

Plant Hormone, its classification and function

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# What is a Plant Hormone?



A naturally-occurring compound which regulates change in physiology, *growth* or development of the plant.



# 5 Types of Plant Hormones

*I. Auxin*

*II. Cytokinin*

*III. Gibberellin*

*IV. Abscisic Acid*

*V. Ethylene*



# Auxin

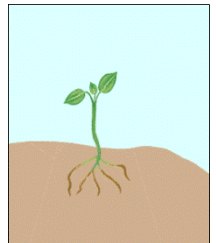
<b>Role of Hormone</b>	Cell elongation ( <i>increase cell size</i> )
<b>Site of Production</b>	Shoot Tips
<b>Effect of Hormone</b>	Growth of plant in response to the environment, production of roots.

**Tropism:** a plant's response to environment

**Phototropism-** response to light

**Geotropism-**response to gravity

**Thigmotropism-**response to touch



# Auxin Growth Effects

**Stimulates Adventitious Root Formation.**

**Adventitious roots** grow from stems or leaves rather than from the original root system of the plants.

*This is especially useful when cutting and transplanting plants.*



# Auxin Growth Effects

Tropisms-How a plant grows in response to the environment



Phototropism-light



Geotropism-gravity

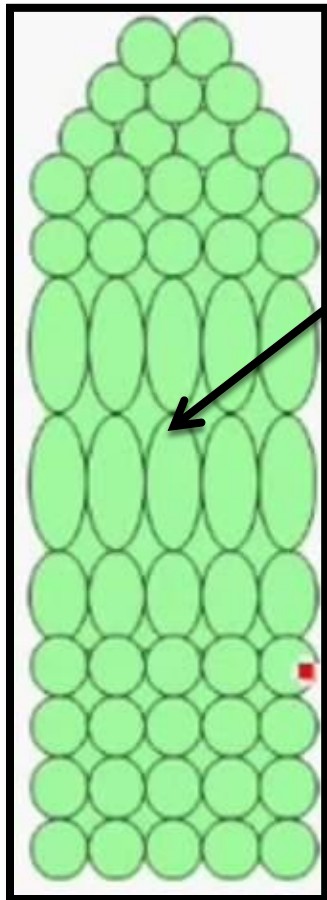


Thigmotropism-touch

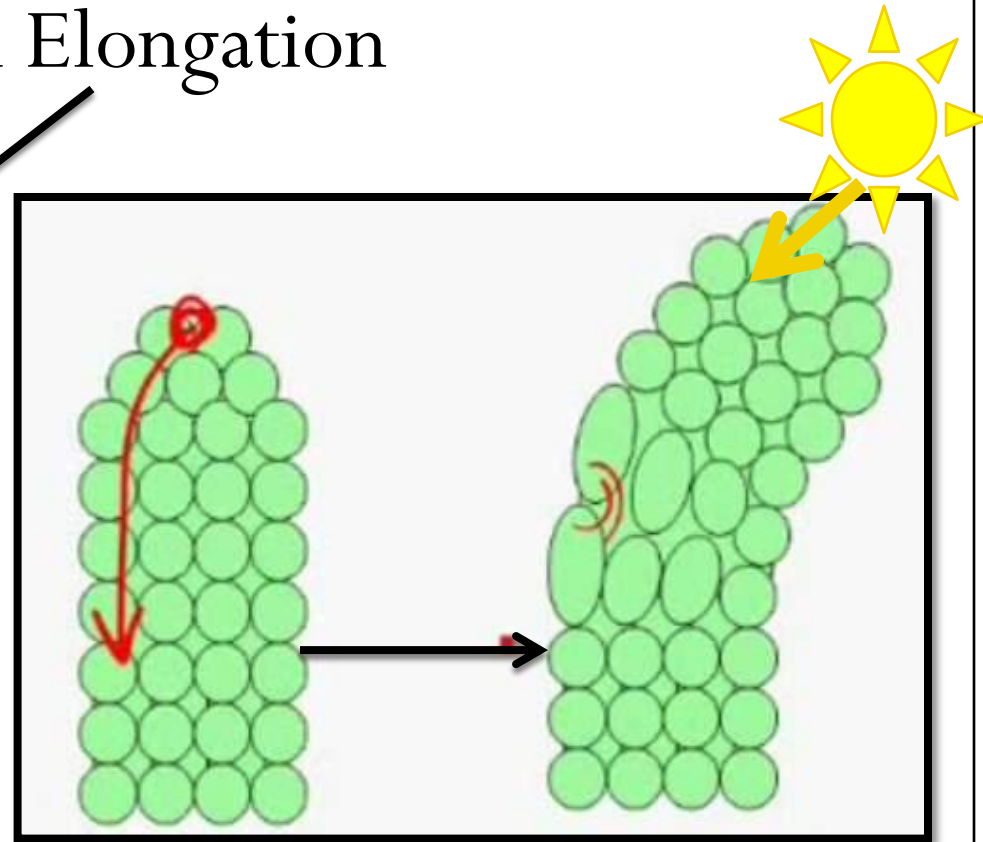


# Auxin

How does this hormone stimulate tropism?



Cell Elongation



Auxin travels away from the sunlight and expands the cells

# Cytokinin

**Role of  
Hormone**

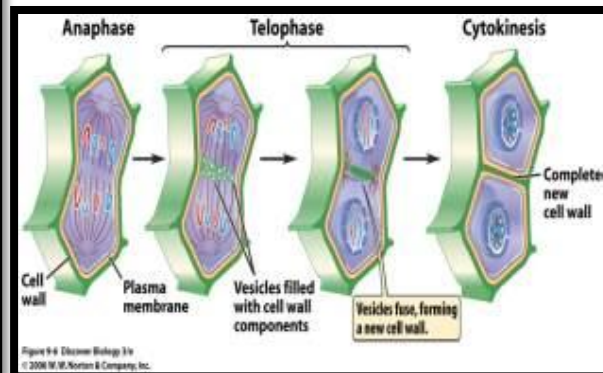
Cell division (*increase number of cells*)

**Site of  
Productio  
n**

Root Tips

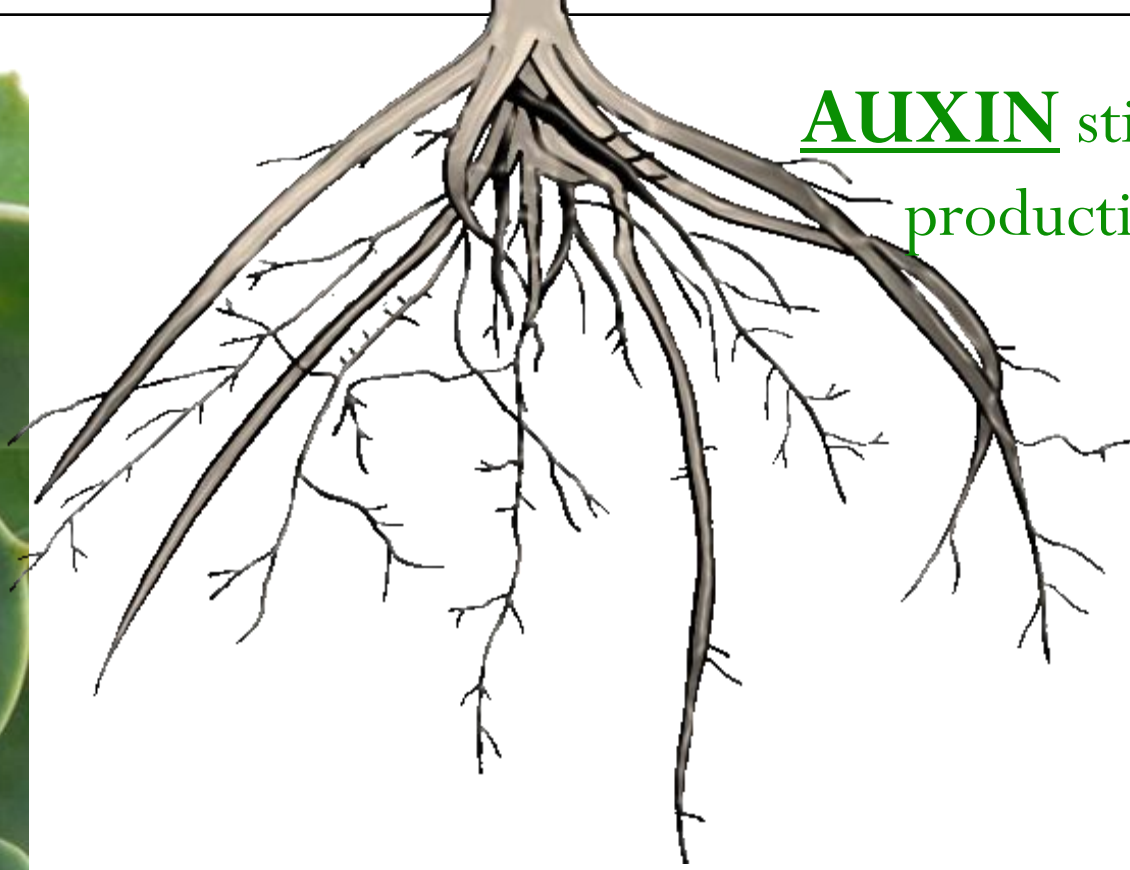
**Effect of  
Hormone**

Mitosis of new cells;  
Stimulates seed germination and new shoot  
growth





AUXIN stimulates the production of **roots**.



CYTOKININ stimulates the production of **shoots**.

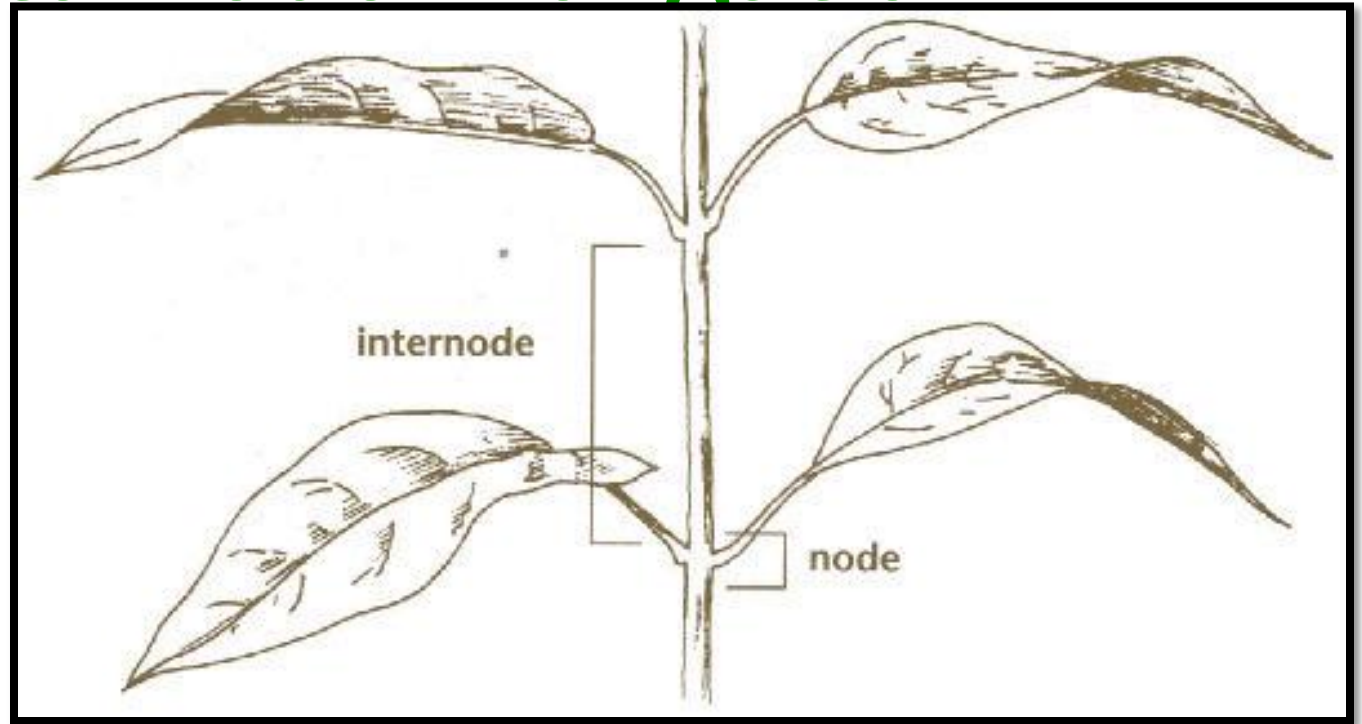


# Gibberellin

<b>Role of Hormone</b>	Internode Elongation (height)
<b>Site of Production</b>	Root and Shoot Tips
<b>Effect of Hormone</b>	Controls yearly cycles ( <i>flowering/bolting, seeding and dormancy exiting</i> ) Rapid growth of stems and seeds.



# Internode Elongation



**Internode:** the part of the plant between two nodes or joints.

**Node:** the part of the stem where stems leaves and buds emerge; point at which stems intersect and branch.



# Gibberellin and Cycle Control

How gibberellin in a plant recognizes seasonal

changes

Photoperiod: a plant's recognition of daylight length in a 24 hour period.

As daylight increases in the spring, the plant recognizes a longer photoperiod.

*Gibberellin* triggers the plant to exit dormancy.



# Why is it called Gibberellin?

Japanese rice farmers discovered a fungus (*Gibberella fujikuroi*) that caused an increase in this hormone.

From this, they learned that plants have a hormone that causes shoot and seed growth.

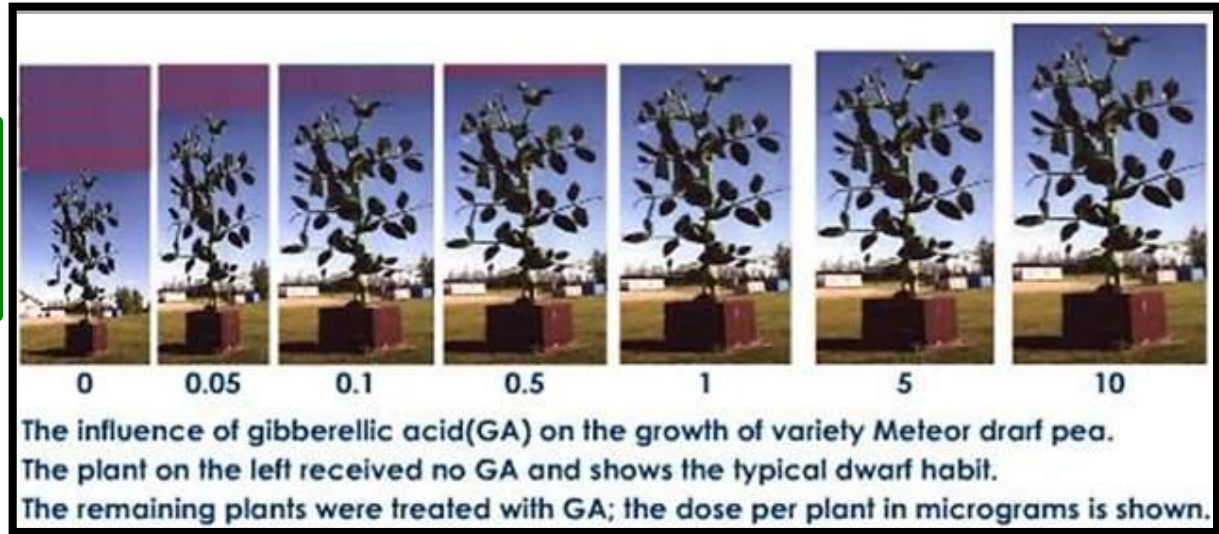


They named it “Gibberellin”,  
after the fungus.



# Gibberellin Growth Effects

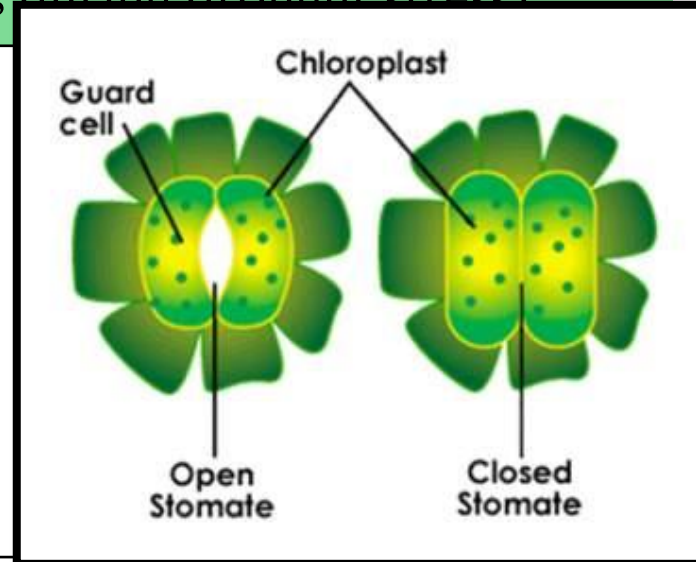
Increase  
s  
plant  
height



Increase  
s  
fruit  
size

# Abscisic Acid

<b>Role of Hormone</b>	Dormancy
<b>Site of Production</b>	Chloroplasts
<b>Effect of Hormone</b>	Enters dormancy: (leaves drop off trees, seeds fall, the stomata close to reduce water loss during drought stress)



# Abscisic Acid

Abscisic Acid in a plant recognizes seasonal changes

*Dormancy: a period of no growth*



As daylight decreases in the winter, the chloroplasts in the plant recognize a shorter photoperiod.

*Abscisic Acid* triggers the plant to enter dormancy.

The flowers, seeds and leaves fall from the trees



# Ethylene

**Role of  
Hormone**

Ripening and Death

**Site of  
Productio  
n**

Ripening fruits, aging flowers, germinating seeds and wounded tissues

**Effect of  
Hormone**

Stimulates fruits to ripen, flowers to enter senescence (to grow old and die)



# What causes my fruits and veggies to go bad?

*The answer is ETHYLENE!*



Ethylene is the only plant hormone that exists in a **gas** form.

It can be synthesized from anywhere in the plant.  
It can even diffuse outside the origin plant and affect another plant nearby.

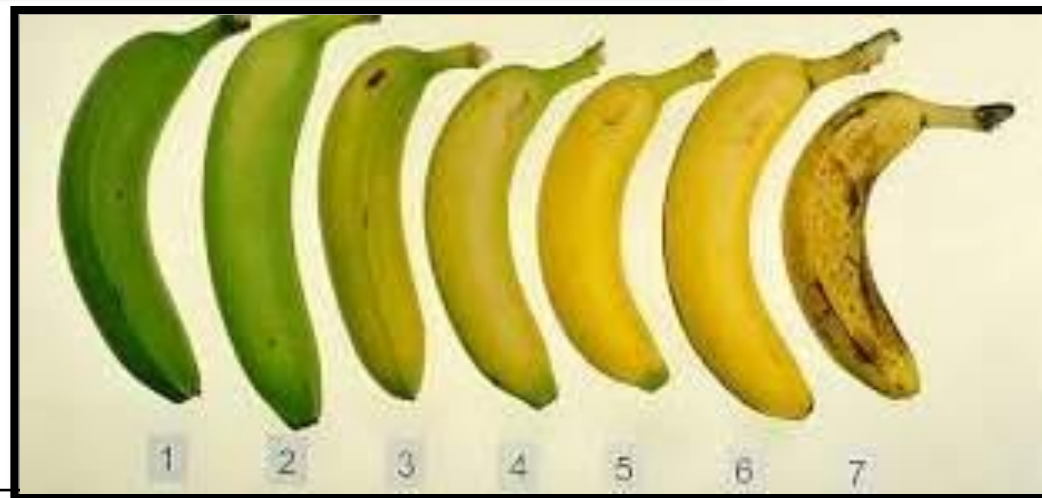
# Is Ethylene good or bad?

*A gas that speeds up plant death?!!*

*How is this good news?!*

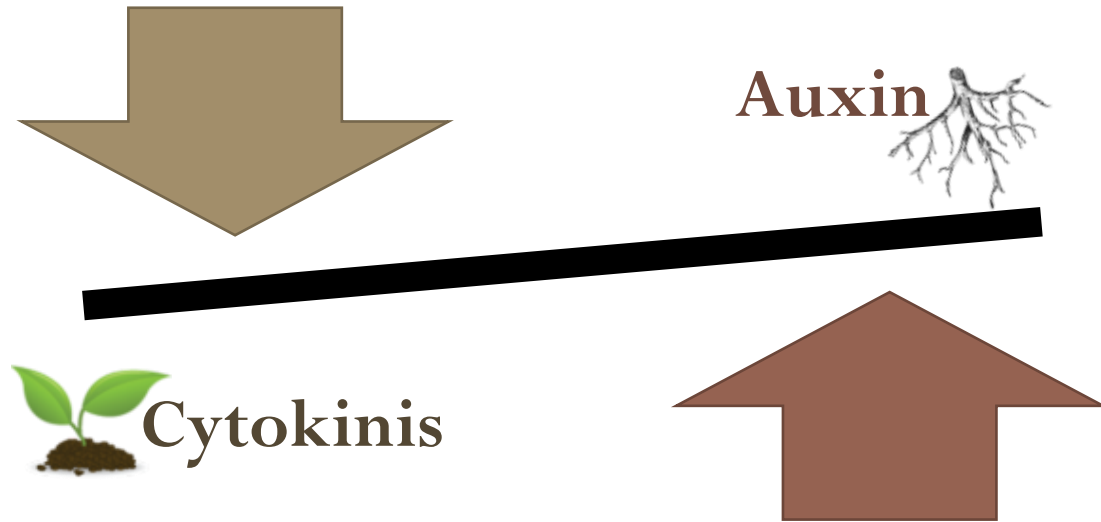


*Examples: flowers or fruit that are not "ripe" need ethylene to reach their peak*



# How do these Hormones Work Together?

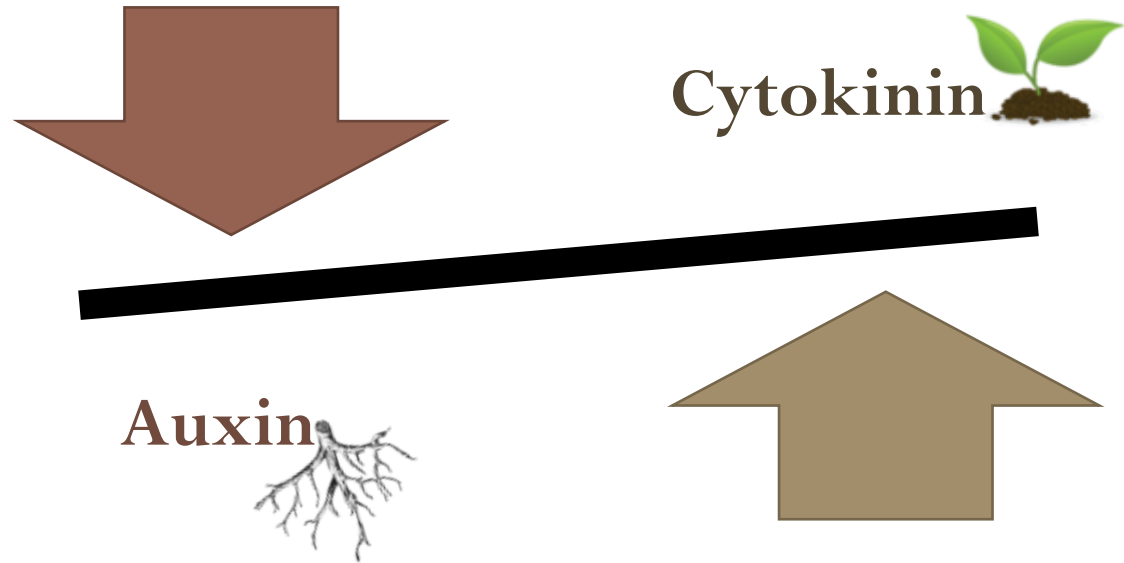
If the amount of Auxin is greater than Cytokinins...



Shoots grow less rapidly,  
while **root** growth is dramatically increased

# How do these Hormones Work Together?

If the amount of Cytokinins is greater than Auxin...

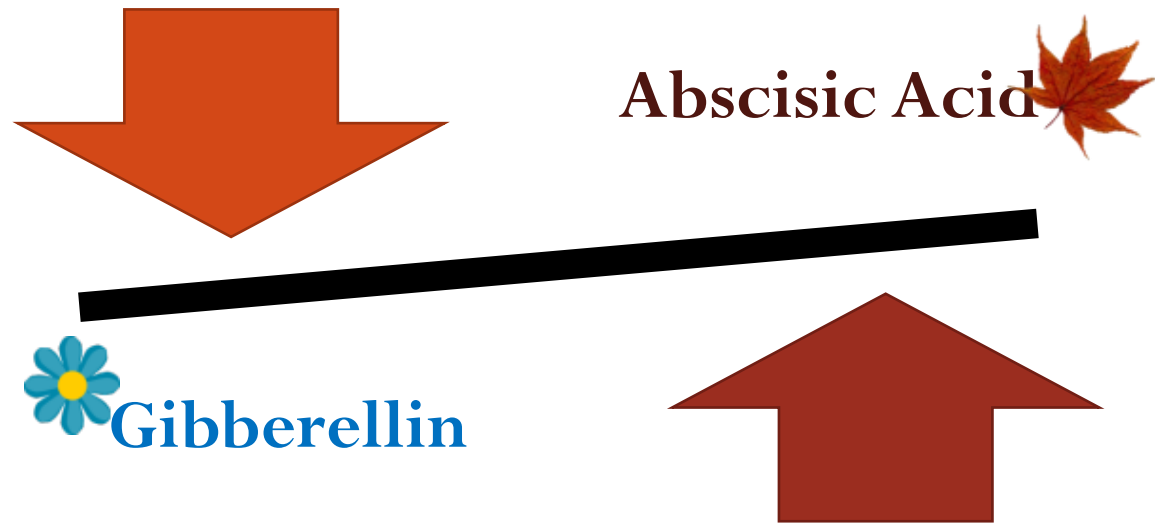


Shoot growth is dramatically increased,  
while **roots** grow is less rapidly.



# How do these Hormones Work Together?

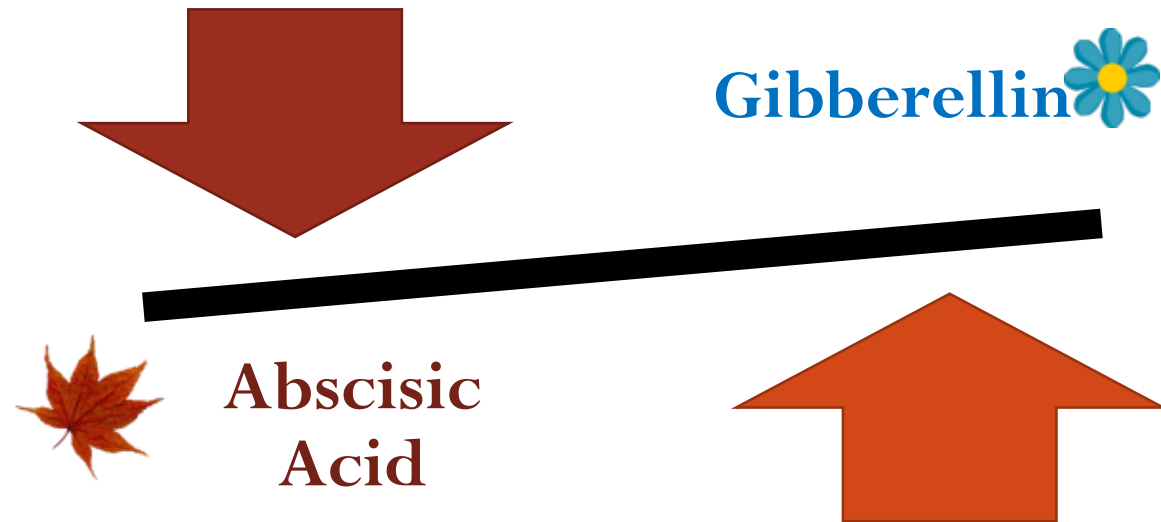
If the amount of Cytokinins is greater than Auxin...



**Flowers** are no longer blooming  
and **leaves** begin to fall from the trees.

# How do these Hormones Work Together?

If the amount of Cytokinins is greater than Auxin...



**Green** leaves and **flowers** begin to **regrow**.  
This usually occurs in the spring time.

# In summary...

<b>Auxin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Produces Roots</u></li><li>• Cell elongation</li><li>• Acts through tropism responses</li></ul>
<b>Cytokinin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Produces new Shoots</u></li><li>• Mitosis of new cells</li><li>• Seed Germination</li></ul>
<b>Gibberellin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Promotes Internode elongation</u></li><li>• Controls yearly cycles</li></ul>
<b>Abscissic Acid</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>“Dormancy hormone”</u></li><li>• Causes leaves to drop and stomatas to close</li></ul>
<b>Ethylene</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>“Death Hormone”</u></li><li>• Speeds up ripening and senescence</li></ul>

