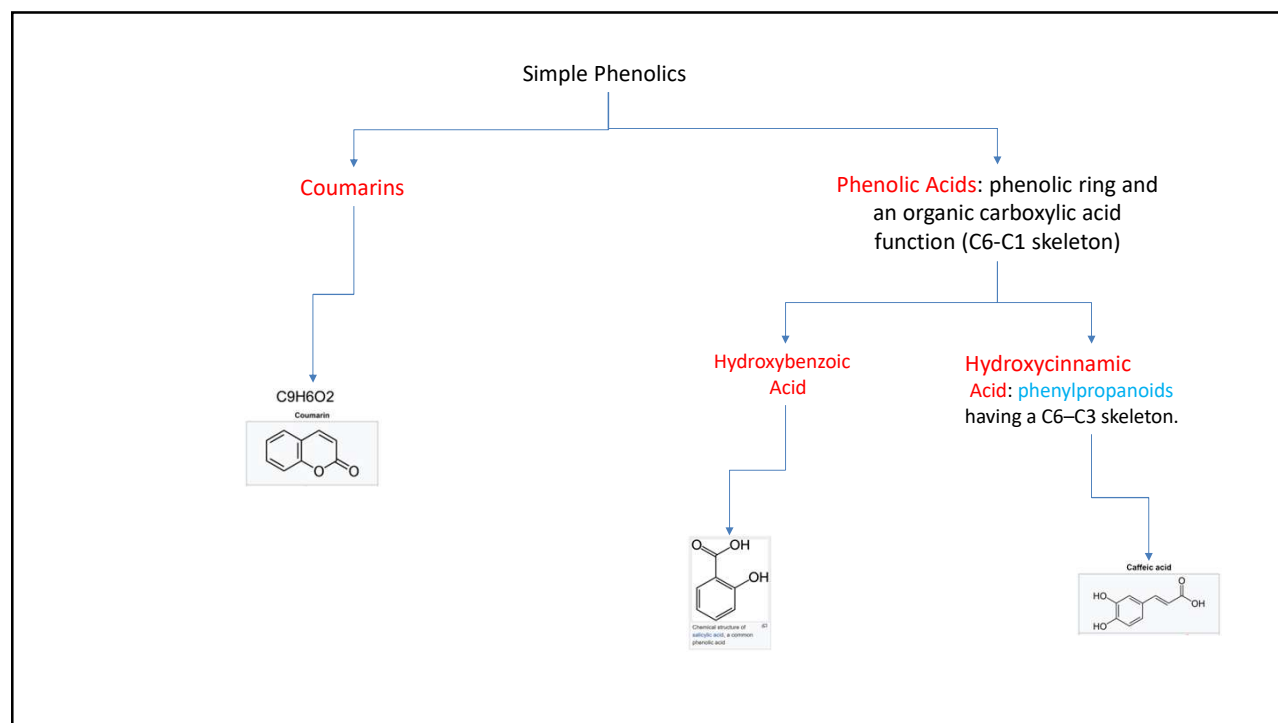


vanilla grass



sweet grass

15



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## In last lecture

## في المحاضرة السابقة تحدثنا عن

### ➤ Phenolic compounds or phenols

- 1) One or more hydroxyl groups ( $\text{—OH}$ ) bonded directly to an aromatic hydrocarbon group.
- 2) General properties & Biosynthetic origin & Functions in plants & Classification

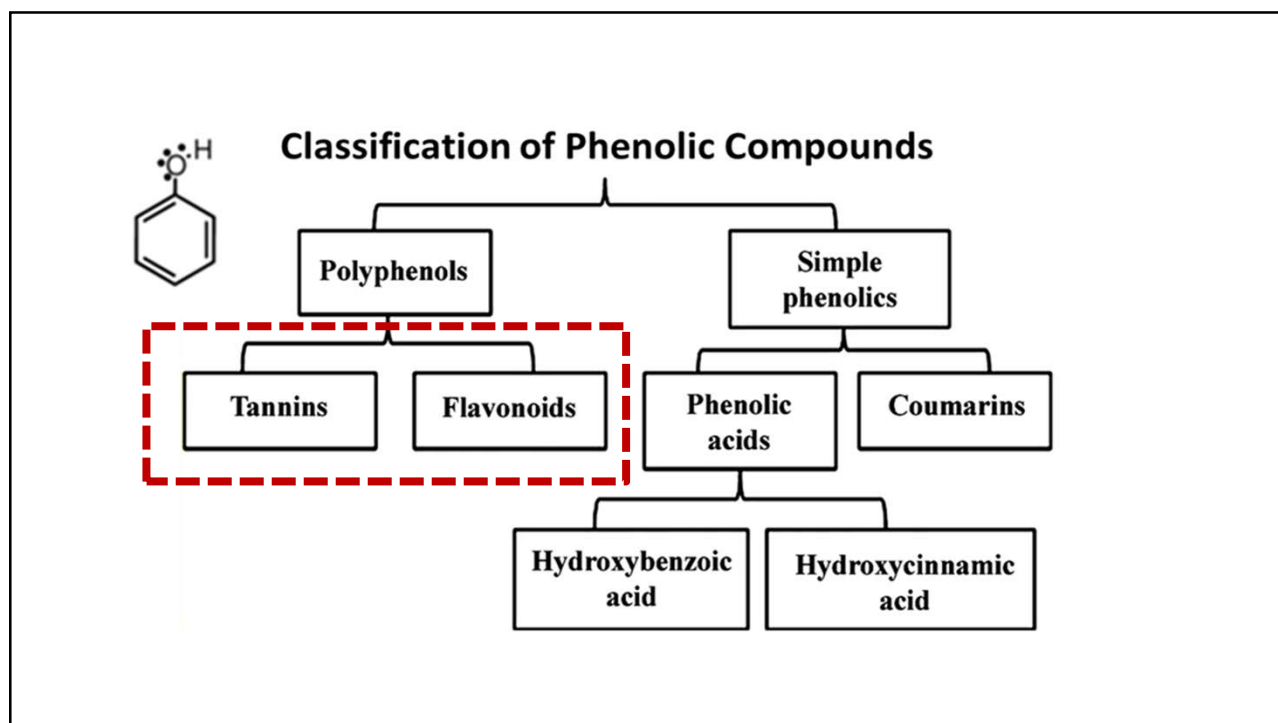
### ➤ Phenolic acids or phenol carboxylic acids or aromatic acids

- 1) Basic carbon skeleton ( $\text{C}_6\text{—C}_1$  skeleton), & functional group  $\rightarrow$  carboxylic acid ( $\text{C(=O)OH}$ )
- 2) Two types of phenolic acids:
  - I. Hydroxy-benzoic acids  $\rightarrow$  (e.g. Salicylic acid)
  - II. Hydroxy-cinnamic acids (phenylpropanoids) having a ( $\text{C}_6\text{—C}_3$  skeleton)  $\rightarrow$  (e.g. Caffeic acid)
- 3) Functions in plants & some examples of plant species.

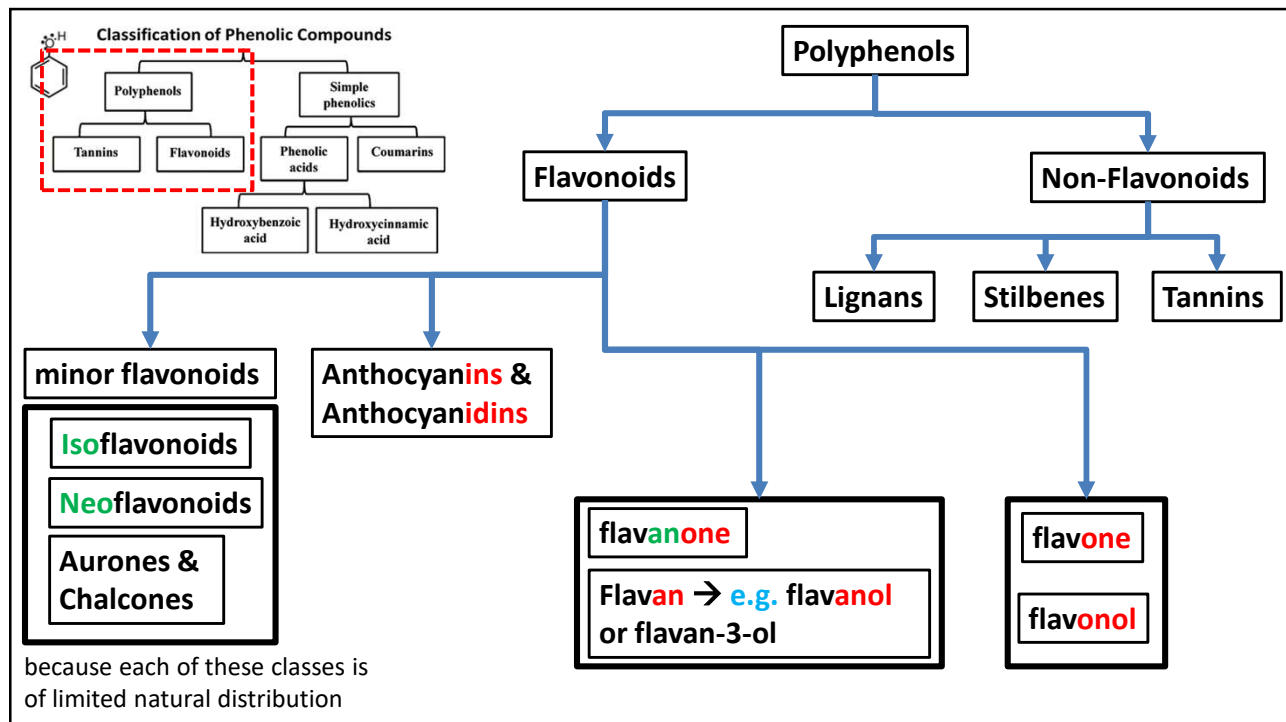
### ➤ Coumarin

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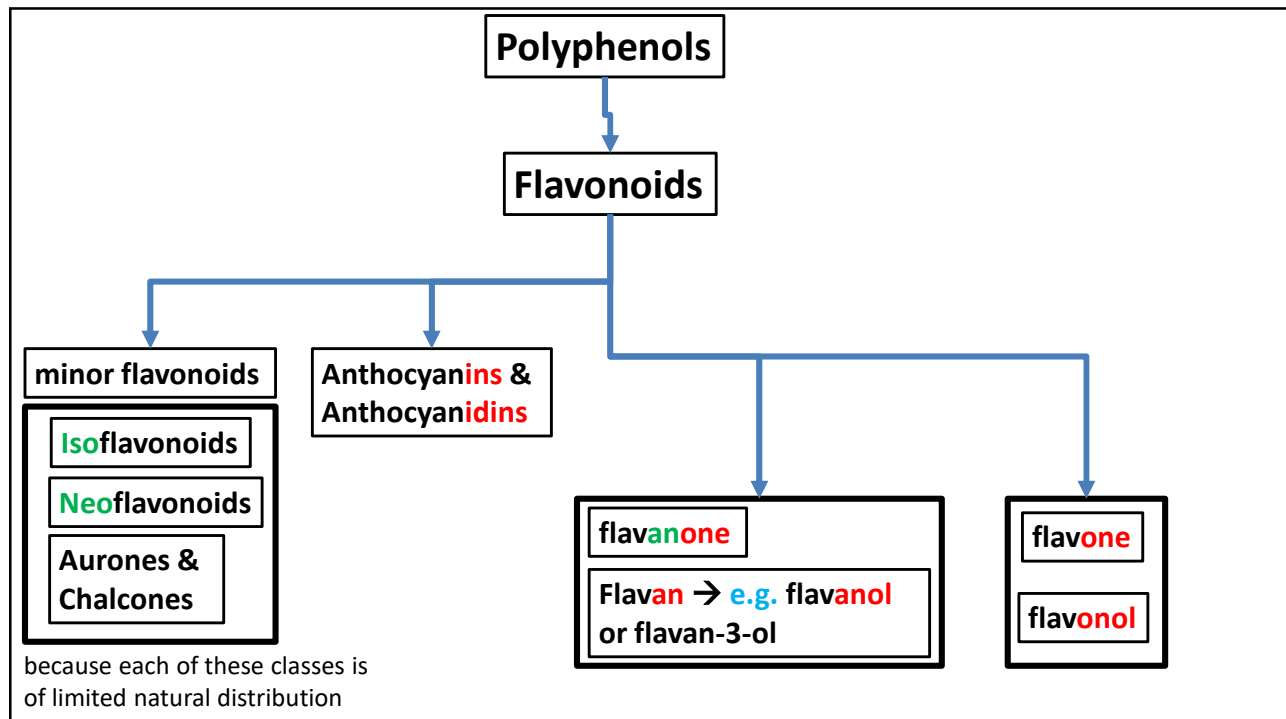
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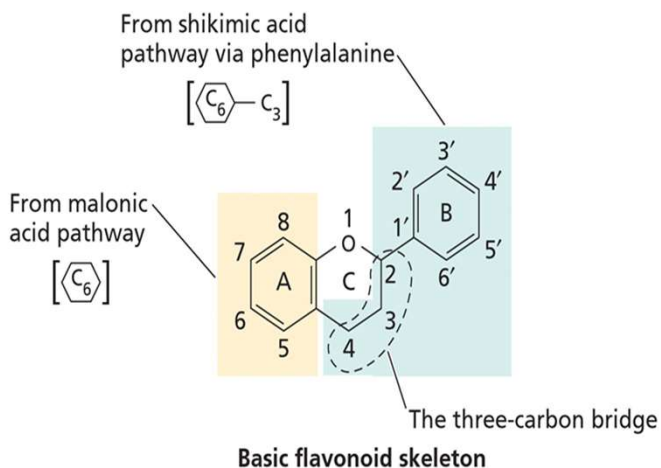
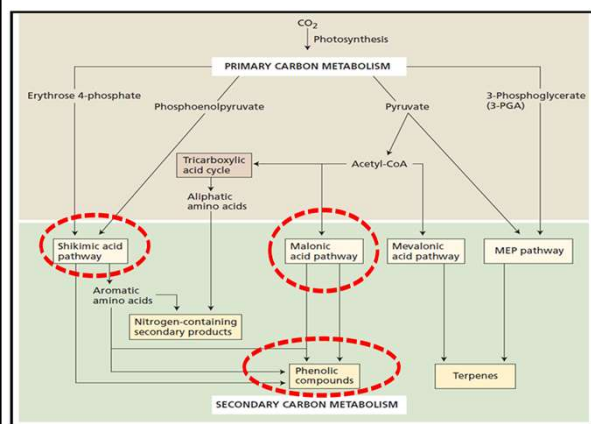
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## Structure of flavonoids

The flavonoids are possessing 15 carbon atoms; **two benzene rings** joined by a **linear three carbon chain** the skeleton can be represented as the C<sub>6</sub> - C<sub>3</sub> - C<sub>6</sub> system.

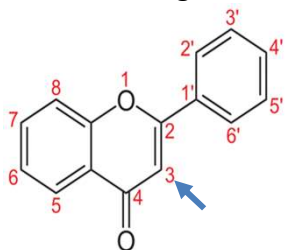


- have the general structure of a 15-carbon skeleton which consists of two phenyl rings (A and B) and heterocyclic ring (C)

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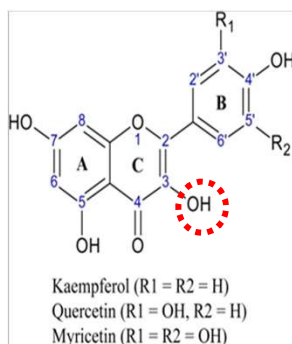
### flavone

- The six-membered ring condensed with the benzene ring **lacks a 3-hydroxyl substitution**.
- e.g. apigenin and luteolin
- Can be found in genus *Citrus*. Such as lemon, orange.



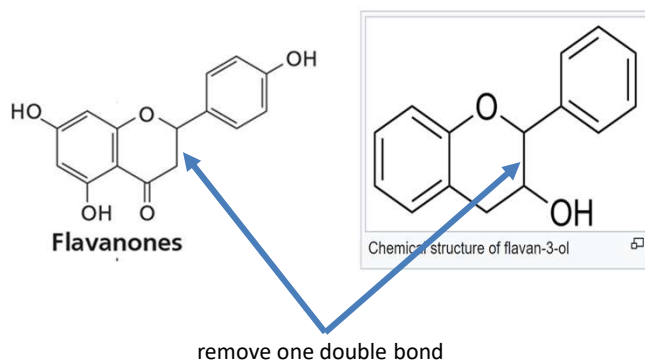
### flavonol

- The six-membered ring condensed with the benzene ring **have a 3-hydroxyl substitution**
- e.g. kaempferol, quercetin, myricetin



### flavanone

- The six-membered ring condensed with the benzene ring is **dihydro derivatives**
- "dihydro" refers to the two added hydrogen atoms needed to **remove one double bond**.



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flavones and flavonols

UV absorbing  
protection against UV (280 - 320 nm)  
insect pollinator attraction

mainly colorless co-pigments  
in flowers; widespread in  
leaves



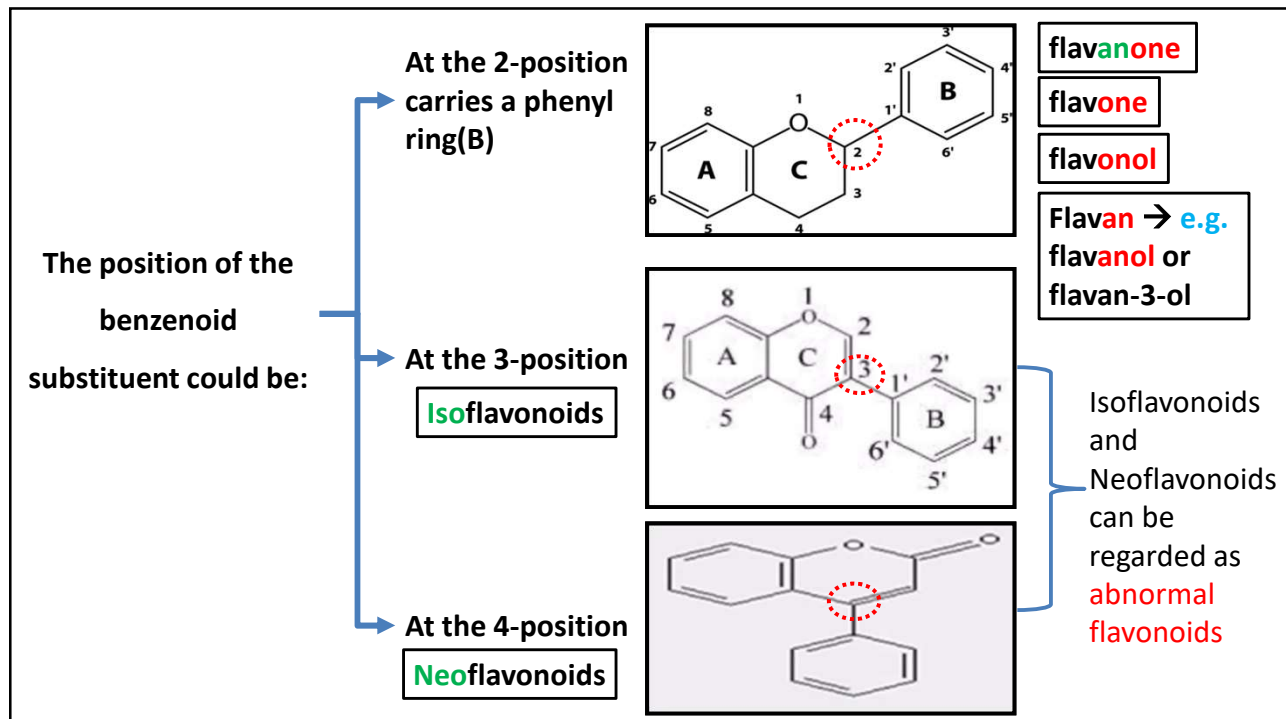
How we see the golden eyes...



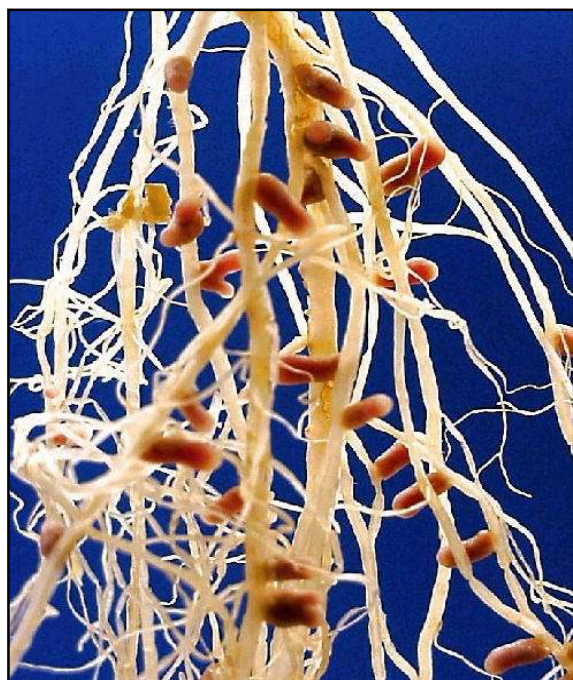
How honeybees see golden eyes...

UV absorbing flavonols are present in the inner part of petals

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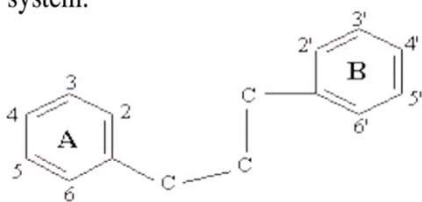
### Isoflavonoids

- colorless; often in root; only common in one family, the Leguminosae (common in legumes)
  - antimicrobial properties
  - also involved in signalling → e.g. attracting rhizobia
- Rhizobium is attracted to legumes through signaling by isoflavonoids released from roots.

Rhizobium is a genus of bacteria associated with the formation of root nodules on plants. These bacteria live in symbiosis with legumes. They take in nitrogen from the atmosphere and pass it on to the plant, allowing it to grow in soil low in nitrogen.

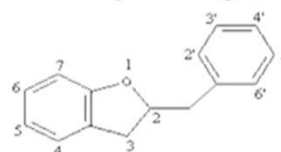
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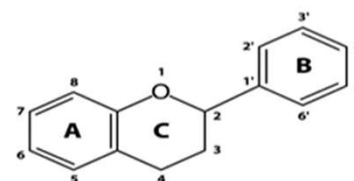


The three-carbon (-C3-) may be included through an oxygen bond between the two phenyl rings into:

1- A five-membered heterocyclic ring (furan) as in **aurones**.



2- A six-membered heterocyclic ring (pyran) to give **flavonoids** which constitute the largest group.

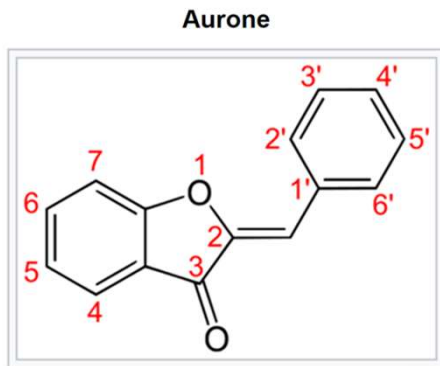


10



## Aurones & Chalcones

- Aurones are plant flavonoids that provide yellow color to the flowers (yellow flower pigments).
- Examples → Aurones and Chalcones

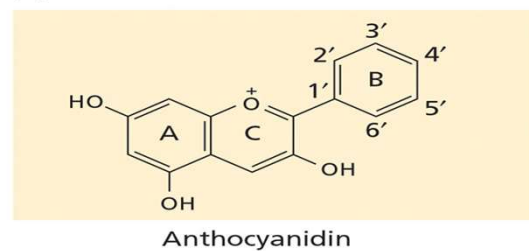


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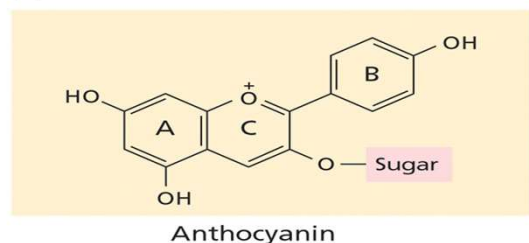
## Anthocyanins & Anthocyanidins

- 1) Most important and widespread group of coloring matters in plant.
- 2) Occur in all tissues of higher plants, including leaves, stems, roots, flowers, and fruits.
- 3) Water-soluble vacuolar pigments that are found in the cell vacuole, mostly in flowers and fruits, but also in leaves, stems, and roots. In these parts, they are found predominantly in outer cell layers such as the epidermis and peripheral mesophyll cells.
- 4) Anthocyanins are derived from anthocyanidins by adding sugars.

(A)



(B)

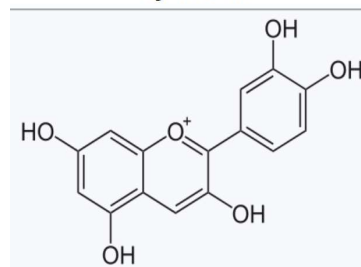


PLANT PHYSIOLOGY, Third Edition, Figure 13.13 © 2002 Sinauer Associates, Inc.

**Anthocyanidins** are common plant pigments, the sugar-free counterparts of **anthocyanins**.

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- 5) The anthocyanins are based chemically on a **single aromatic structure**, that of **cyanidin**.
- 6) **Cyanidin** is a pigment that has a characteristic reddish-purple color, though this can change with pH; solutions of the compound are red at pH < 3, violet at pH 7-8, and blue at pH > 11
- 7) The difference in chemical structure that occurs in response to changes in pH, is the reason why anthocyanins often are used as **pH indicators**, as they change from red in acids to blue in bases through a process called **halochromism**.
- 8) A **halochromic** material is a material which changes colour when pH changes occur. The term 'chromic' is defined as materials that can change colour reversibly with the presence of a factor. In this case, the factor is pH.

**Cyanidin****Cyanidin (pH indicator)**

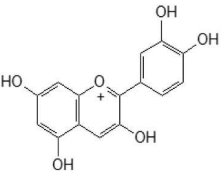
below pH 3

above pH 11


3

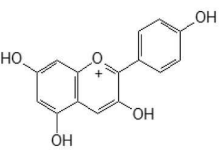
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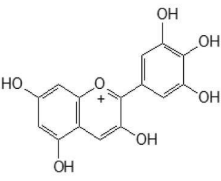
**Cyanidin**  
(dark – red/pink)






**Pelargonidin**  
(bright – red/orange)

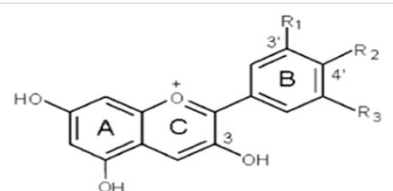




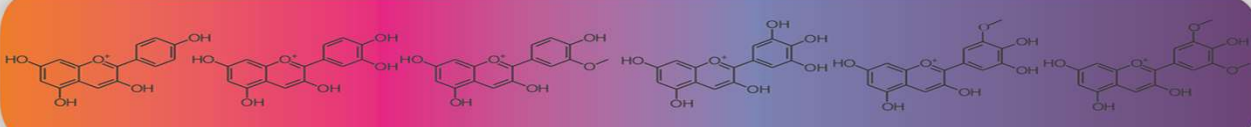
**Delphinidin** (blue/violet)



**Common examples**



ANTHOCYANIDIN	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>
Pelargonidin (Pg)	H	OH	H
Cyanidin (Cy)	OH	OH	H
Delphinidin (Dp)	OH	OH	OH
Peonidin (Pn)	OMe	OH	H
Petunidin (Pt)	OMe	OH	OH
Malvidin (Mv)	OMe	OH	OMe



Pelargonidin
Cyanidin
Peonidin
Delphinidin
Petunidin
Malvidin

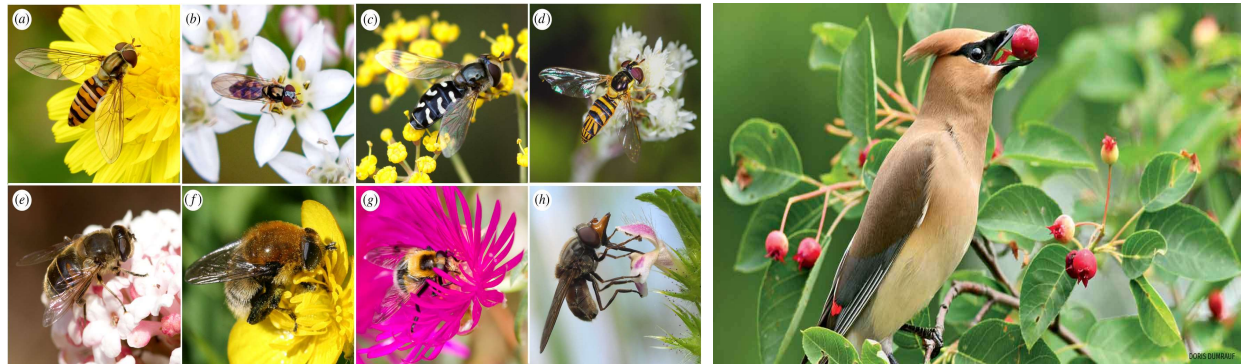
14



## Functions of Anthocyanins & Anthocyanidins

### Coloration

In **flowers**, the coloration that is provided by anthocyanin accumulation may attract a wide variety of animal **pollinators**, while in **fruits**, the same coloration may aid in seed dispersal by attracting **herbivorous animals** to the potentially-edible fruits bearing these red, blue, or purple colors.



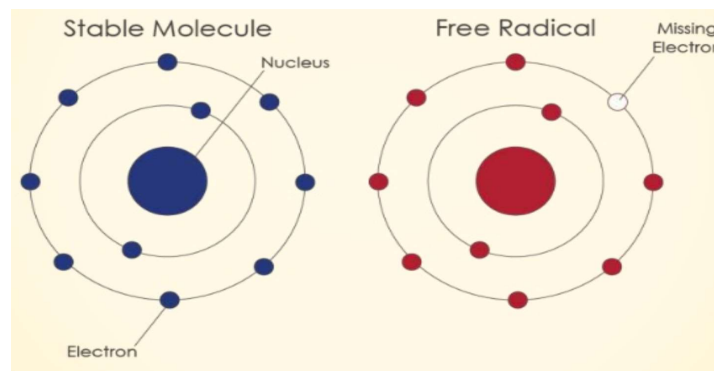
15

## Functions of Anthocyanins & Anthocyanidins

### Plant physiology

Anthocyanins may have a protective role in plants against **extreme temperatures**. **Tomato** plants protect against **cold stress** with anthocyanins countering **reactive oxygen species**, leading to a lower rate of cell death in leaves.

(**Reactive oxygen species**: Reactive oxygen species are free radicals, a type of unstable molecule that contains oxygen and that easily reacts with other molecules in a cell. A build up of reactive oxygen species in cells may cause damage to DNA, RNA, and proteins, and may cause cell death)

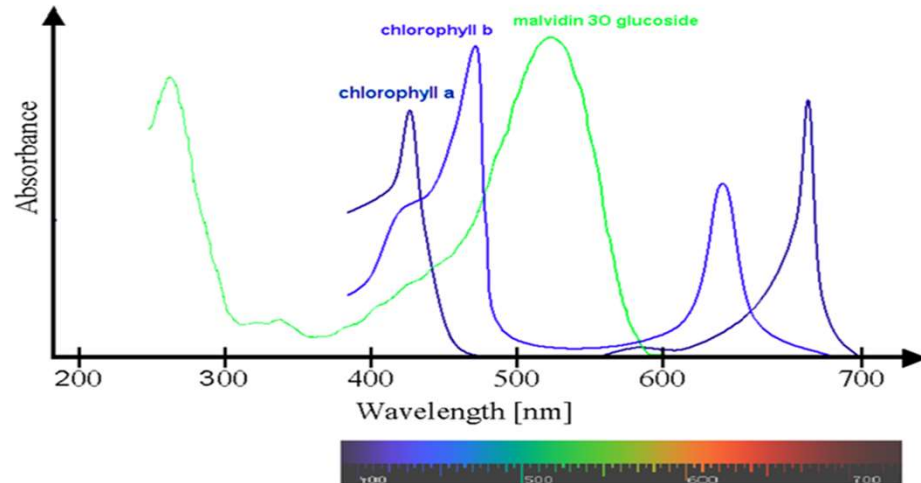


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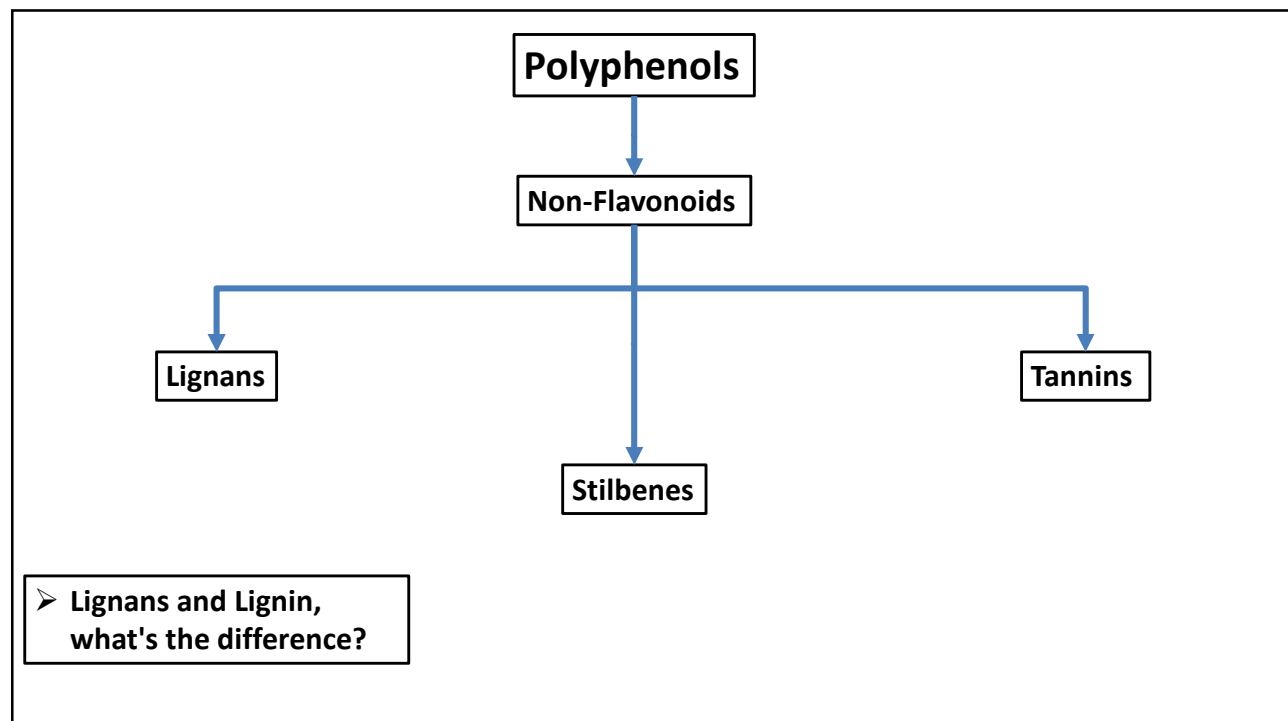
## Functions of Anthocyanins & Anthocyanidins

### Light absorbance

The absorbance pattern responsible for the red color of anthocyanins may be complementary to that of green chlorophyll in photosynthetically-active tissues. It may protect the leaves from attacks by herbivores that may be attracted by green color



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# Tannins

## 1) Tannins have a protein-binding property which makes them:

- Different levels of toxicity to herbivores. And animals can sense high levels of tannins in their food and opt for another food resource because high levels of tannins in diet can kill some animals.
- Tannins can bind with salivary proteins and make proteins precipitate and aggregate, producing a rough, "sandpapery", or dry sensation in the mouth, and that makes protein less digestible. (astringent taste)
- Tannins can bind digestion enzymes in the gut of herbivores.
- Because tannins can bind to proteins making them difficult to digest, thus decreasing the nutritional value of the plant material. (that's why drinking tea with your meal isn't a good idea)



tannins in unripe fruits, lets the fruit mature by deterring eating.

## 2) Two types of tannins

- Condensed tannins** – occur almost universally in ferns and gymnosperms and widespread among angiosperms especially woody species.
- Hydrolysable tannins** – limited to dicotyledonous plants

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## Condensed tannins –

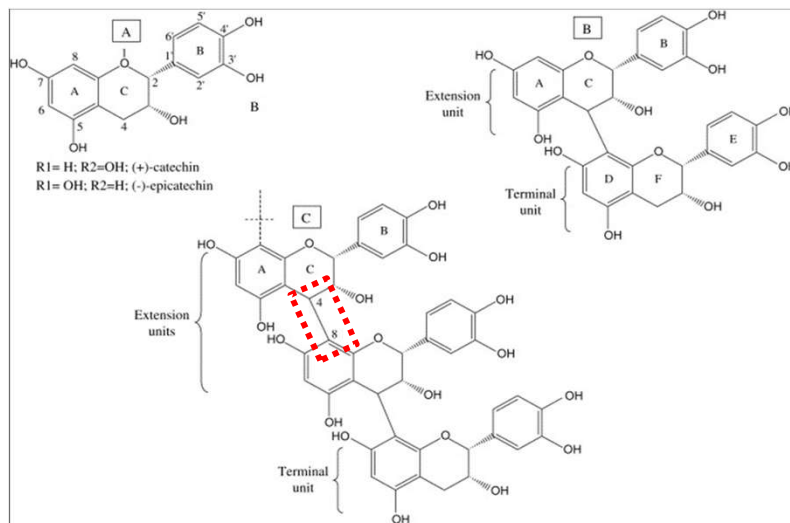
- formed biosynthetically by the condensation of single catechin to form dimers and then higher oligomers, with C-C linking one flavan unit to the next by a 4 – 8 or 6 – 8 link.

formed by polymerization of flavonoid units

A → monomers

B → dimer

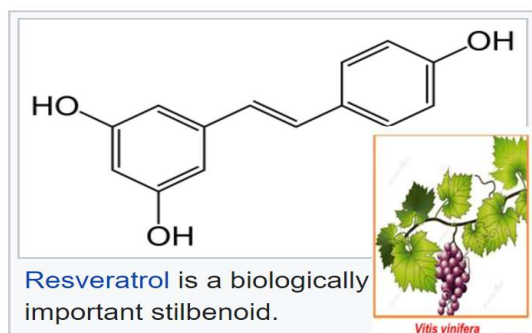
C → oligomers with C4-C8 linkage



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## Stilbenoids

- 1) Stilbenoids are hydroxylated derivatives of stilbene.
  - 2) They have a **C6–C2–C6** structure.
  - 3) Can act as **phytoalexins**.
  - 4) Example is resveratrol → an antifungal
- **Phytoalexins**: are antimicrobial substances synthesized by plants, and they accumulate rapidly at areas of pathogen infection.



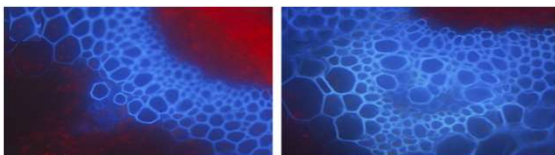
Antifungal assay

21

## Lignans and lignin, both are polyphenolic substances.

### **lignin** is

- 1) a complex high molecular weight polyphenol polymer.
- 2) Indigestible
- 3) The main components of **plant cell wall** occurs in all vascular plants (Structural function)
- 4) Also protective function because it deters herbivores, pathogens, and toxins due to its toughness.
- 5) one of the most important secondary metabolite
- 6) Remember from last lecture, **Caffeic acid** is actively involved in plant physiology and mechanisms of stress tolerance primarily utilized by plants for the **synthesis of lignin** which ultimately **thickened cell walls** and plant become **resistant** to ion toxicity sodium and heavy metal stress.



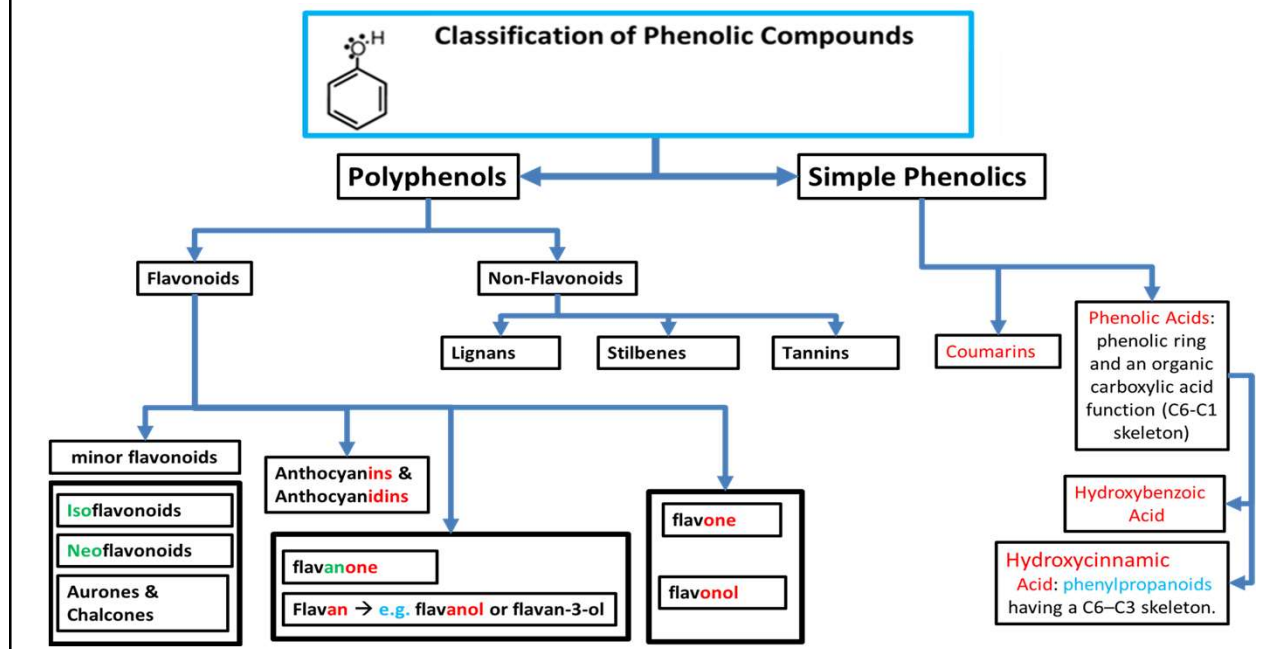
### **lignan** is

- 1) a large group of low molecular weight polyphenols
- 2) soluble in water
- 3) found in plants, particularly seeds, whole grains, and vegetables.
- 4) They may play a role as antifeedants in the defense of seeds and plants against herbivores. (how? ↓)
- 5) Lignans are precursors = originators → to **phytoestrogens**.
  - phytoestrogens → phyto = plant, estrogen = the hormone which gives fertility to female mammals.
  - Phytoestrogens → imitate estrogen
  - Phytoestrogens → have the ability to cause estrogenic and/or antiestrogenic effects
  - It has been hypothesized that plants use a phytoestrogen as part of their natural defense against the **overpopulation** of herbivore animals by **controlling female fertility**. Also, phytoestrogens may affect male fertility

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## In last lecture

## في المحاضرة السابقة تحدثنا عن

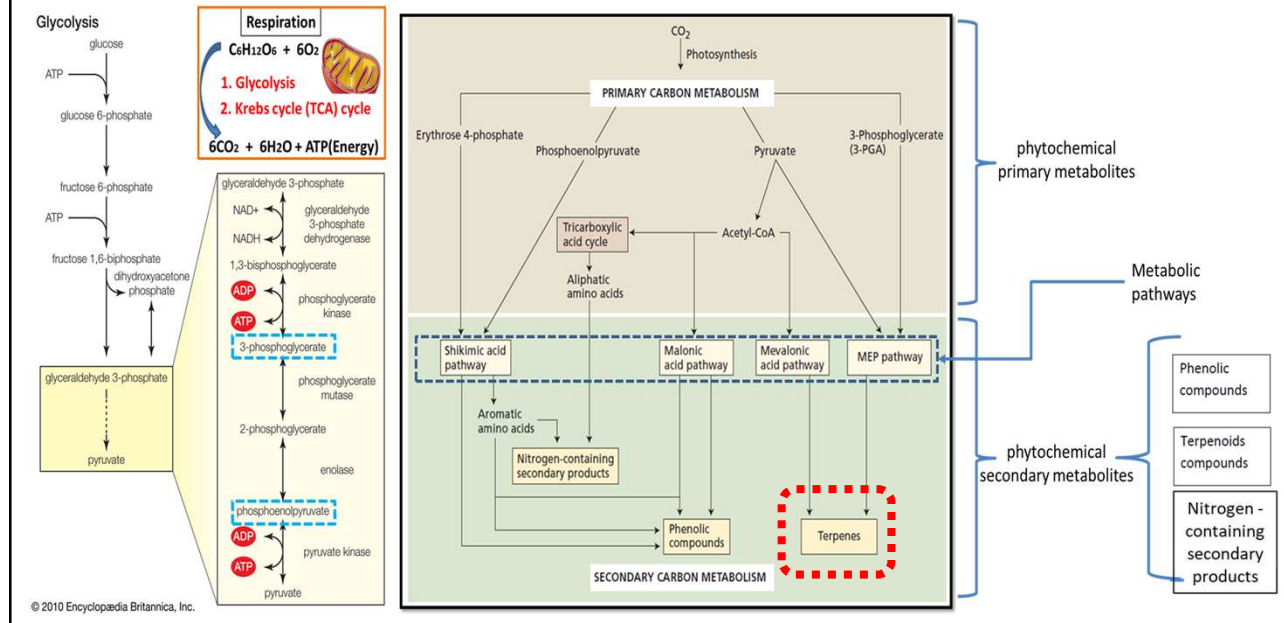


1

# Terpenoids compounds

2

## 1) They produced by the mevalonic acid pathway from the acetyl-CoA.



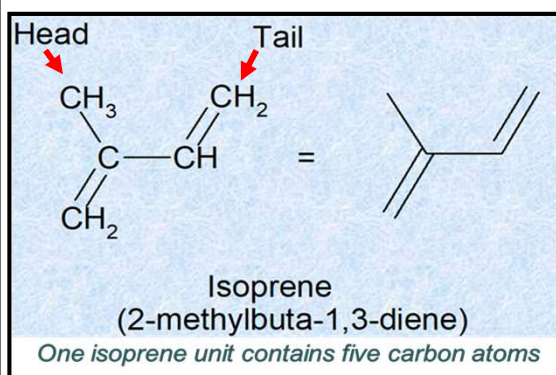
3

## Terpenoids compounds

- 1) The **terpenes**, or **terpenoids**, constitute the largest class of secondary products, while flavonoids constitute the largest class of phenolic compounds.
- 2) They are generally insoluble in water, but lipid-soluble.
- 3) terpenoids are unsaturated (double bond between carbon atoms) compounds formed by joining together isoprene units.
- 4) So, they are derived from the 5-carbon alkene **isoprene**. (thus, the terpenoids also called "isoprenoids").
- 5) terpenoids are major components of the plant essential oils. and terpenoids are components of a wide variety of fruit and floral flavors and aromas.
- 6) Often located in cytoplasm of the plant cell
  - Essential oils sometimes occurs in special glandular cells on the leaf surface
  - Carotenoids – associated with chloroplasts in the leaf and with chromoplasts in the petal.

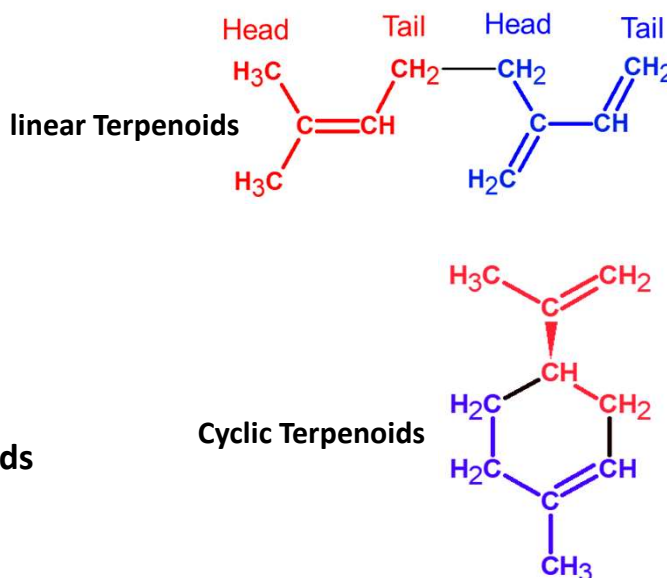
4

**Terpenoids** are classified based on the number of **5-carbon units (isoprene units)**



Isoprene units can be linked:

- head to tail to form **linear** Terpenoids
- in rings to form **cyclic** Terpenoids



5

## Overall Functions of terpenoids

### 1) Growth-regulating properties

- abscisins and gibberellins.

### 2) Agents of communication and defense among insects (distinctive smells and odours)

- They produced in response to herbivores feeding, to attract predatory insects and parasites of the feeding herbivores.
- Some are toxins and feeding deterrents to many plant feeding insects and mammals.

### 3) Accessory pigments in photosynthesis

- Carotenoids
  - plant color - pale yellow through bright orange to deep red
  - Accessory pigments in photosynthesis

6



**Terpenoids** are classified based on the number of **5-carbon units (isoprene units)**



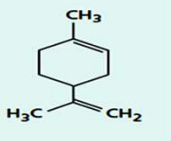
- Monoterpenoids** → have **2 isoprene units (10-Carbons)**
- Sesquiterpenoids** → have **3 isoprene units (15-Carbons)**

**Essential oils**

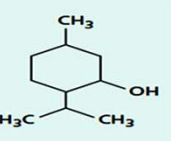
- Monoterpenoids (C10)** – boiling point 140-180 °C
  - limonene
  - menthol
  - menthone
  - carvone
- Sesquiterpenoids (C15)** – boiling point >200 °C
  - abscisic acid → hormone controlling dormancy in seed

**Essential oils**

- Volatile with Characteristic scent**
  - A **volatile** substance is one that evaporates at room temperature or below.
  - Commercially important – natural perfumes, and flavoring in food industry
  - Mono & Sesqui can be acyclic, monocyclic, or bicyclic.
  - Simple mono- are widespread and tend to occur as majority of essential oils.
  - Flower and seed oils tend to have more specialized mono- present



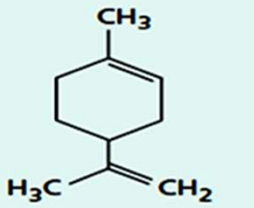
**Limonene**



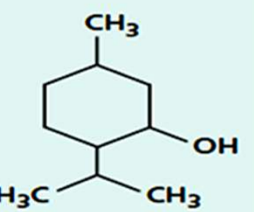
**Menthol**

7

- Limonene**  
is a **non-volatile** monoterpene, a major component in oil of citrus fruit peels, and known as distasteful to herbivores.
- Menthol**  
is a **volatile** monoterpene, produced by various plants (especially mint). Menthol is a smell that warns herbivores that the plant is toxic to them before herbivore feeding commences.

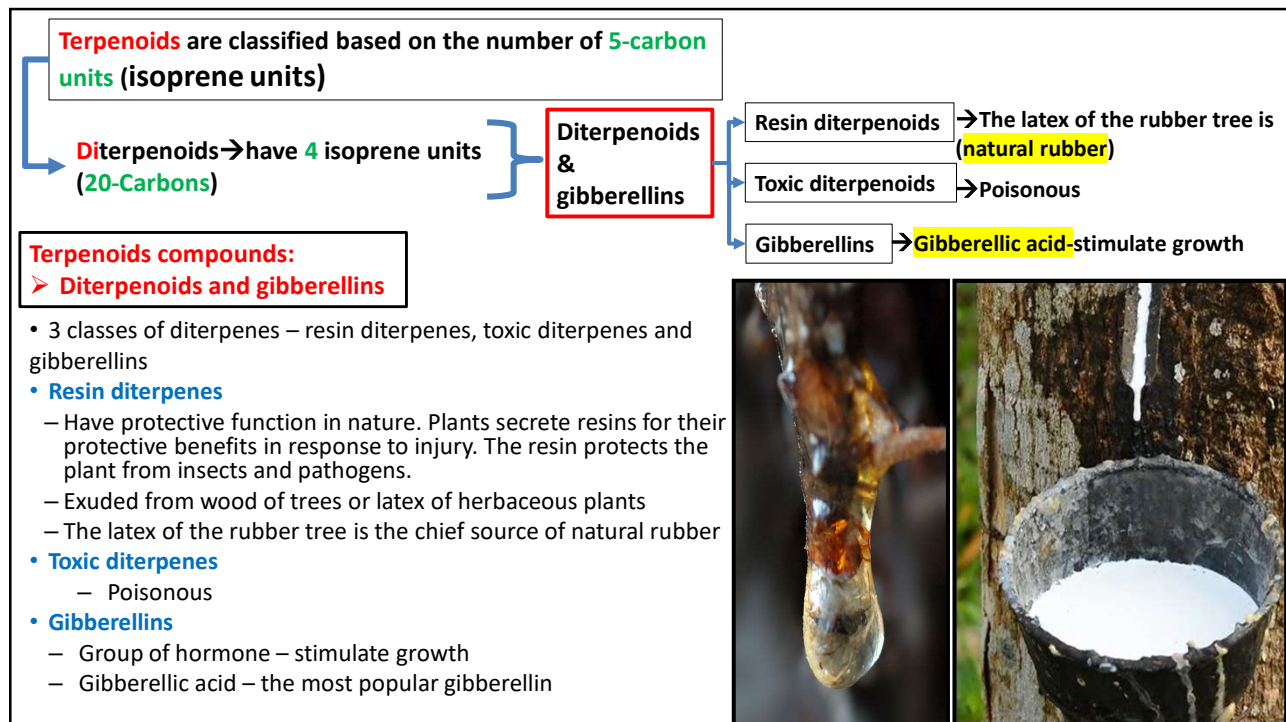
**Limonene**



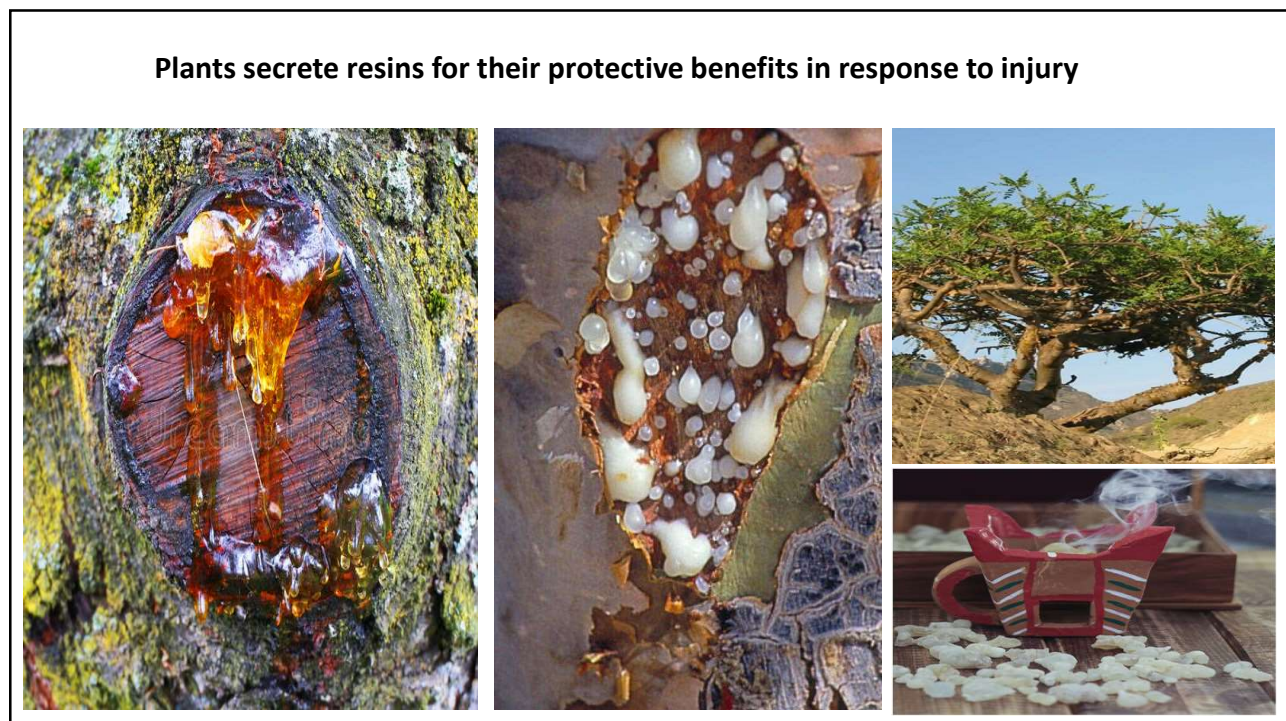
**Menthol**

8





9



10

**Terpenoids** are classified based on the number of **5-carbon units (isoprene units)**

**Triterpenoids** → have **6 isoprene units (30-Carbons)**

**Triterpenoids and steroid**

→ **Saponin, Phytosteroids, cardiac glycosides**

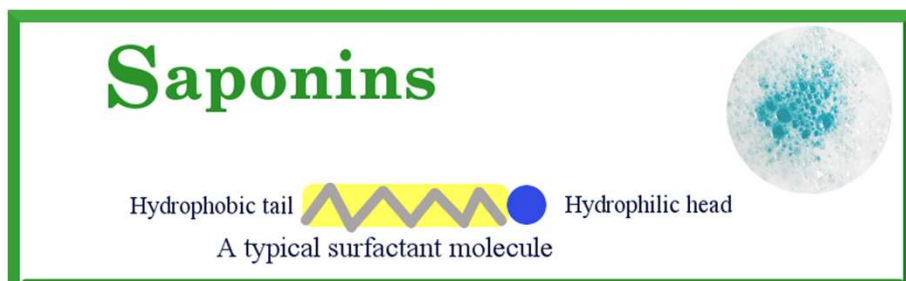
↓ feeding deterrents    ↓ membrane fluidity    ↓ toxic

**Terpenoids compounds:**  
➤ **Triterpenoids and steroid**

- ❖ **cardiac glycosides** → toxic nature of these compounds
  - Cardiac glycosides affect the sodium-potassium ATPase pump in cardiac muscle cells to alter their function.
- ❖ **Phytosteroids**, also known as **plant steroids**, → are naturally occurring steroids that are found in plants
  - The richest naturally occurring sources of phytosterols are vegetable oils
  - regulates membrane fluidity and permeability in a similar manner to cholesterol in mammalian cell membranes.
- ❖ **Saponins** → are bitter-tasting usually toxic plant-derived organic chemicals that have a foamy quality when agitated in water.
  - Saponins are both water and fat soluble, which gives them their useful soap properties.
  - In plants, saponins may serve as (feeding deterrents) and to protect the plant against microbes and fungi. Saponin occur especially in - waxy coatings of leaves and on fruits – protective function in repelling insect and microbial attack

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**Saponins are both water and fat soluble, which gives them their useful soap properties → protective function & feeding deterrents**



**Saponins** are called saponins because they foam in water and because they are **surfactants**.

**Surfactants** are molecules with both a **hydrophilic** and a **hydrophobic** part. This structure allows them to orient at water-oil interphase. (in simple words: being soluble both in water and in oil)

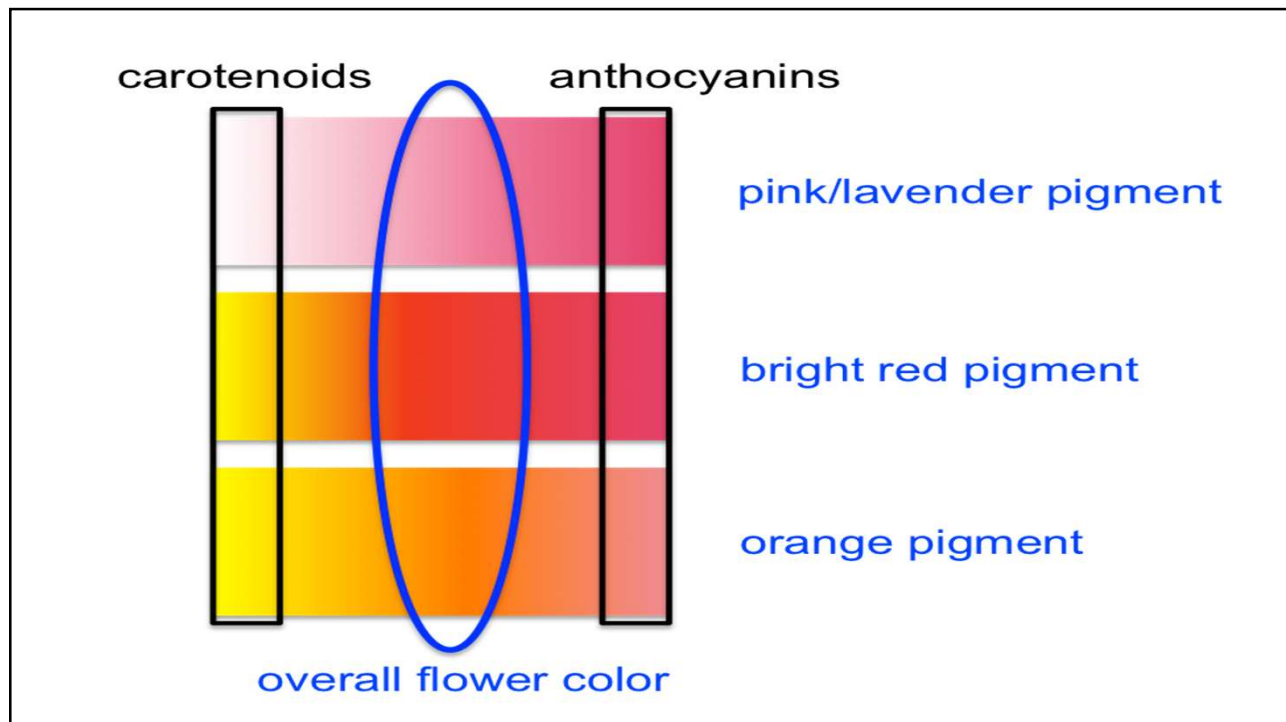
**hydrophilic** → having a tendency to mix with, dissolve in, or be wetted by water. محبة للماء

**Hydrophobic** → tending to repel or fail to mix with water. كارهة للماء

12







15

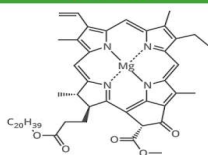


16

# THE CHEMISTRY OF THE COLOURS OF AUTUMN LEAVES



## CHLOROPHYLL



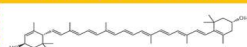
### CHLOROPHYLL A

A type of porphyrin

Chlorophyll is the chemical that gives plant leaves their green colour. Plants require warm temperatures and sunlight to produce chlorophyll - in autumn, the amount produced begins to decrease, and the existing chlorophyll is slowly broken down, diminishing the green colour of the leaves.



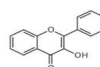
## CAROTENOIDS & FLAVONOIDS



### LUTEIN

A type of carotenoid

Carotenoids and flavonoid pigments are always present in leaves, but as chlorophyll is broken down in the autumn their colours come to the fore. Xanthophylls, a subclass of carotenoids, are responsible for the yellows of autumn leaves. One of the major xanthophylls, lutein, is also the compound that contributes towards the yellow colour of egg yolks.



### FLAVONOL

(general structure)

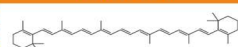


### FLAVONE

(general structure)



## CAROTENOIDS



### B-CAROTENE

A type of carotenoid

Carotenoids can also contribute orange colours. Beta-carotene is one of the most common carotenoids in plants, and absorbs green and blue light strongly, reflecting red and yellow light and causing its orange appearance. It is also responsible for the orange colouration of carrots.

Carotenoids in leaves start degrading at the same time as chlorophyll, but they do so at a much slower rate; beta-carotene is amongst the most stable, and some fallen leaves can still contain measurable amounts.

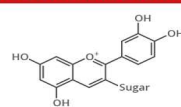


### VIOLAXANTHIN

A type of carotenoid



## ANTHOCYANINS & CAROTENOIDS



### ANTHOCYANIN

(general structure)

Unlike the carotenoids, anthocyanin synthesis is kick-started by the onset of autumn - as sugar concentration in the leaves increases, sunlight initiates anthocyanin production. The purpose they serve isn't clear, but it's been suggested that they help protect the leaves from excess light, prolonging the amount of time before they fall.



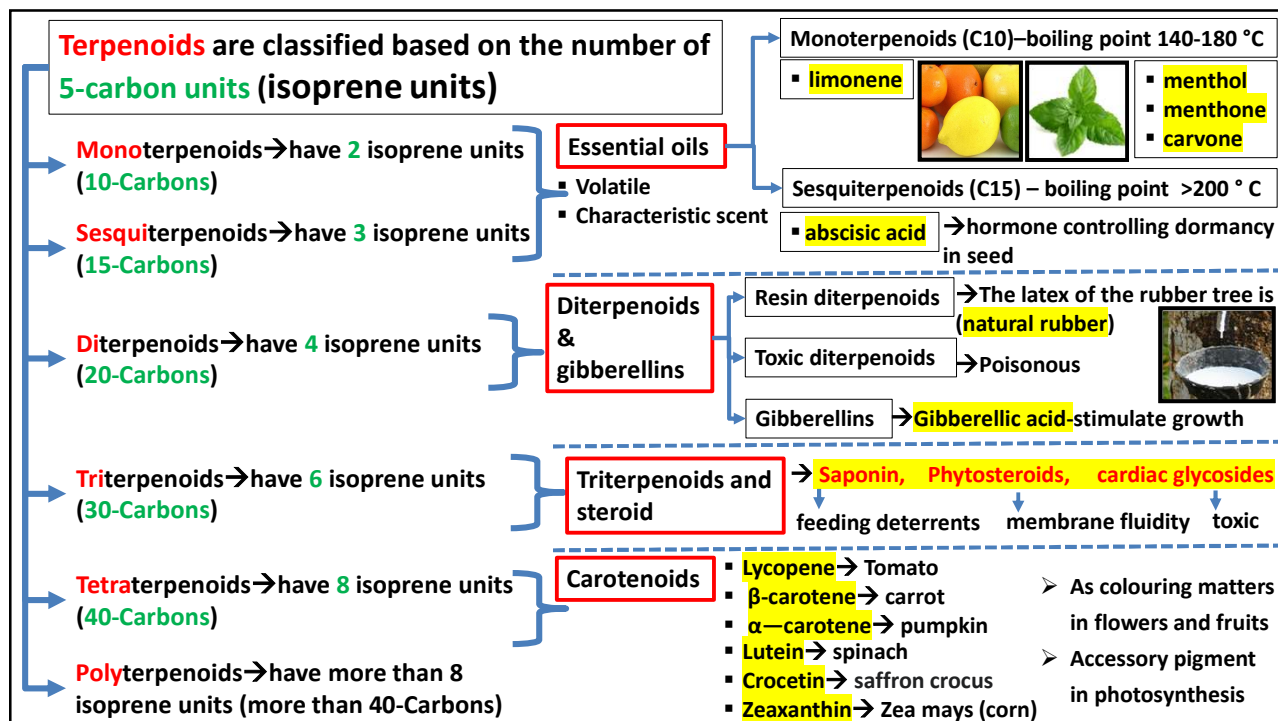
### LYCOPENE

A type of carotenoid

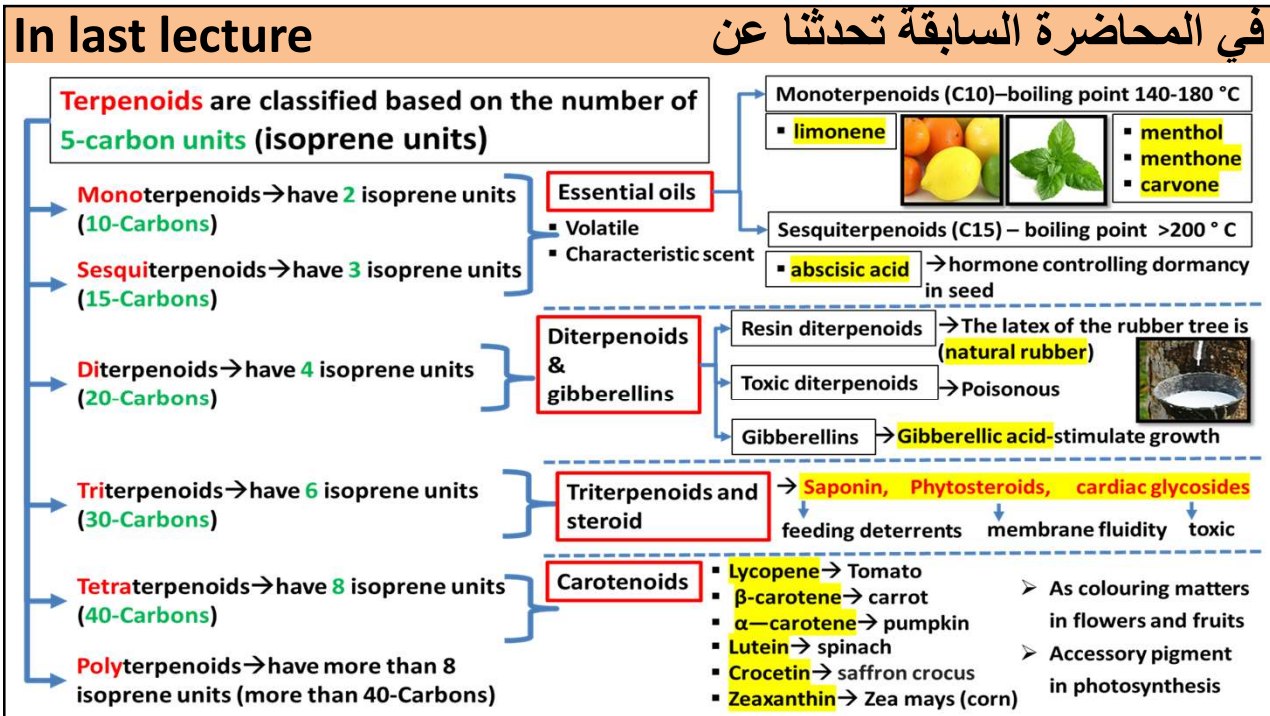
© COMPOUND INTEREST 2014 - WWW.COMPOUNDCHEM.COM | Twitter: @compoundchem | Facebook: www.facebook.com/compoundchem  
Shared under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives licence. Leaf designed by Peter Silk from the Noun Project.



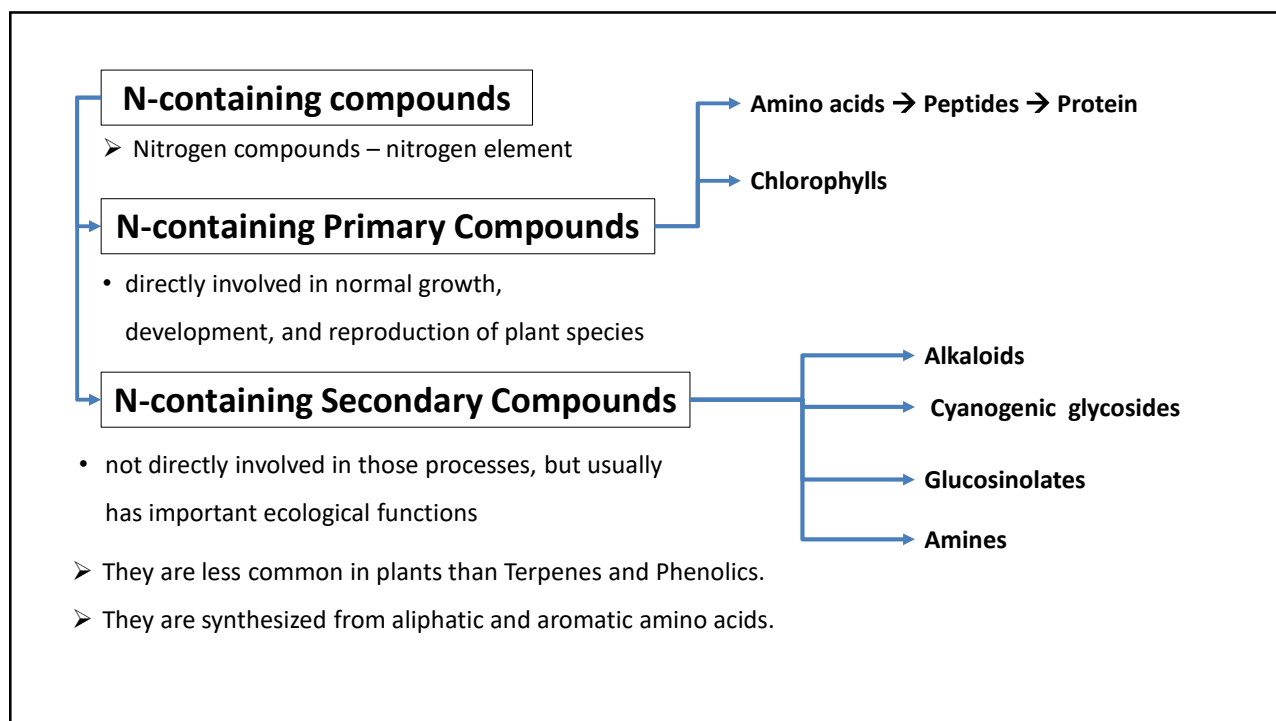
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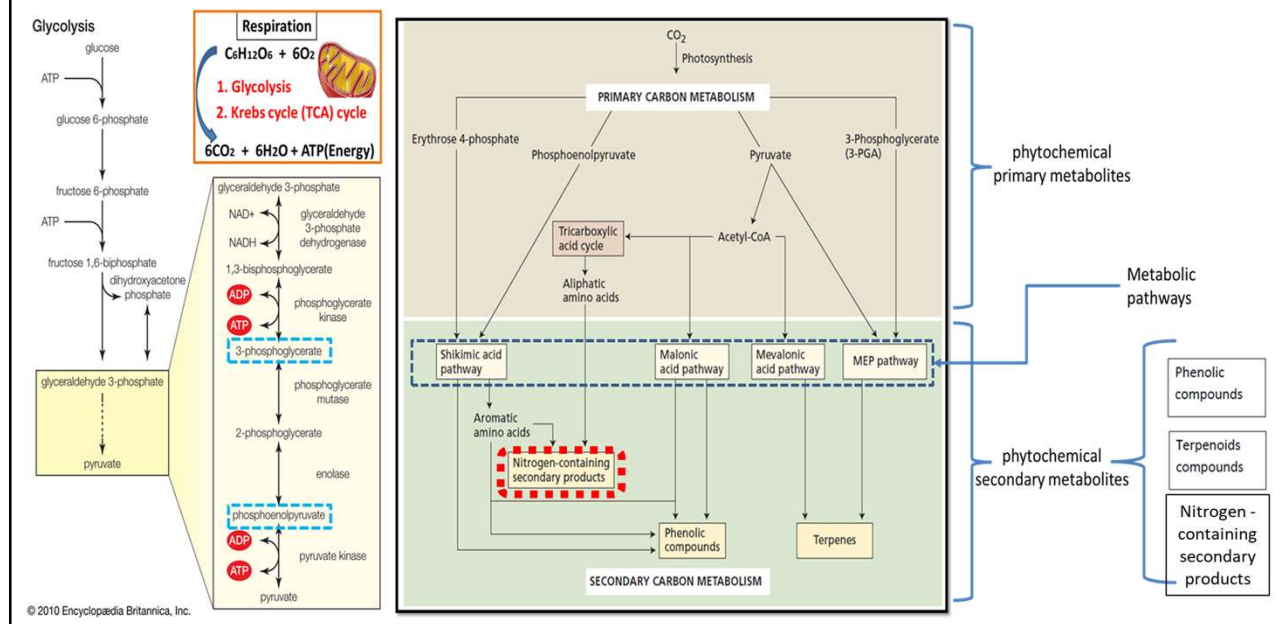
1



2



## N-containing Secondary Compounds are synthesized from aliphatic and aromatic amino acids.



3

## Amino acids

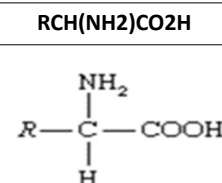
1. Amino acids → a group of organic molecules that consist of a basic amino group ( $-NH_2$ ), an acidic carboxyl group ( $-COOH$ ), and an organic R group (or side chain) that is unique to each amino acid.
2. The formula of a general amino acid is:  $RCH(NH_2)CO_2H$
3. The amino acids differ from each other in the particular chemical structure of the R group.
4. Amino acid are colorless ionic compounds & water soluble
5. Amino acid have difference charge properties, amino acid mixture can be divided into neutral, basic and acidic.
6. Plant amino acid conveniently divided into two groups:

### a. Protein amino acid

1. Generally recognized to be twenty in number
2. Found in plant and animal

### b. Non-protein amino acid (not incorporated into proteins)

1. They are not part of the 20 such molecules that are translated into proteins by the standard genetic code.
2. Their role in plant is not clear, although present in high concentration in seeds
3. May be important as nitrogen storage material, or act as protective substances
4. found in plants of the family Leguminosae, e.g., Canavanine (non-protein amino acid) resemble in structure with arginine (protein amino acid).



4

Protein amino acid	Protein amino acid	Charge properties
<p>Red color → present in larger amount and represent a storage form of nitrogen</p> <p>Blue color → low amount in plant tissue and cannot be readily detected.</p>	Glycine	neutral
	Alanine	neutral
	Serine	neutral
	Cysteine	neutral
	Threonine	neutral
	Valine	neutral
	Leucine	neutral
	Isoleucine	neutral
	Methionine	neutral
	Aspartic acid	acidic
	Asparagines	neutral
	Glutamic acid	acidic
	Glutamine	neutral
	Arginine	basic
	Lysine	basic
	Proline	neutral
	Phenylalanine	neutral
	Tyrosine	neutral
	Tryptophan	neutral
	Histidine	basic

## AMINO ACIDS

Carbon (blue), Oxygen (pink), Nitrogen (light blue), Sulphur (yellow), Hydrogen (white)

### Nonpolar

Alanine, Glycine, Proline, Cysteine

### Uncharged polar

Serine, Asparagine, Glutamine, Tyrosine

### Basic (positively charged)

Arginine

### Acidic (negatively charged)

Aspartic acid, Glutamic acid

5

Protein amino acid	Protein amino acid	Charge properties
<p>Red color → present in larger amount and represent a storage form of nitrogen</p> <p>Blue color → low amount in plant tissue and cannot be readily detected.</p>	Glycine	neutral
	Alanine	neutral
	Serine	neutral
	Cysteine	neutral
	Threonine	neutral
	Valine	neutral
	Leucine	neutral
	Isoleucine	neutral
	Methionine	neutral
	Aspartic acid	acidic
	Asparagines	neutral
	Glutamic acid	acidic
	Glutamine	neutral
	Arginine	basic
	Lysine	basic
	Proline	neutral
	Phenylalanine	neutral
	Tyrosine	neutral
	Tryptophan	neutral
	Histidine	basic

## Non-protein amino acid

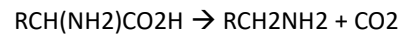
Nonprotein amino acid	Protein amino acid analog
$\text{HOOC}-\underset{\text{NH}_2}{\text{CH}}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-\text{NH}-\underset{\text{NH}}{\text{CH}}-\text{NH}_2$ <p>Canavanine</p>	$\text{HOOC}-\underset{\text{NH}_2}{\text{CH}}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-\underset{\text{NH}}{\text{CH}}-\text{NH}_2$ <p>Arginine</p>
$\text{CH}_2-\underset{\text{NH}}{\text{CH}}-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$ <p>Azetidine-2-carboxylic acid</p>	$\text{CH}_2-\underset{\text{NH}}{\text{CH}}-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$ <p>Proline</p>

### Non-protein amino acids and their protein amino acids analogs

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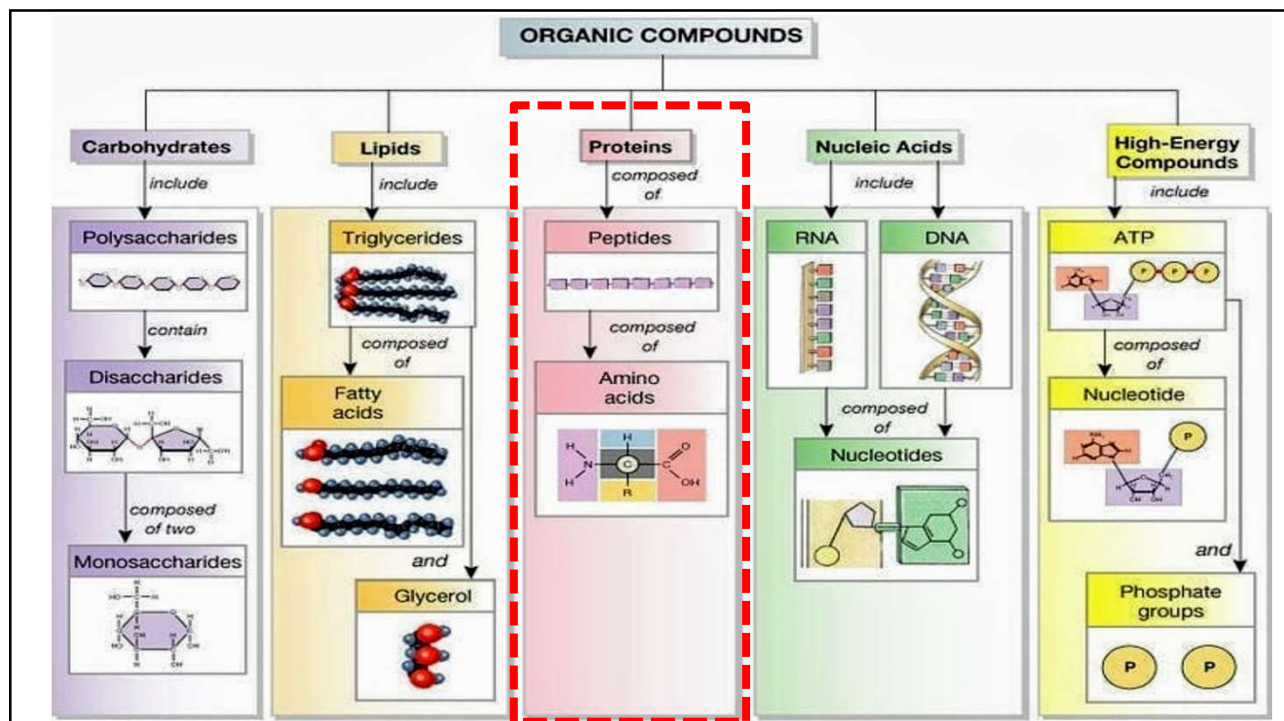
## Amines vs. Amino acids

- Considered simply as the products of **decarboxylation of amino acid**, formed by the reaction:

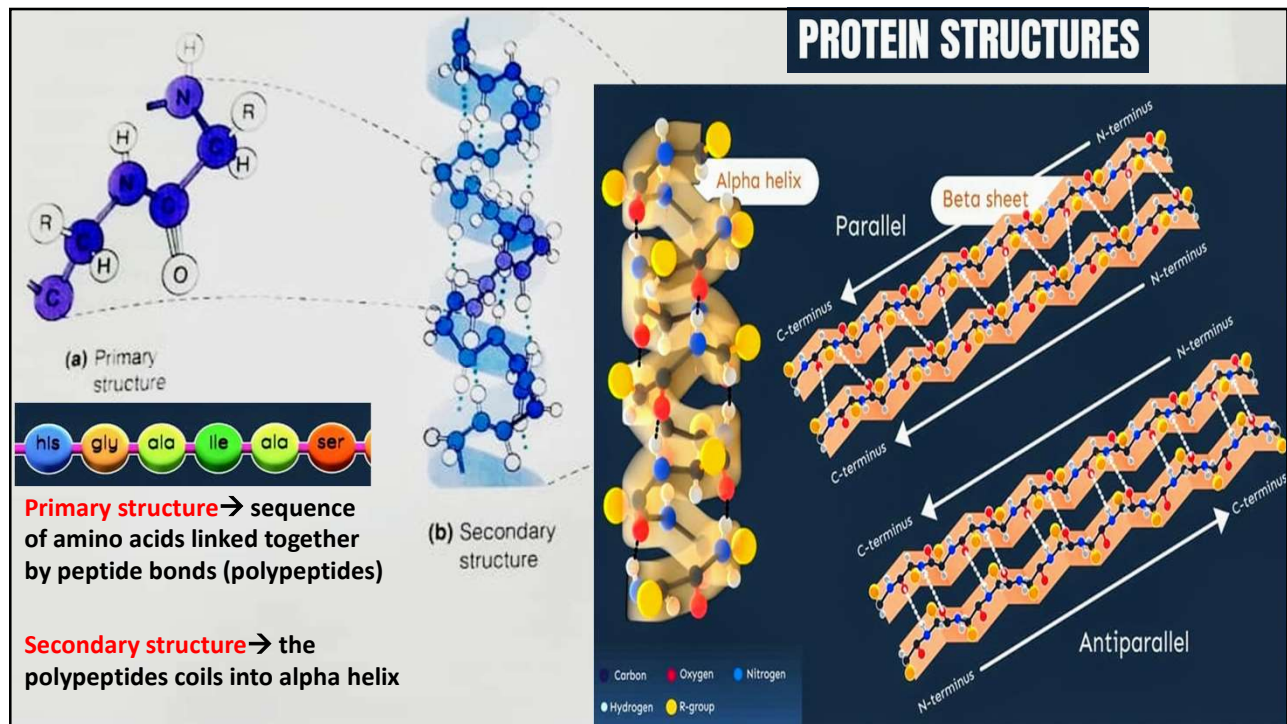


- Have an unpleasant fish-like smell (offensive odors)
- Function in flowers as insect attractants

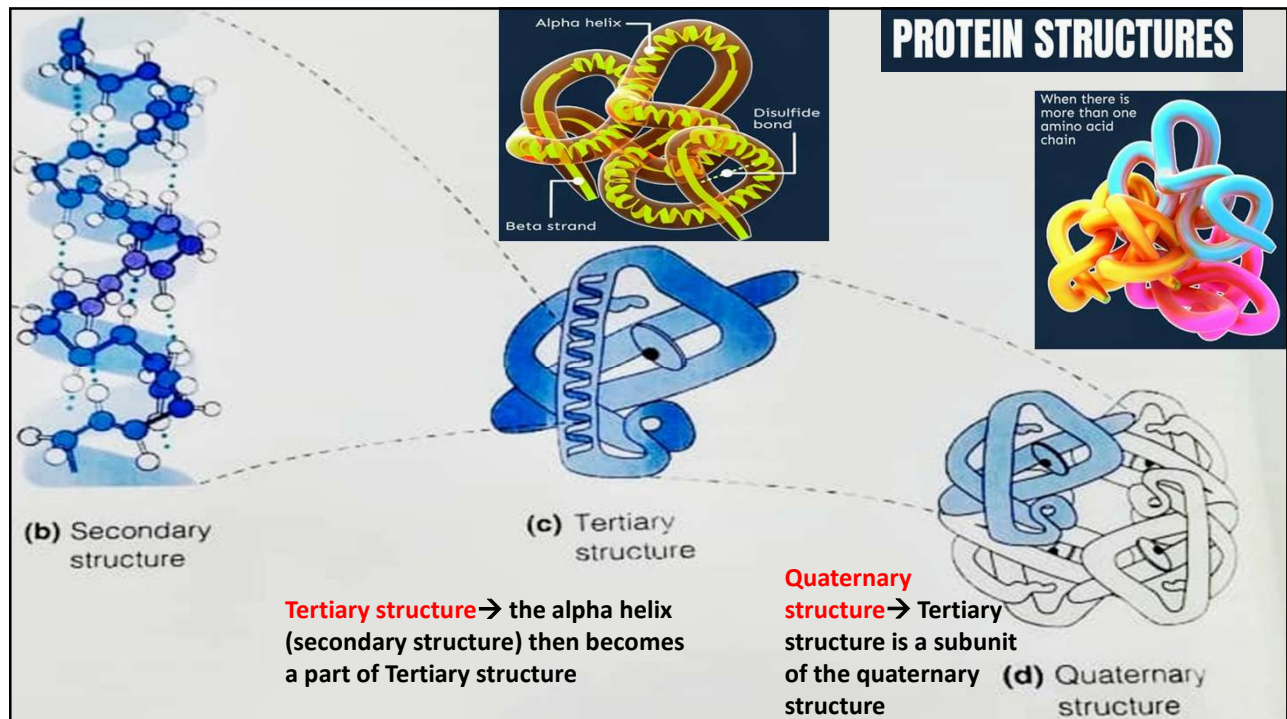
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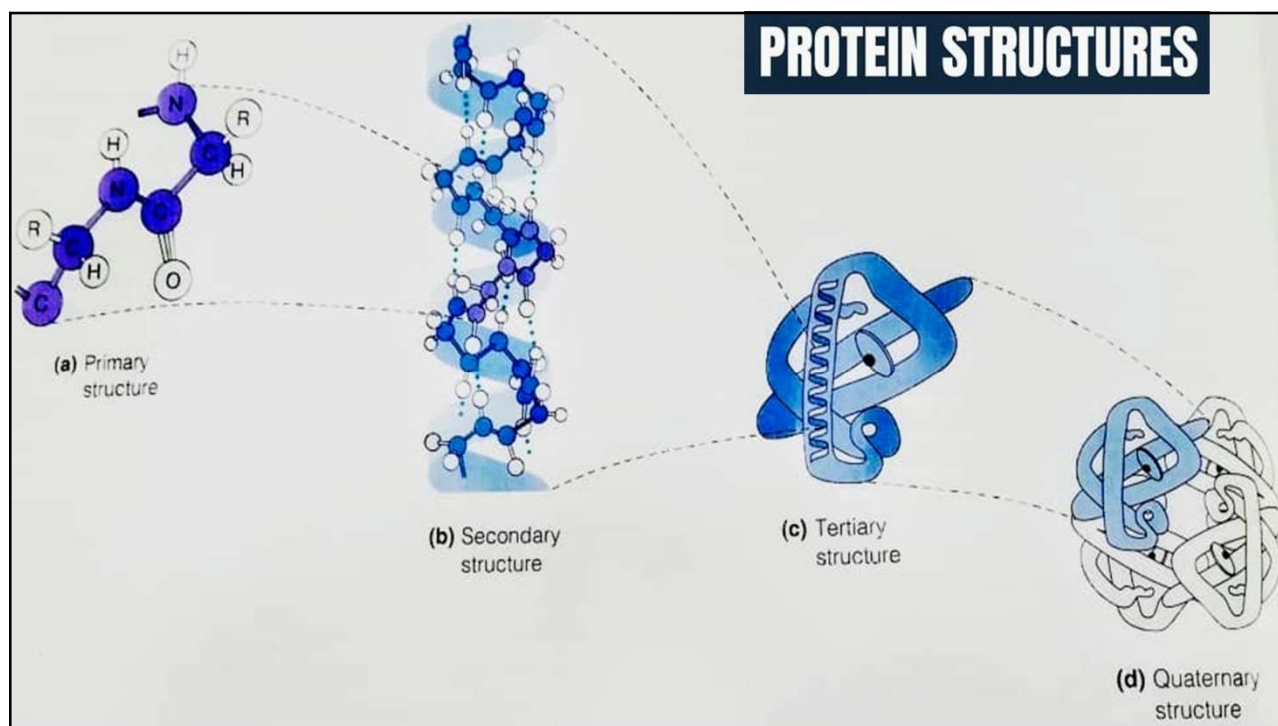


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## Alkaloids

- 1) The alkaloids are a large family of more than 15,000 nitrogen-containing secondary metabolites, & the nitrogen atom in these compounds is usually part of a heterocyclic ring, a ring that contains both nitrogen and carbon atoms. And Alkaloids are classified depending on the type of heterocyclic ring system present in the molecule
- 2) Most alkaloids are alkaline and are weak bases which formed salts with an acid. . At the pH values commonly found in the cytosol (pH 7.2) or the vacuole (pH 5–6), the nitrogen atom is protonated; hence alkaloids are positively charged and are generally water soluble, & almost all the alkaloids have a bitter taste.
- 3) Alkaloids are usually synthesized from one of a few common amino acids—in particular, lysine, tyrosine, or tryptophan.

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## Alkaloids

- 4) They are found in approximately 20% of vascular plant species. Mostly in angiosperm, generally absent or infrequent in gymnosperms, ferns, mosses and lower plant. Specific to one family or to a few related plants – name of alkaloid types are often derived from plant source – eg nicotine (*Nicotina tabacum*), atropine (*Atropa belladonna*).



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**1) The role of alkaloids in plants** has been a subject of speculation for at least a century.

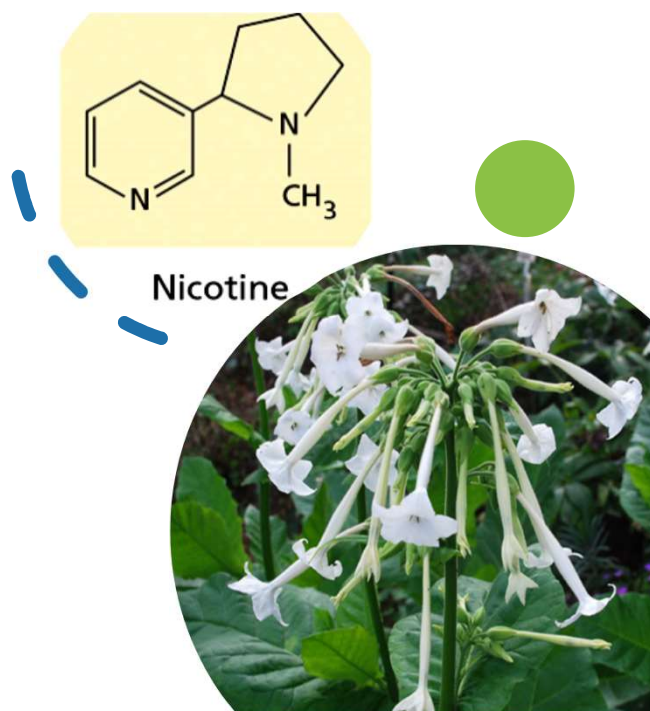
- a) Alkaloids were once thought to be nitrogenous wastes (analogous to urea and uric acid in animals),
  - b) nitrogen storage compounds, or
  - c) growth regulators, but there is little evidence to support any of these functions.
  - d) Most alkaloids are now believed to function as defenses against herbivores, especially mammals, because of their general toxicity and deterrence capability. Livestock deaths due to over-consumption of alkaloid containing plants such as lupines and groundsels.
  - e) Insect repellents or attractants
- 2) Often alkaloids are used as medicines for **humans**. Some examples: morphine.
- 3) Cocaine, nicotine, and caffeine used as stimulants and sedatives.

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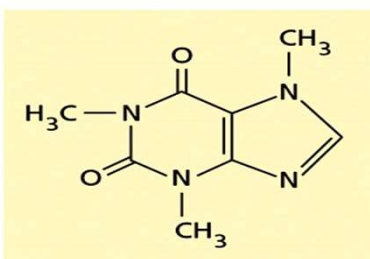
## Alkaloids → Nicotine

- The tobacco plants (*Nicotiana spp.*) normally produces nicotine in response to herbivore feeding.
- But if nicotine-tolerant caterpillars are feeding, the tobacco produces terpenes instead.
- These terpenes can attract the predators of the herbivore.

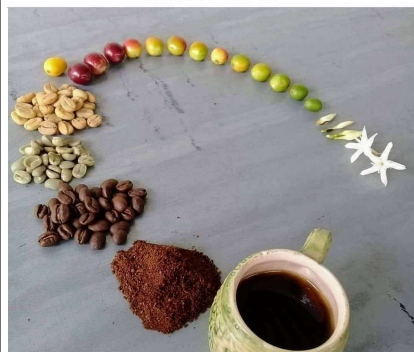


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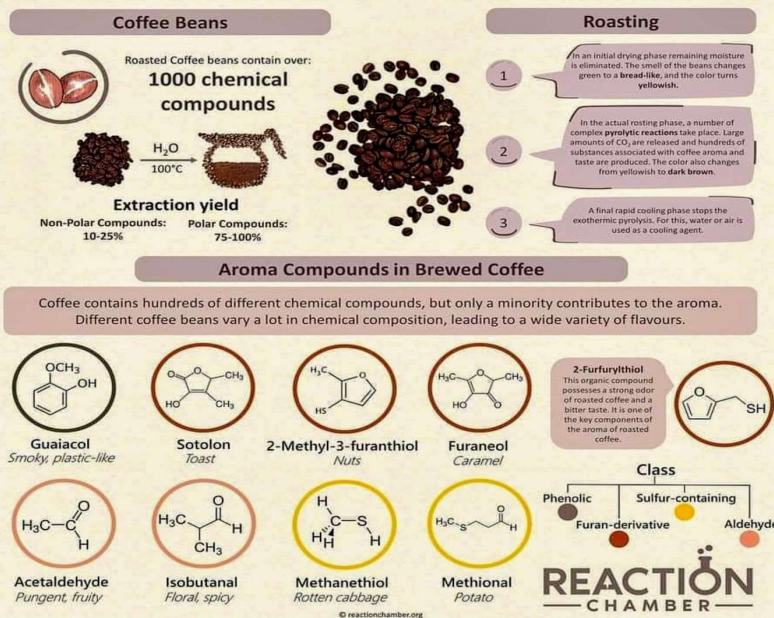
## Alkaloids → caffeine



Caffeine

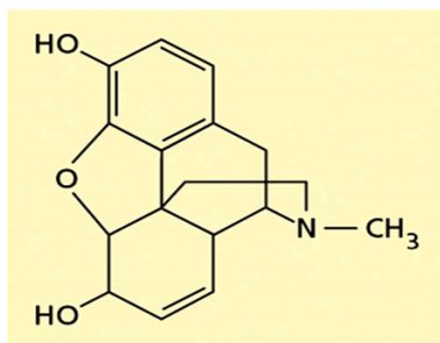


## Aroma of Coffee

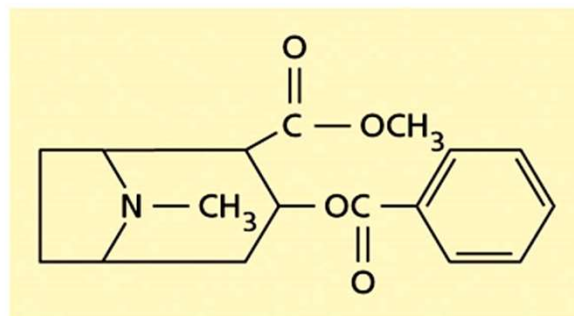


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### Alkaloids → Morphine & Cocaine



Morphine



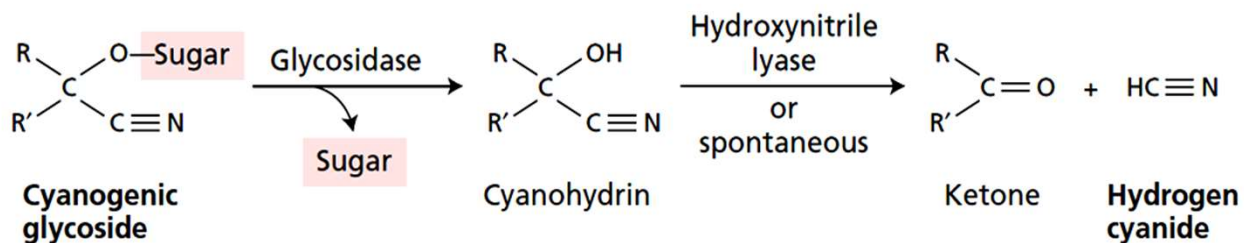
Cocaine

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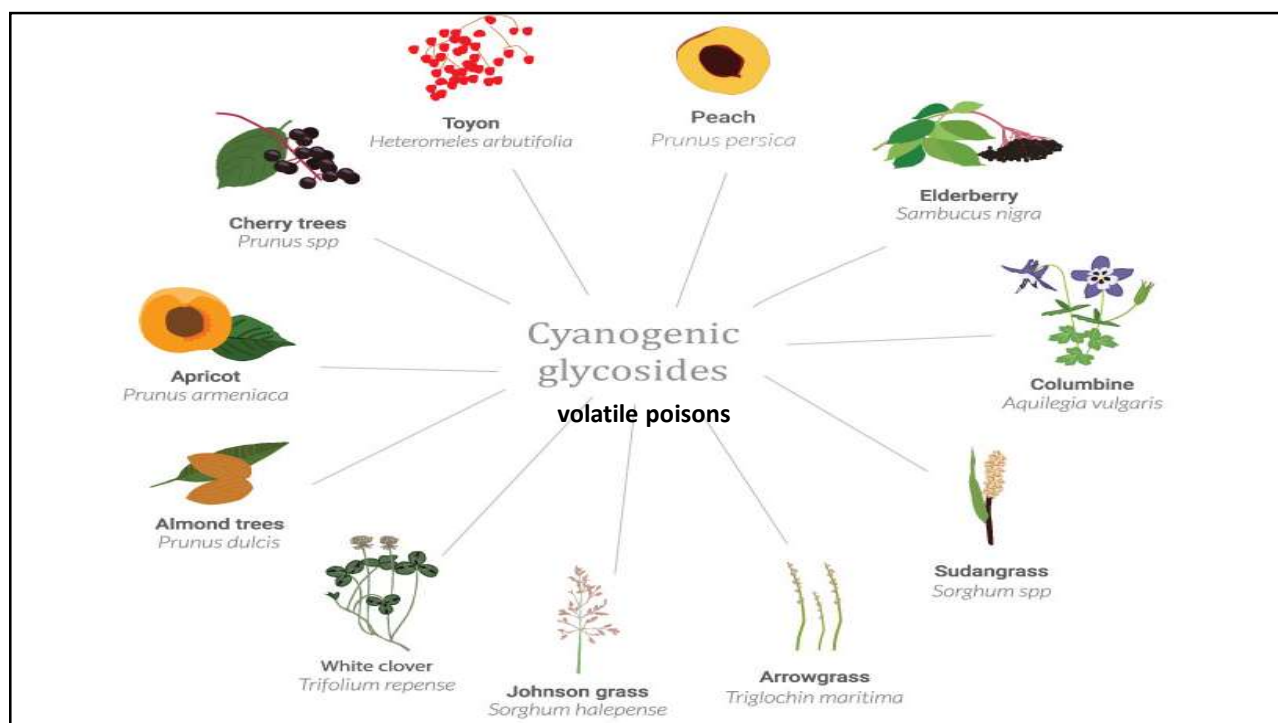
### Cyanogenic glycosides

1. The plants convert these compounds into the **toxic gas hydrogen cyanide (HCN)** in response to herbivore feeding.
2. Plants that produce cyanogenic glycosides also produce the enzymes that convert these compounds into hydrogen cyanide, including **glycosidases** and **hydroxy nitrile lyases**.
3. These enzymes and cyanogenic glycosides are stored in separate compartments or tissues within the plant; when herbivores feed on these tissues, they produce the lethal hydrogen cyanide.

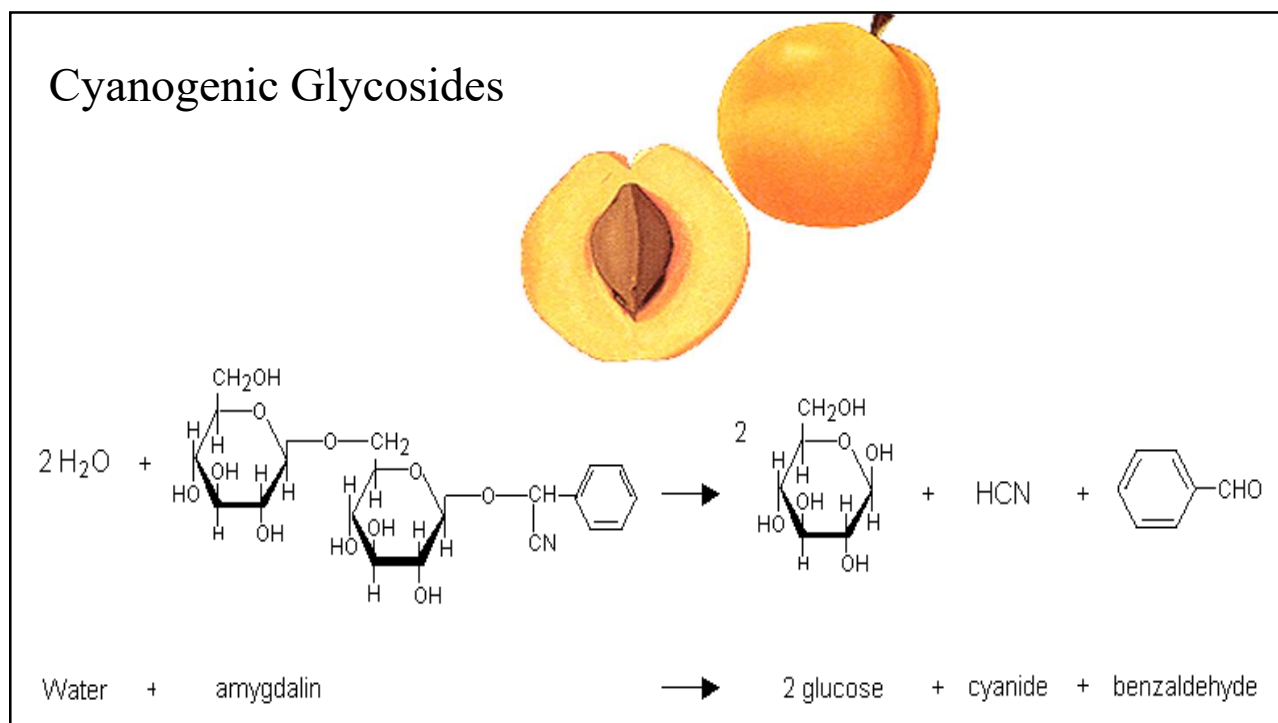
#### The degradation process of Cyanogenic glycosides



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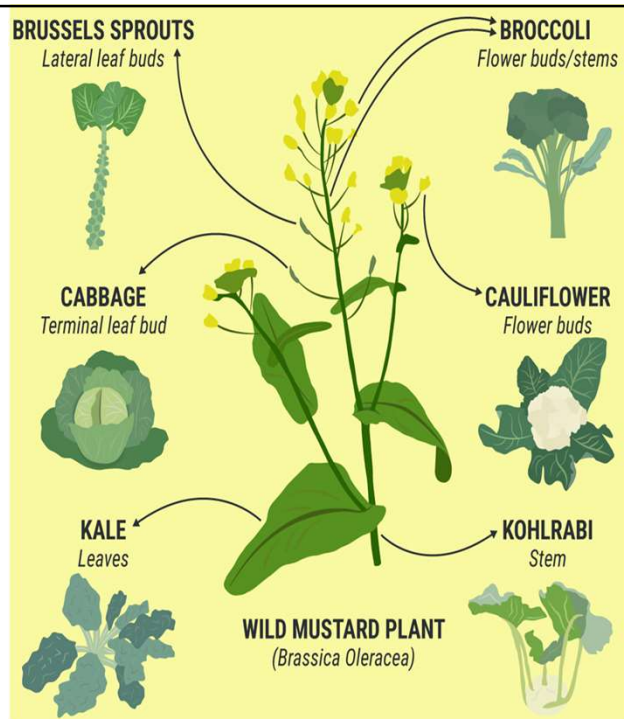
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## Glucosinolates

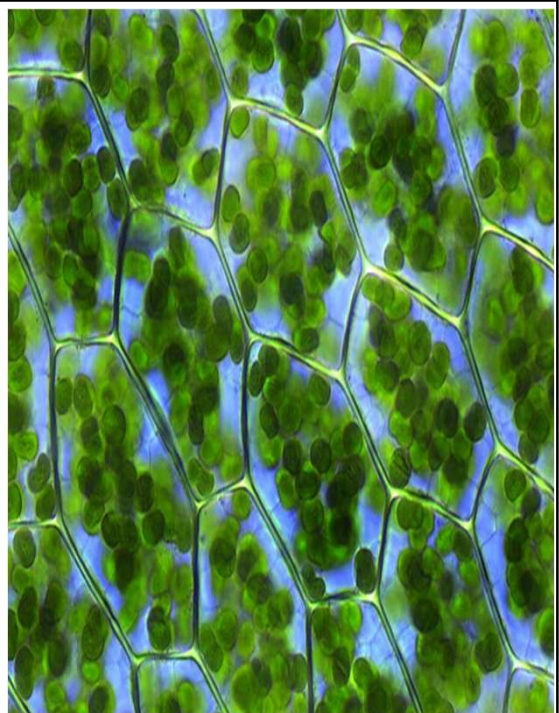
- These compounds release **volatile defensive** substances, “**mustard oils**”, (often herbivore repellents).
- Plants like cabbage, broccoli, and radishes (*Brassicaceae* family) have these compounds.
- Glucosinolates are **sulfur-** and **nitrogen-**containing secondary metabolites involved in plant defense against herbivores.
- Glucosinolates are present in plant tissues but are also induced to higher levels by herbivores attack.



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## Chlorophylls

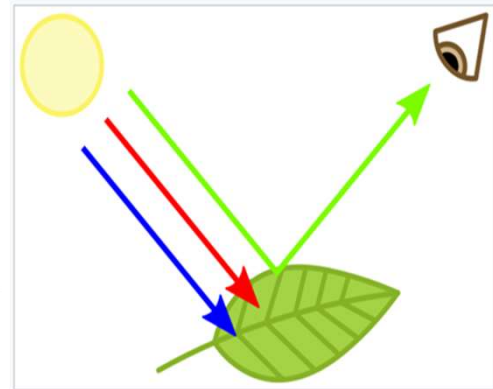
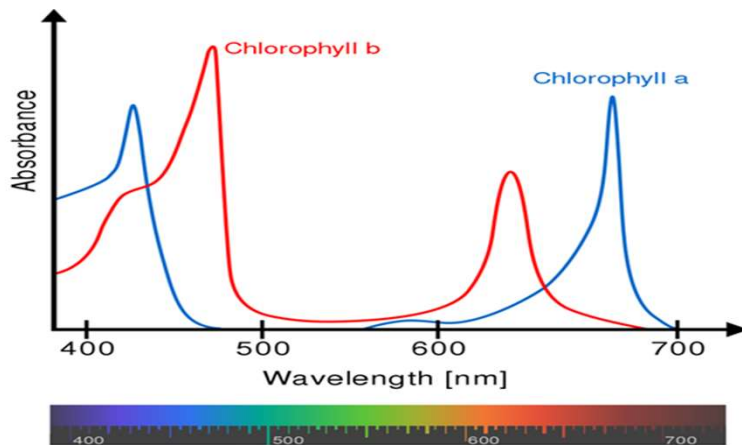
- Essential catalysts of photosynthesis
- Occur as green pigment in all photosynthetic plant tissue
- Occur abundantly in the chloroplast
- Two types of chlorophyll exist in the photosystems of green plants: chlorophyll a and b



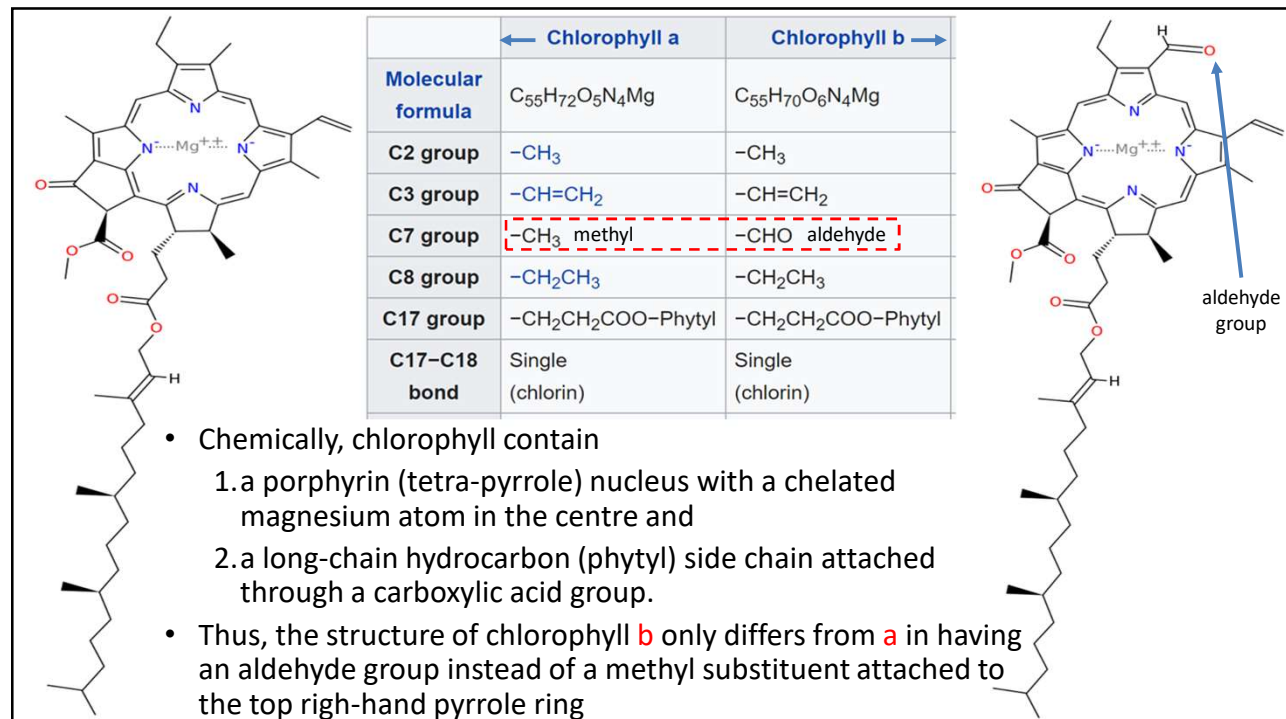
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- Chlorophylls absorb light most strongly in the blue portion of the electromagnetic spectrum as well as the red portion.
- Conversely, it is a poor absorber of green and near-green portions of the spectrum. Hence chlorophyll-containing tissues appear green because green light is less absorbed.

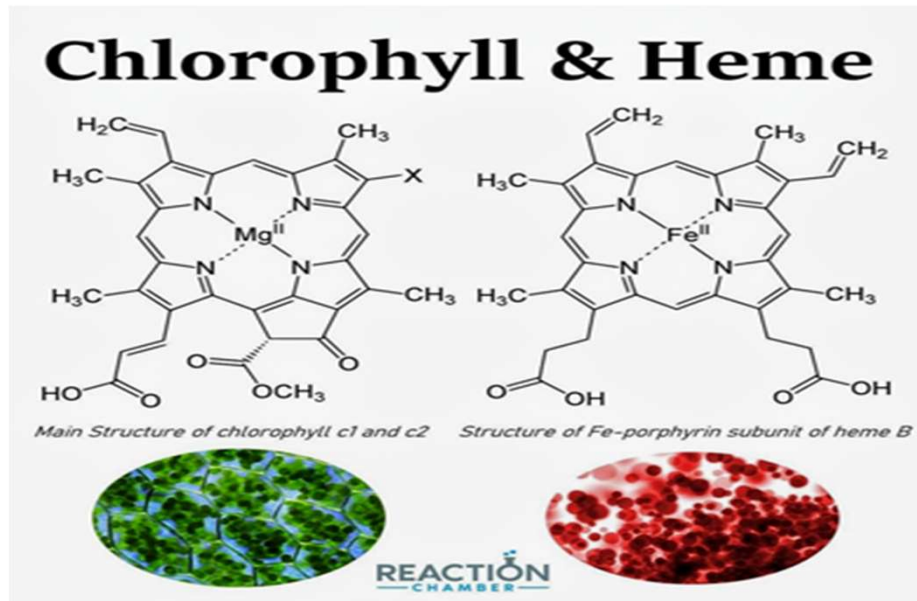


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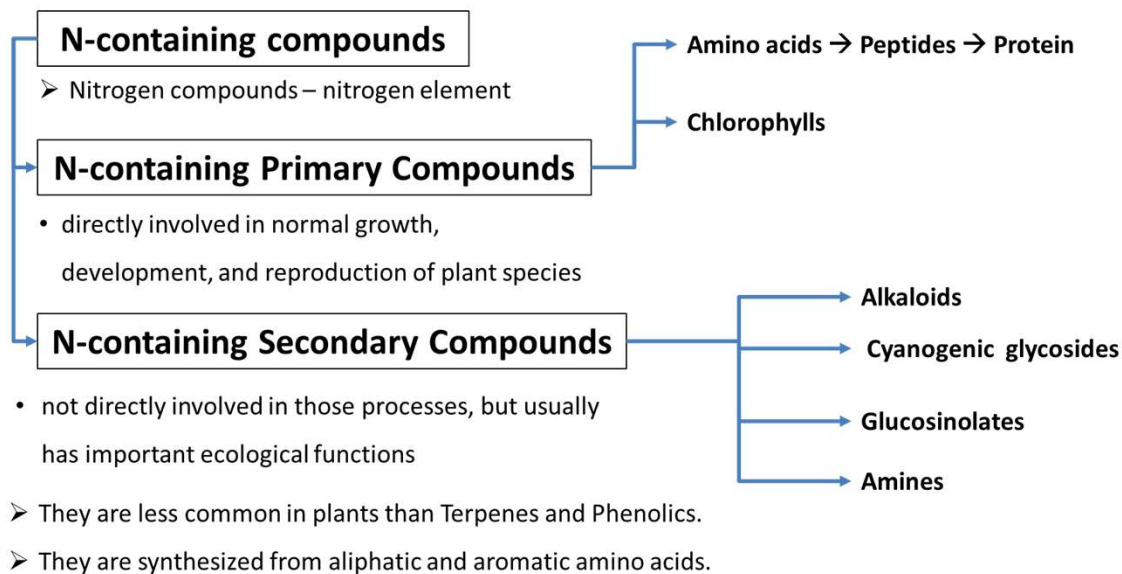
**Unlike hemes, which feature iron at the center of the tetrapyrrole ring, chlorophylls bind magnesium.**





## In last lecture

## في المحاضرة السابقة تحدثنا عن



1

➤ Today, we will cover the following:

**Fatty acids and lipids**

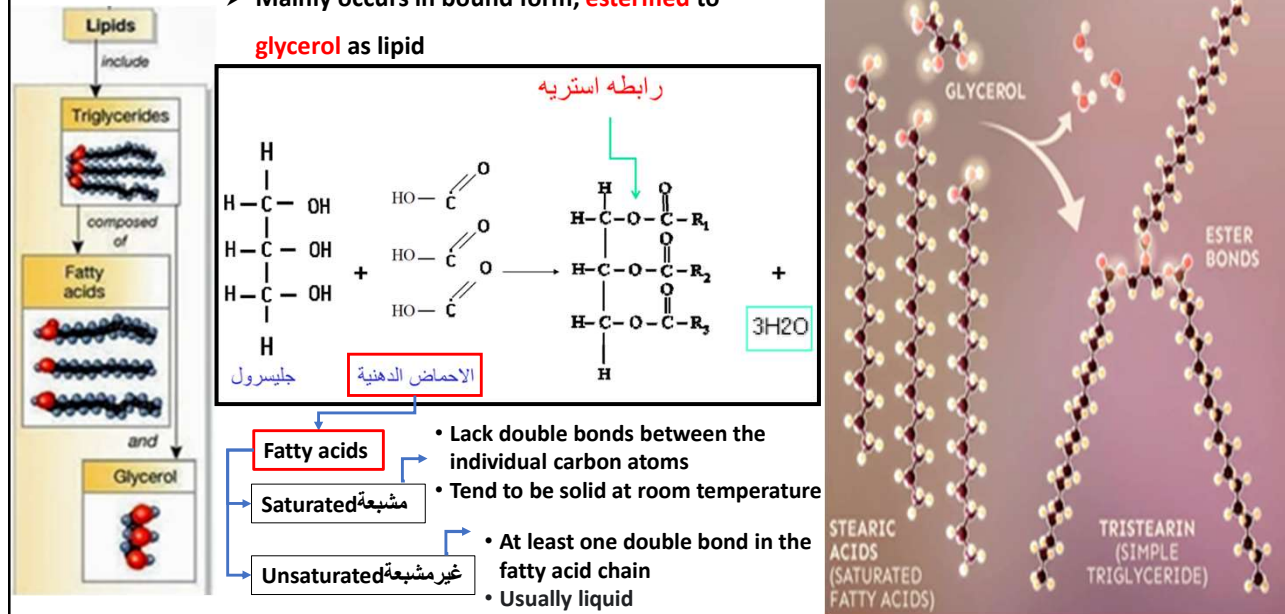
**Carbohydrates**

**Methods of extraction, separation, and identification -  
The plant material**

2

## Fatty acids and lipids

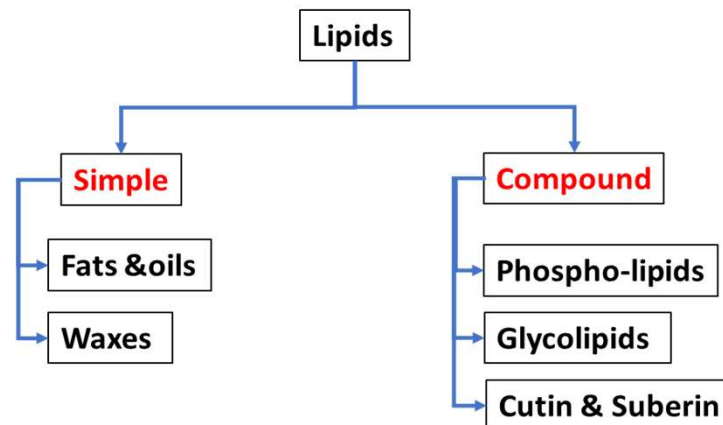
- Mainly occurs in bound form, **esterified to glycerol** as lipid



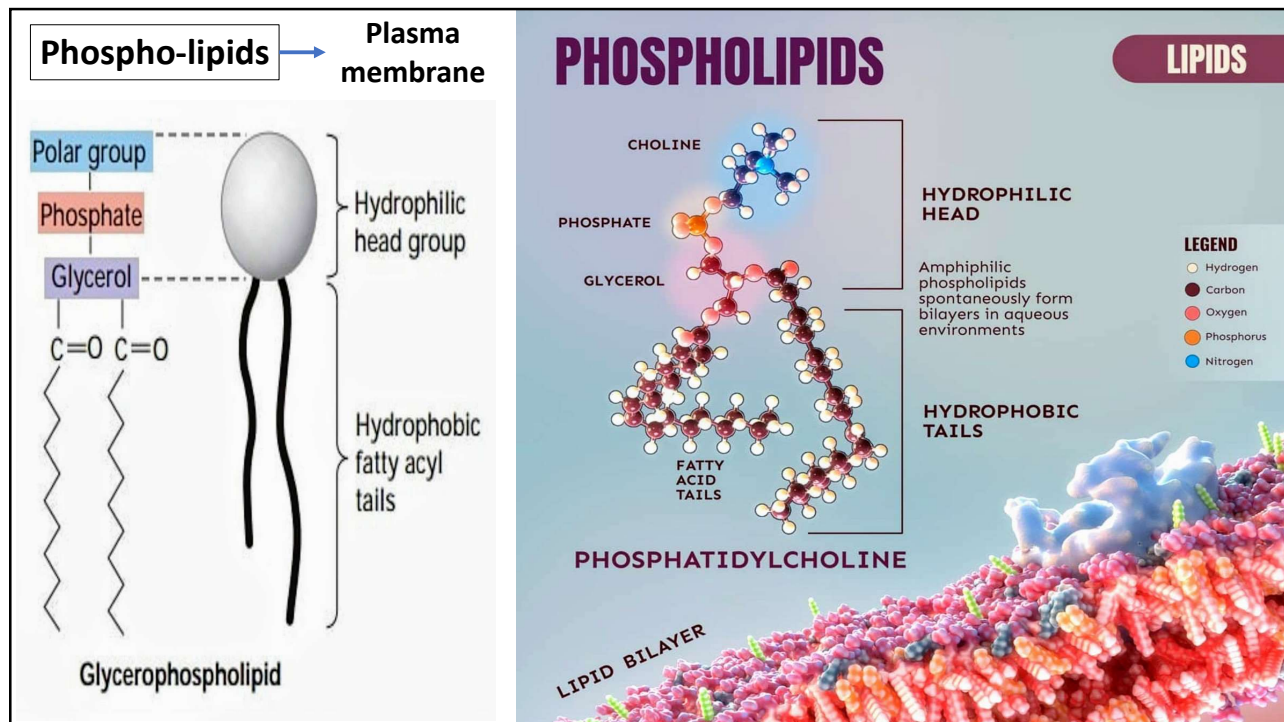
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## Fatty acids and lipids

- Comprise up to 7% of the dry weight in leaves in higher plants and are important as membrane constituents in chloroplast and mitochondria.
- Abundantly in seeds or fruit to provide plants with a storage form of energy to use during germination.



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## Surface protection

- All plant parts exposed to the atmosphere are coated with layers of lipid materials that reduce water loss and help block the entry of pathogenic fungi and bacteria.
- The principal types of coatings are ;
  1. **Cutin** : found on most aboveground parts.
  2. **Suberin** : suberin is present on underground parts, woody stems, and healed wounds.
  3. **Waxes** : associated with both cutin and suberin.

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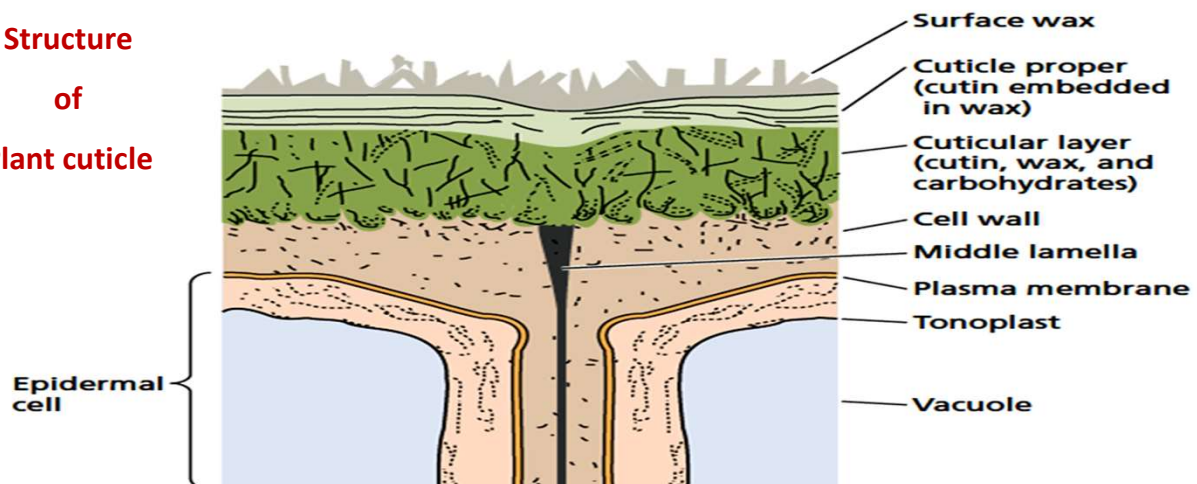
## Cutin

- The cutin is a macromolecule, a polymer consisting of many long-chain fatty acids that are attached to each other by ester linkages, creating a rigid three-dimensional network.
- The cutin is a major component of plant cuticle.
- The cuticle is a multilayered secreted structure that coats the outer cell wall of epidermis on the areal parts

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## Cutin

### Structure of Plant cuticle

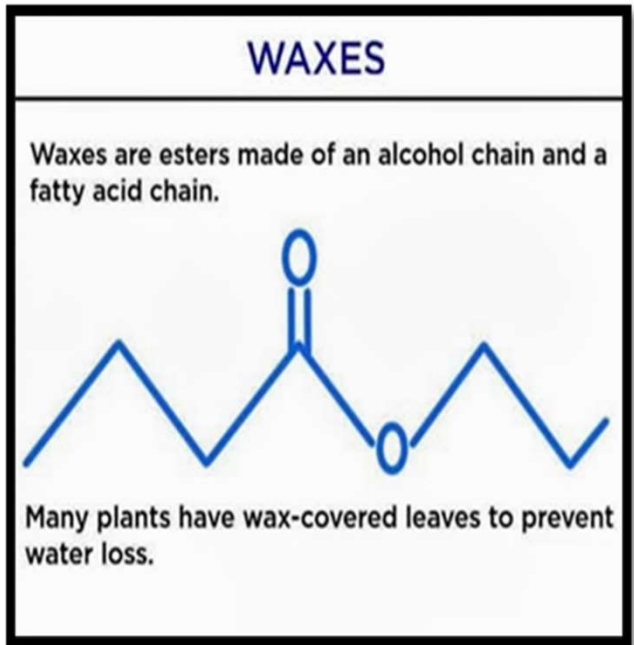


The cuticle is composed of: 1- a top coating of wax, 2- a thick middle layer containing cutin embedded in wax (**the cuticle proper**), and a lower layer formed of cutin and wax blended with the cell wall substances pectin, cellulose, and other carbohydrates (**the cuticular layer**).

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## Waxes

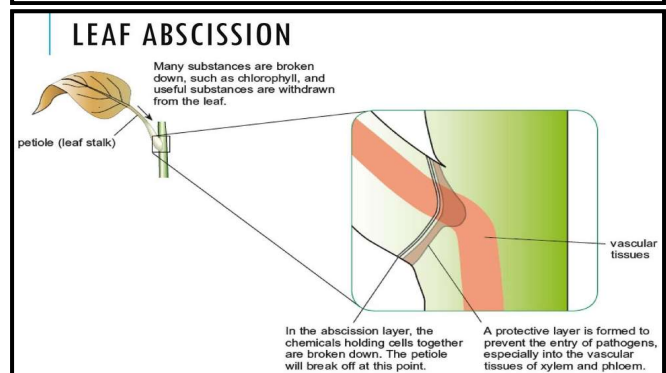
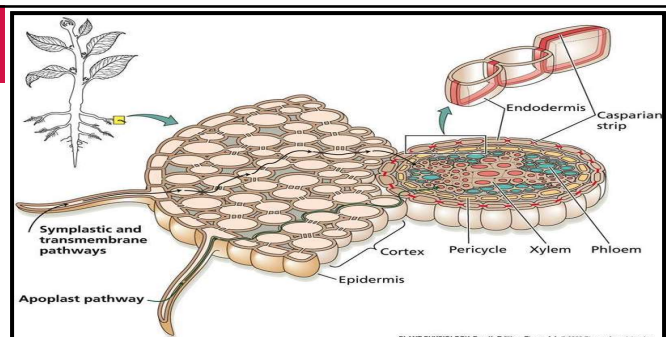
- The waxes are complex mixtures of long-chain lipids that are extremely hydrophobic.
- They are synthesized by epidermal cells.
- They leave the epidermal cells as droplets that pass-through pores in the cell wall.



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## Suberin

- Suberin is also formed from fatty acids but has a different structure from cutin.
- Suberin is a principal component of the outer cell walls of all underground organs.
- Older parts of roots more suberized.
- Suberin is present in the **Casparian strip** of root endodermis.
- Suberin is also found at sites of **leaf abscission** and in areas damaged by disease or wounding.

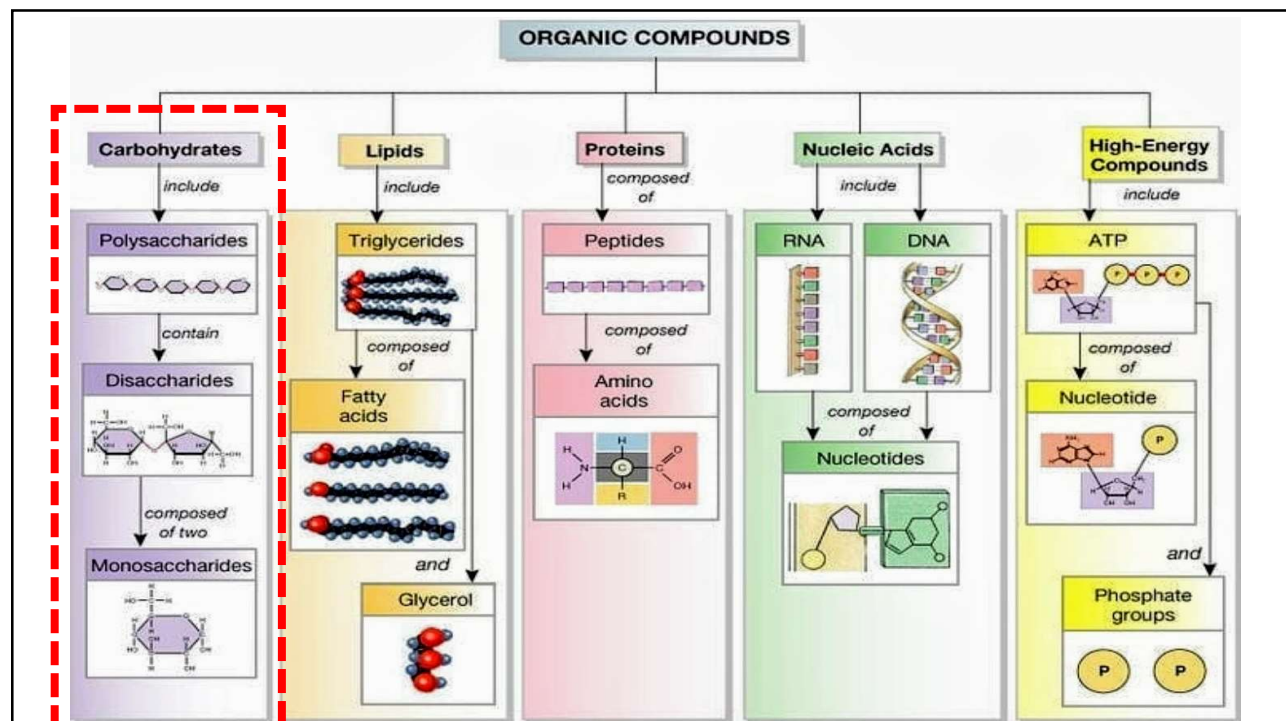


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## Cutin, Suberin and Waxes

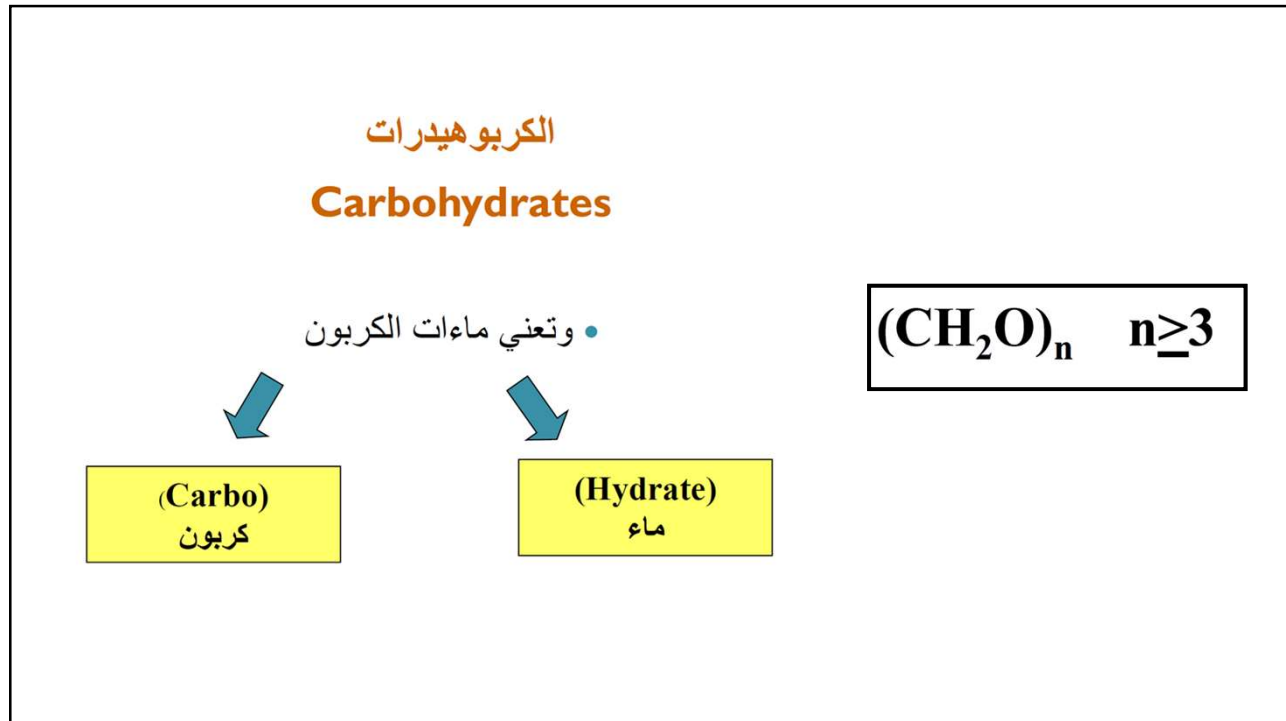
- Cutin, suberin, waxes are made of **hydrophobic compounds**.
- They form barriers between the plant and its environment that function to keep water in and pathogens out.
- The cuticle and suberized tissue are important in excluding fungi and bacteria.
- However, many fungi can penetrate directly through the plant surface by mechanical means, and others fungi produce the **cutinase** enzyme that hydrolyzes cutin and thus facilitates entry of the pathogen into the plant.

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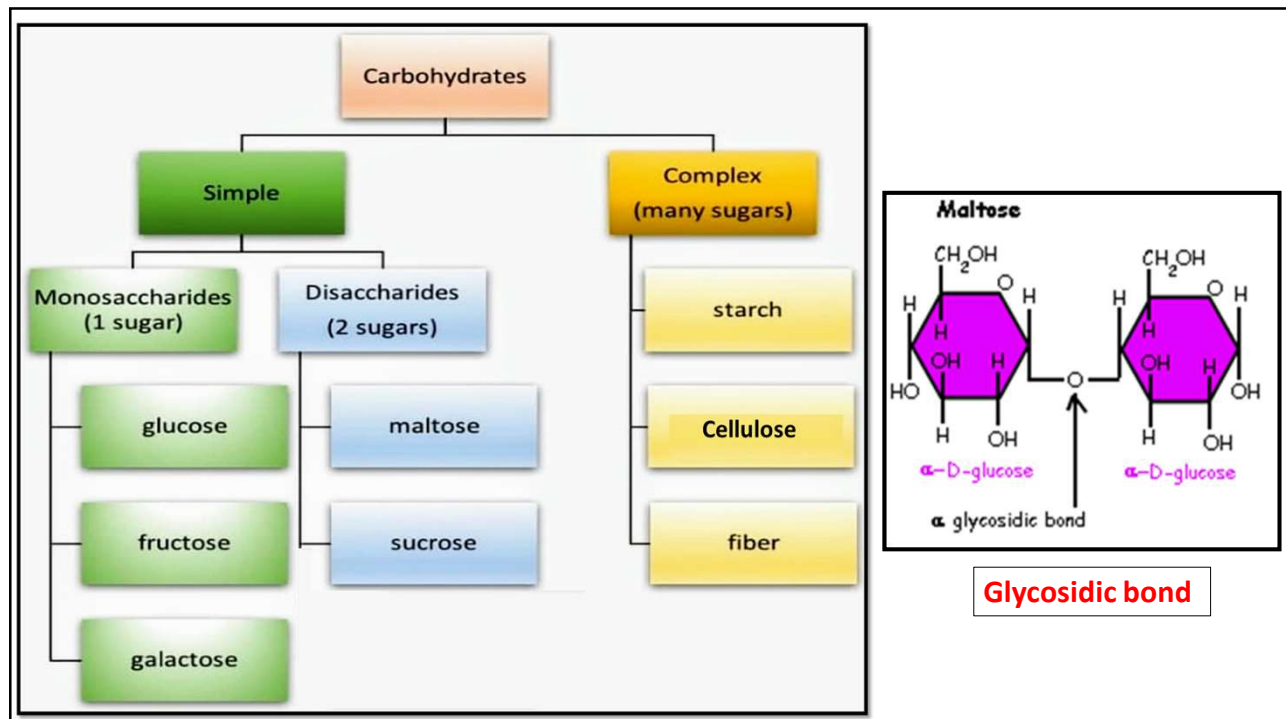


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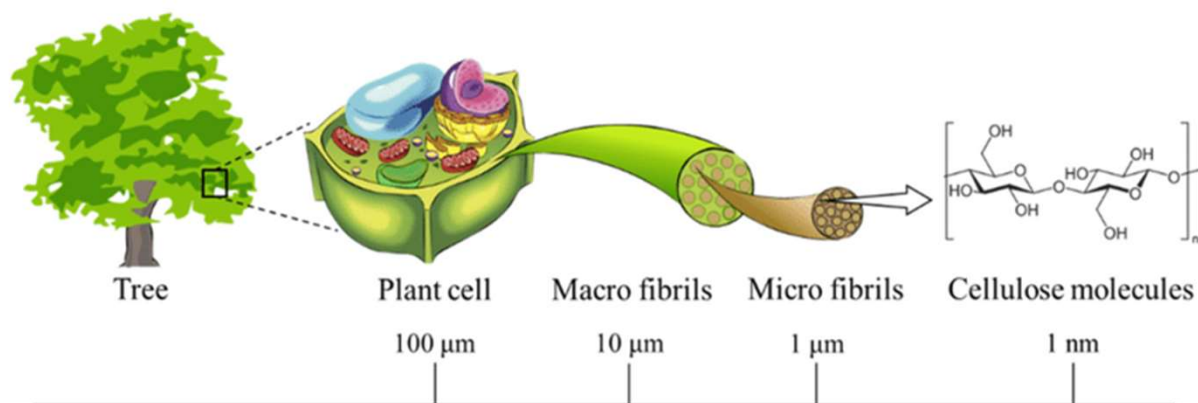


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- Plant cell walls are primarily made of cellulose, which is the most abundant **macromolecule** on Earth. Cellulose fibers are long, linear polymers of hundreds of glucose molecules.



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### Methods of **extraction**, **separation**, and **identification** -The plant material

Extraction				Separation		Identification
Phytochemicals	Petroleum ether	Chloroform	Ethanol	• <b>Chromatography</b>		• <b>Methods</b>
Phenol/polyphenols	+	+	+	– Paper chromatography ( <b>PC</b> )		– UV and visible spectroscopy
Terpenoids/steroids	–	+	+	– Thin layer chromatography ( <b>TLC</b> )		– Infrared spectroscopy ( <b>IR</b> )
Flavonoids	+	–	+	– Gas chromatography ( <b>GC</b> )		– Mass spectroscopy ( <b>MS</b> )
Saponins	+	+	+	– High performance liquid chromatography ( <b>HPLC</b> )		– Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy ( <b>NMR</b> )
Alkaloids	+	–	–	• The choice of technique depends on the solubility properties and volatilities of the compounds		
Tannins	–	+	+	– <b>PC</b> – applicable to water-soluble compounds		
• Take note for the nature of the compounds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Essential oil – sensitive to temp change and decreased over time– avoid drying</li> <li>– Flavonoids and alkaloids – remarkably stable with time</li> <li>– Tannin – better to extract from vacuum-dried fresh leaves rather than air-dried</li> </ul>				– <b>TLC</b> – separating lipid-soluble compounds		
				– <b>GC</b> – volatile compounds		
				– <b>HPLC</b> – less volatile compounds and polar compounds		

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