

STERN'S
INTRODUCTORY
PLANT BIOLOGY
Edition Twelve

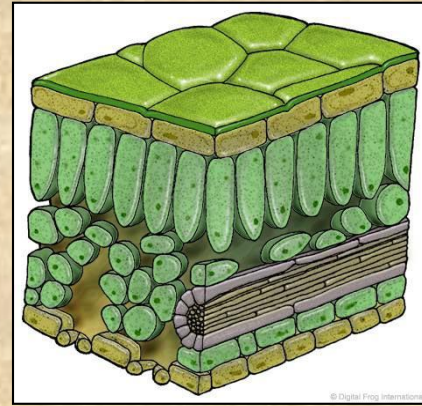


James E. Bidlack • Shelley H. Jansky

Roots and Soils



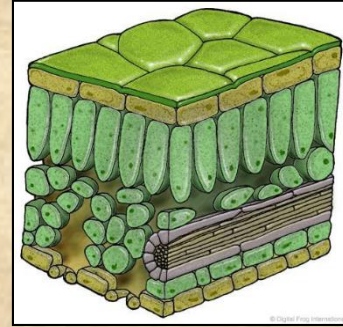
Types of Root Systems



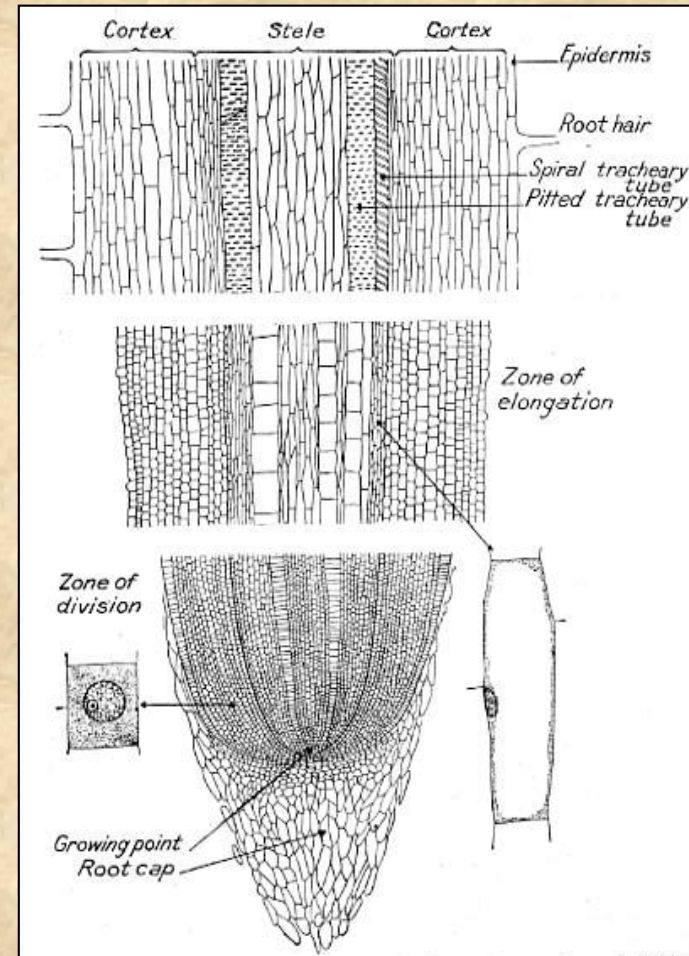
- Taproot systems are found in dicots, and consist of a main root with lateral branches.
- Fibrous root systems lose the primary root, which is replaced by many smaller roots.



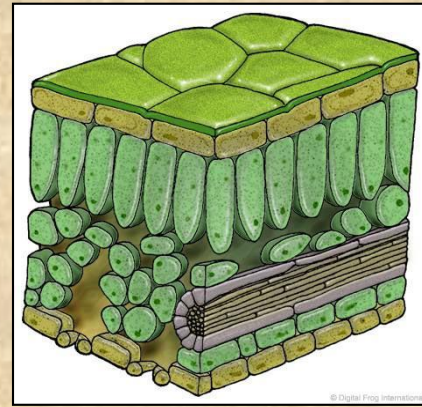
Root Anatomy



- **Parts of a Root:**
 - Root cap
 - Root meristem
 - Zone of elongation
 - Zone of maturation



Root Anatomy: Epidermis

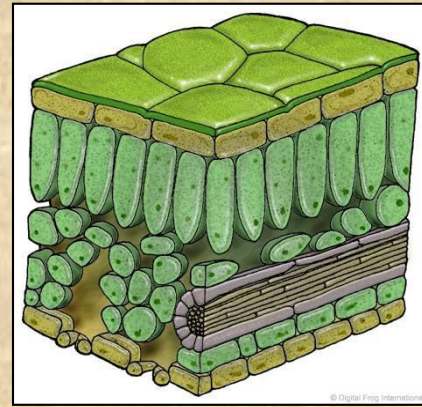


- Root epidermis lacks a cuticle, and is porous. Usually has many root hairs.
- Water enters through membranes of epidermal cells or through spaces between cells.



Root Anatomy:

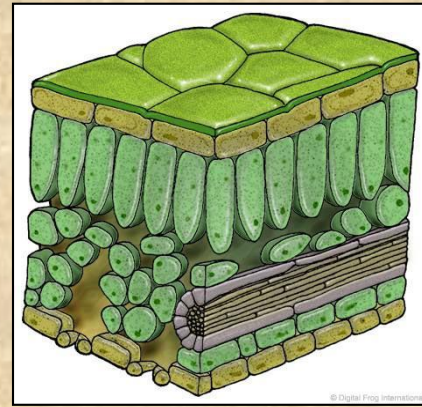
Cortex



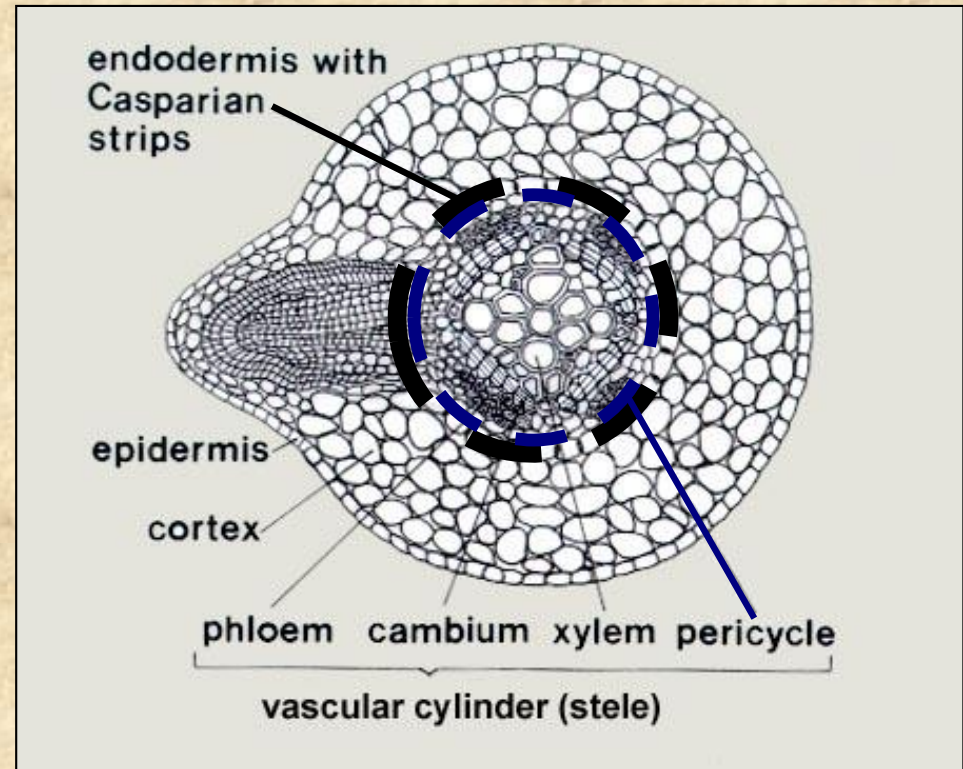
- The cortex layer is made up of parenchyma cells.
- Sugars are linked to make starch for food storage.
- Endodermis separates the cortex from the vascular cylinder.



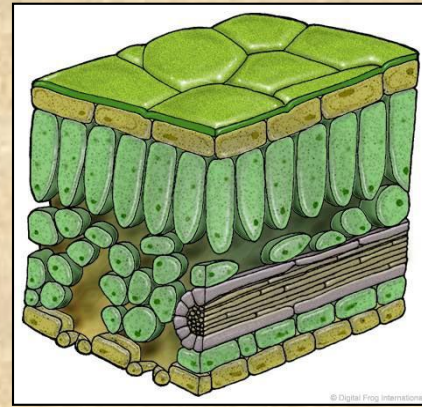
Root Anatomy: Vascular Cylinder



- Casparian strip around endodermis cells controls water movement.
- Pericycle: layer of parenchyma cells, inside of endodermis, from which branch roots can arise.

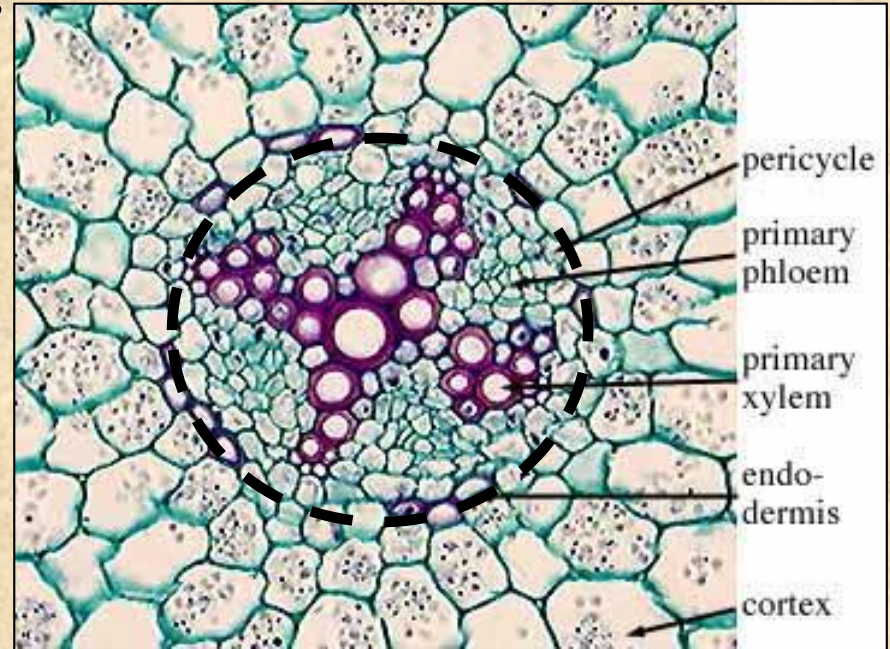


Root Anatomy: Vascular Cylinder



- **Vascular Cylinder contains:**

- Phloem for moving sugars.
- Xylem for moving water and dissolved minerals.



PLANT ORGANS

- Regions, Tissues, Sub-tissues, cells

I. Function of Roots

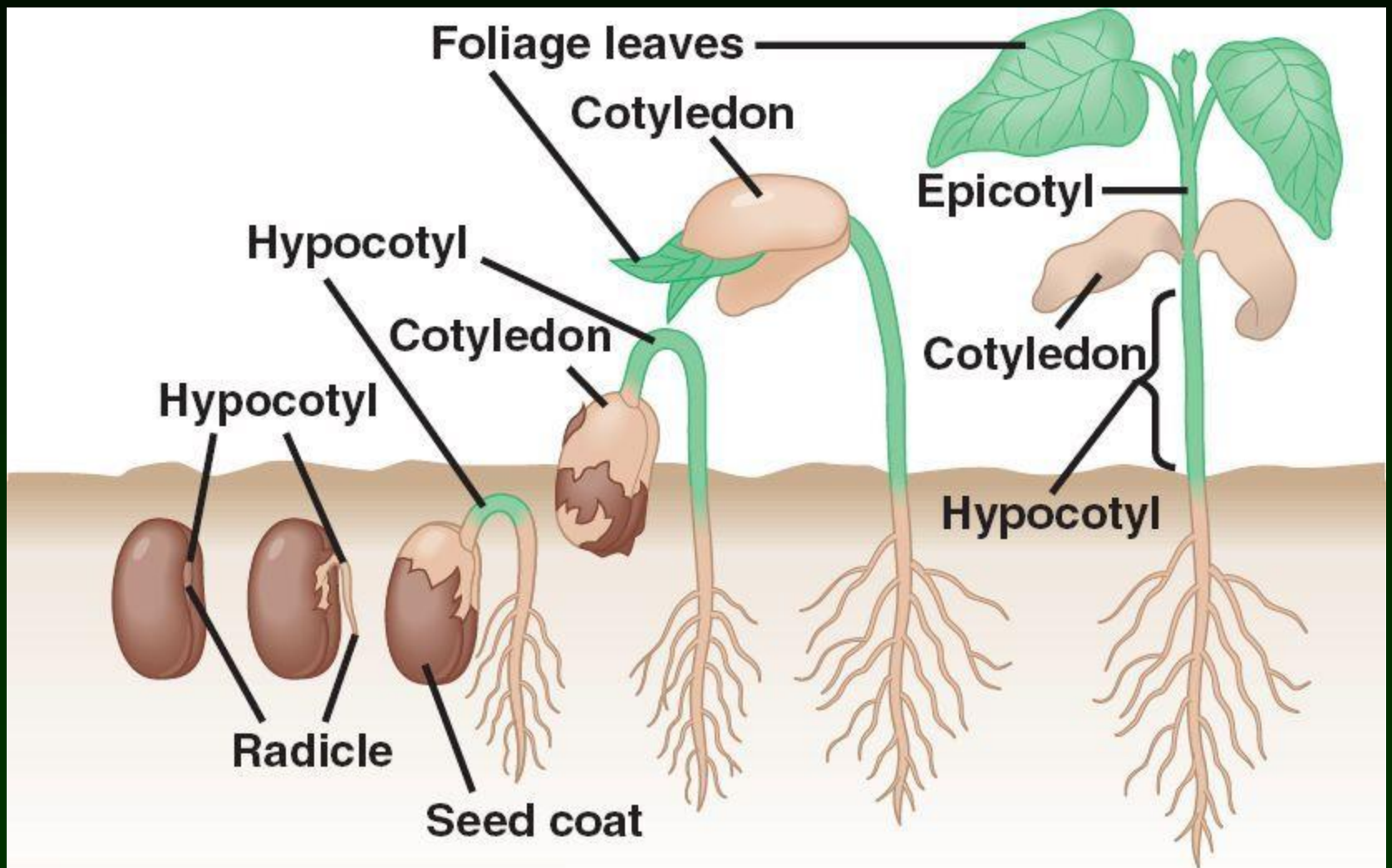




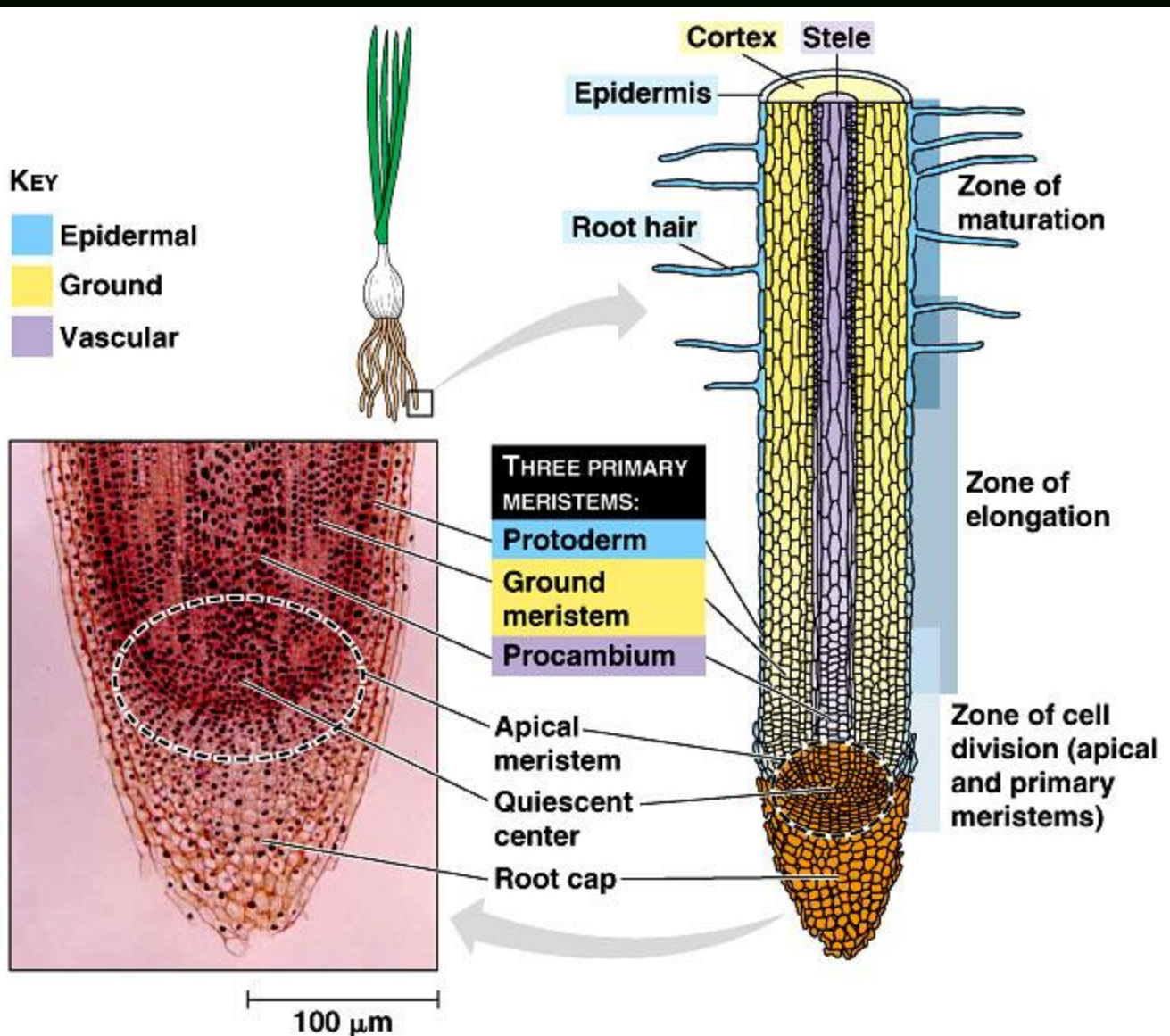
❖ OTHER:

Some store energy as _____

Other Special



Common garden bean



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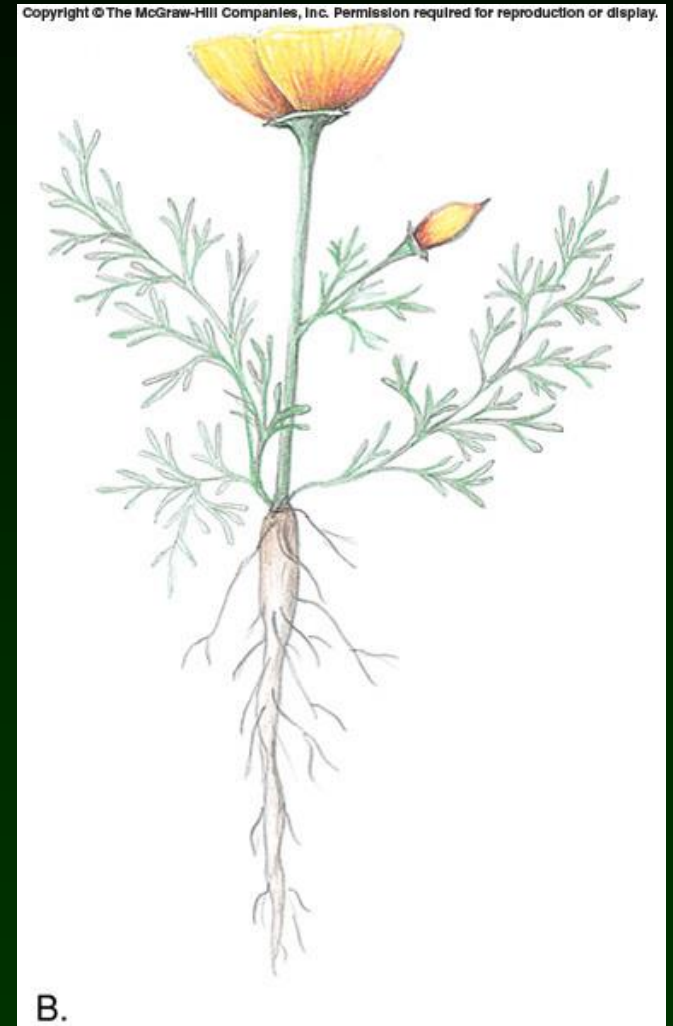
II. Root Development

❖ **RADICLE** embryo's

❖ **ROOT SYSTEMS: 2**

1. **TAPROOT:** _____

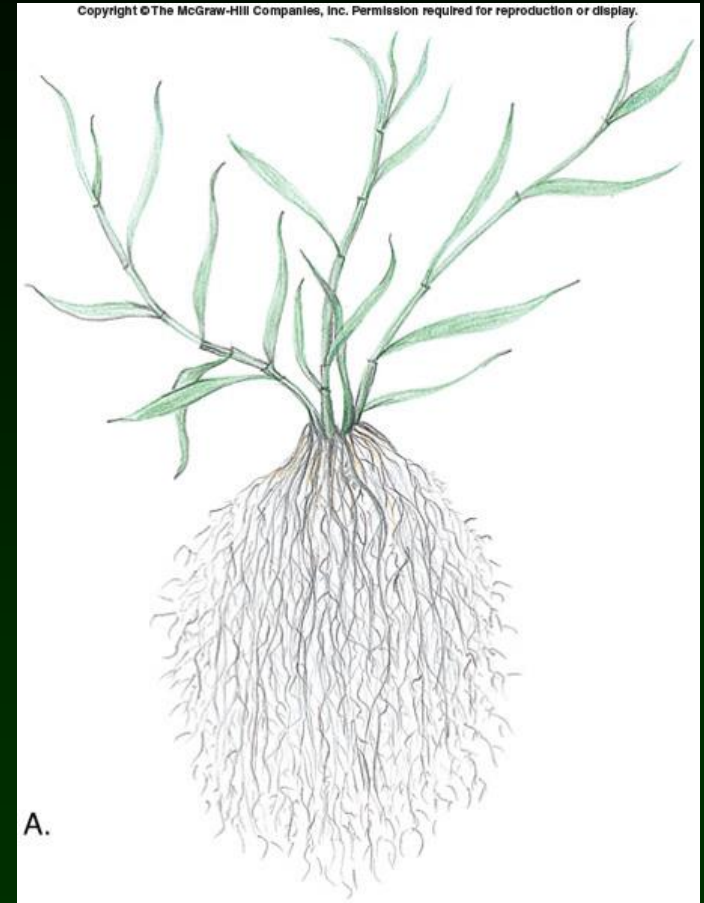
– Advantage of Taproots



Taproot system

2. FIBROUS ROOT SYSTEM:

– Advantage?



Fibrous root system

III. Root Structure

A. IMMATURE Regions:

1. ROOT CAP –

1. Location

2. Tissue

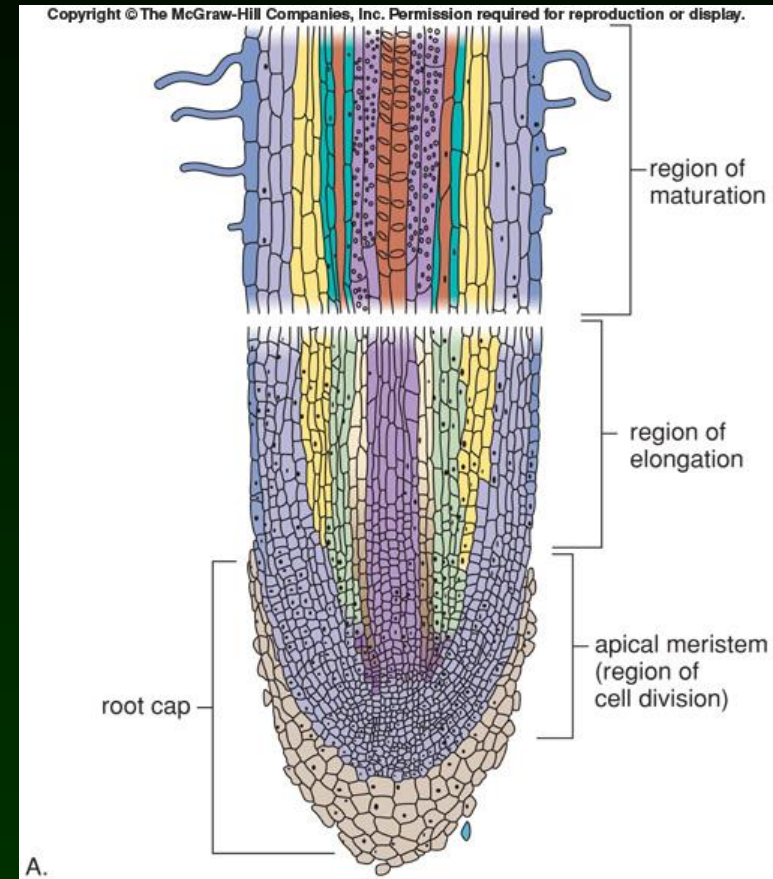
3. Shape

4. Functions:

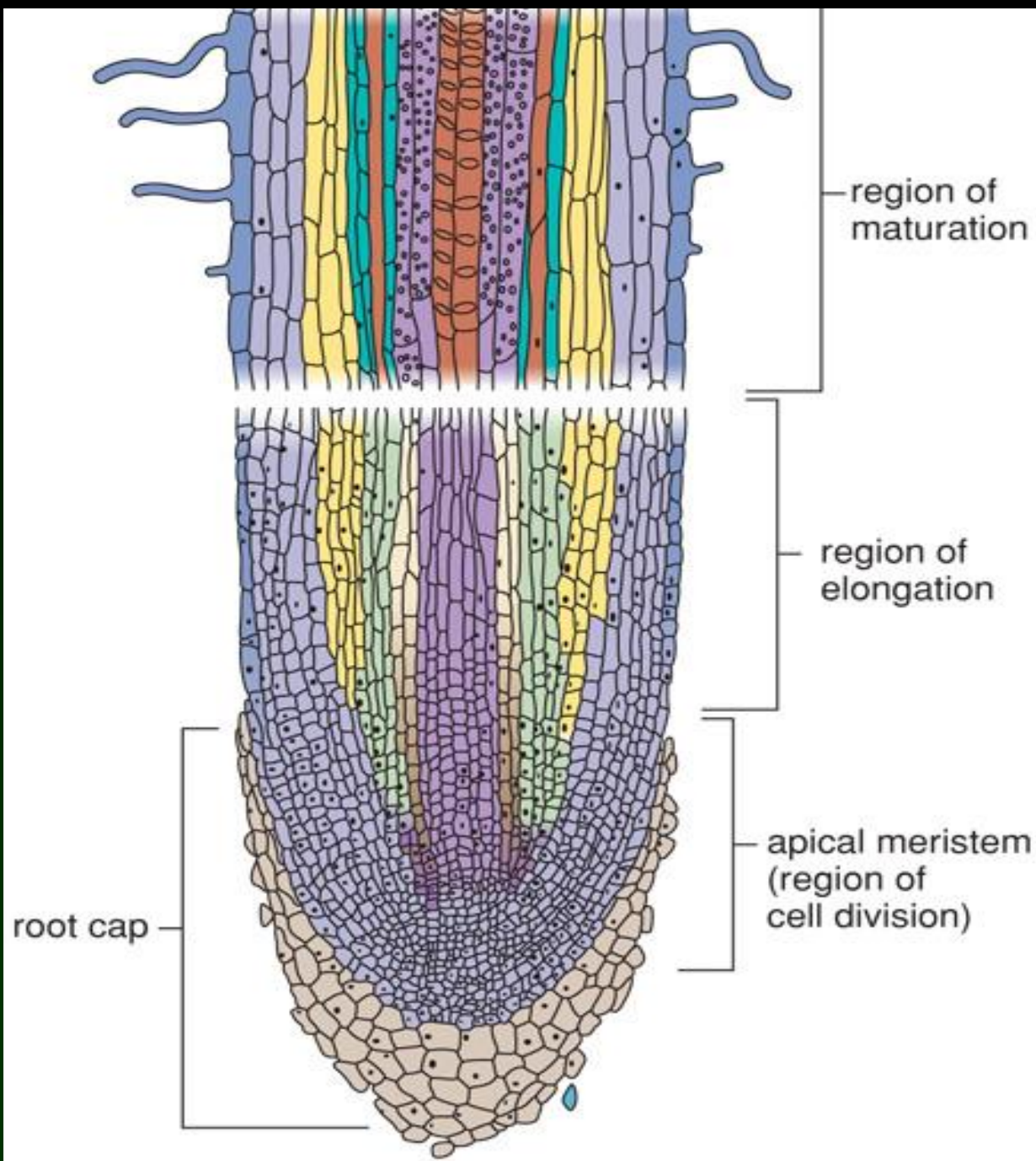
- Mucilage

- Gravitropism

– Produced by: _____



Longitudinal section through root tip



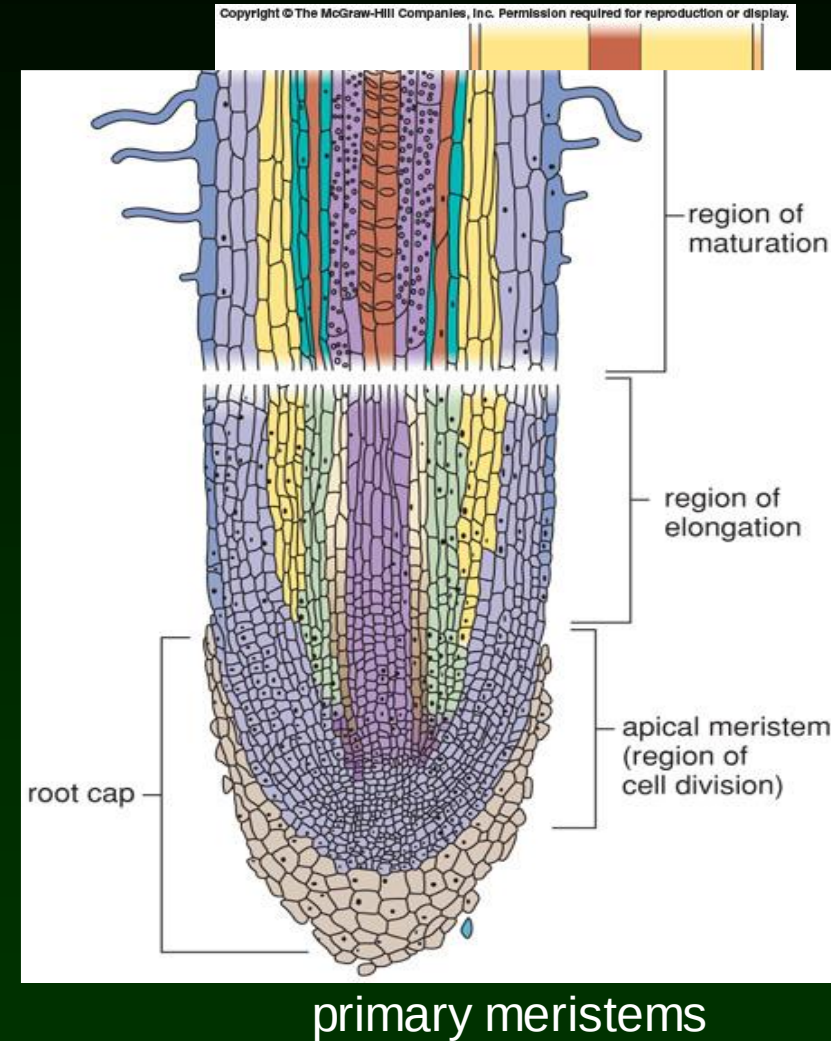
Root Structure ...

2. Region of Cell Division

3. Region of Elongation:

4. Region of Maturation

- Cells Differentiate, Specialize, and Mature to become different cell types.
- HOW?



Root Structure ...

B. MATURE TISSUES produced by Region of Maturation

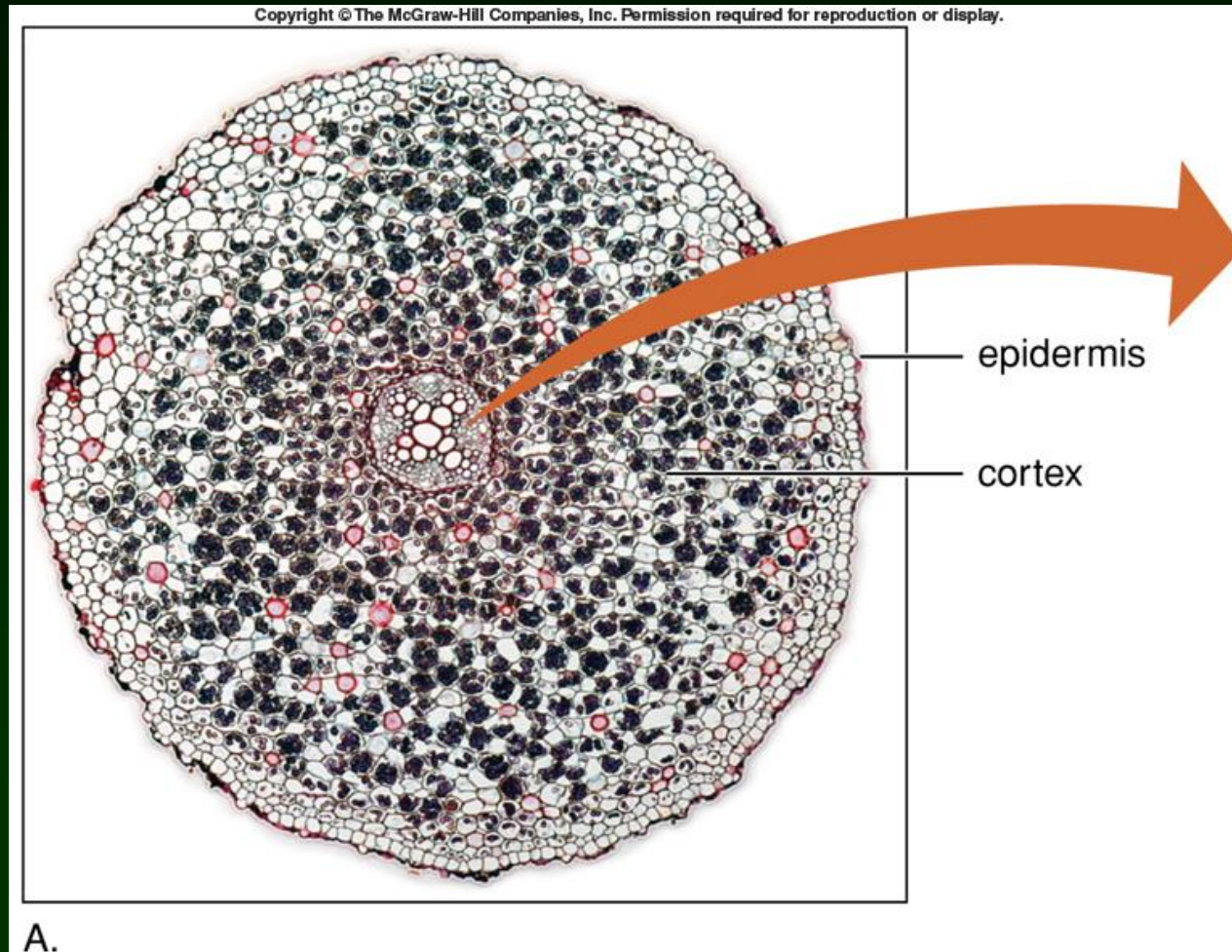
- EPIDERMIS:
 - Root hair Cells
 - Root Hairs
 - Function



Root hair zone of radish seedling

Root Structure ...

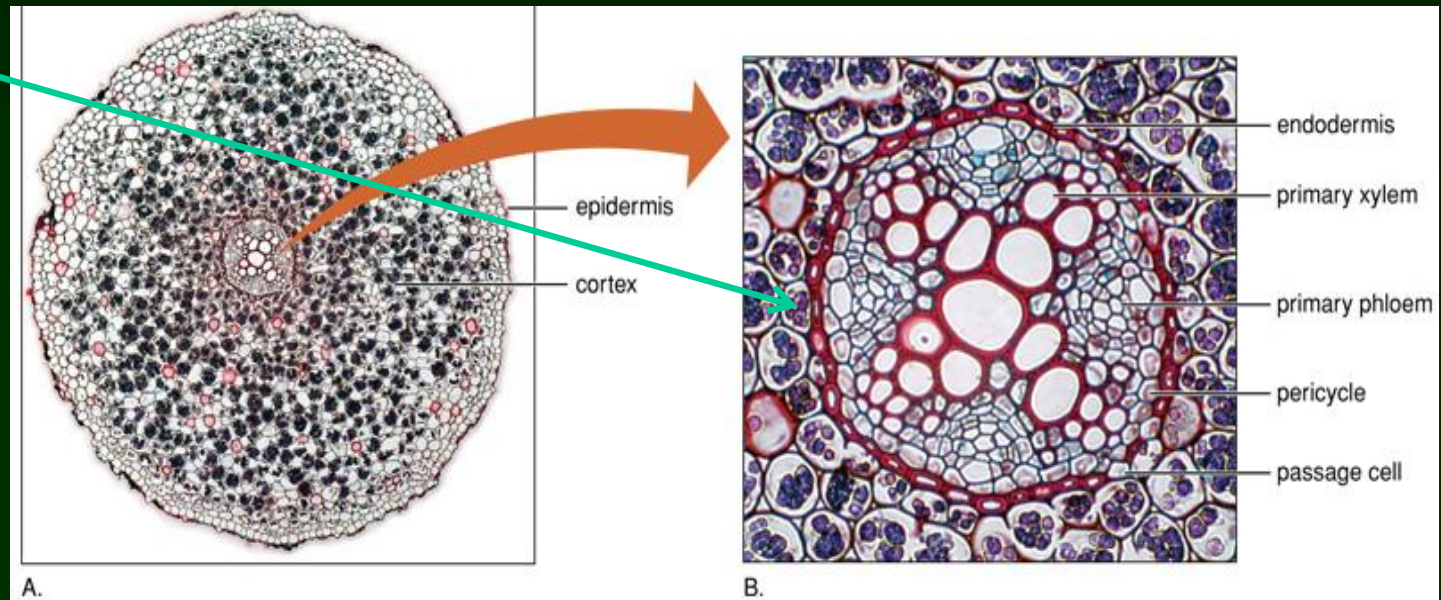
- **Cortex** - Region inside to epidermis
 - Tissue and cells:
 - Function:



Cross section of
dicot root

Root Structure ... Cortex ...

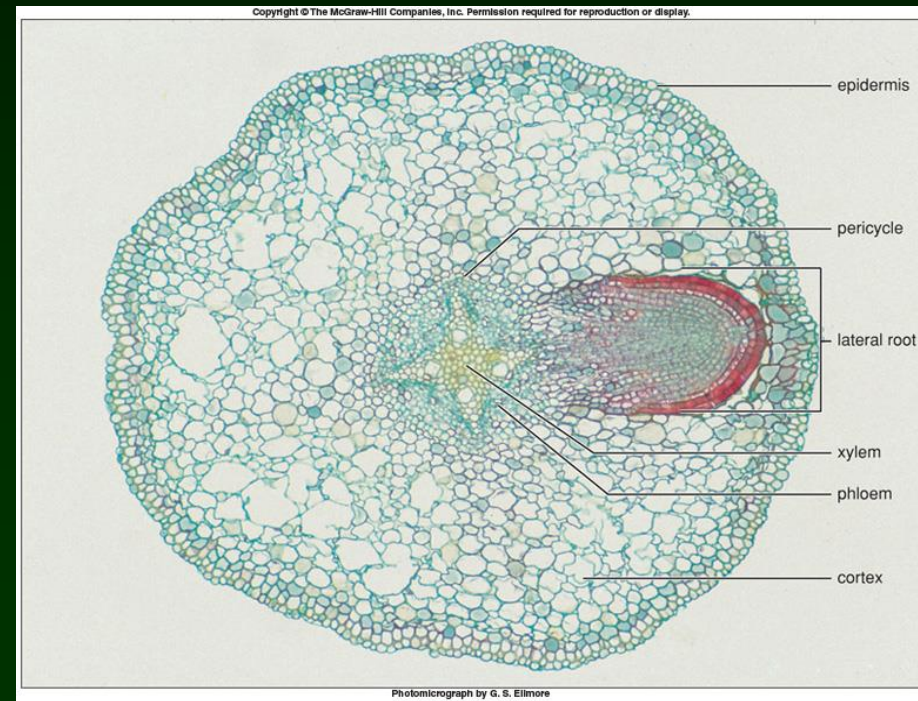
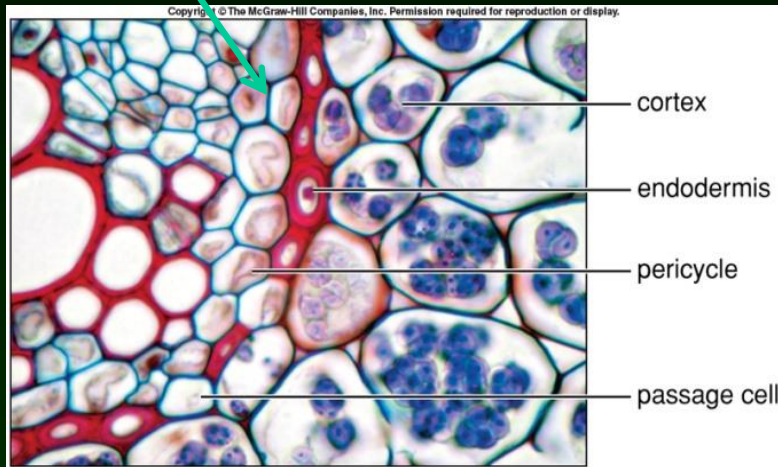
- **Endodermis** - Inner boundary of cortex
- =
- **Casparian Strip:** wax (suberin) around Endodermis
 - **Function:** Substances moving in from soil with water must enter through endodermis cell membrane = control over _____



Enlargement of vascular cylinder of dicot root

Root Structure ...

- **Vascular cylinder** – Region
 - **Pericycle** – outermost layer/region of Cylinder
 - **Function: production of lateral roots**

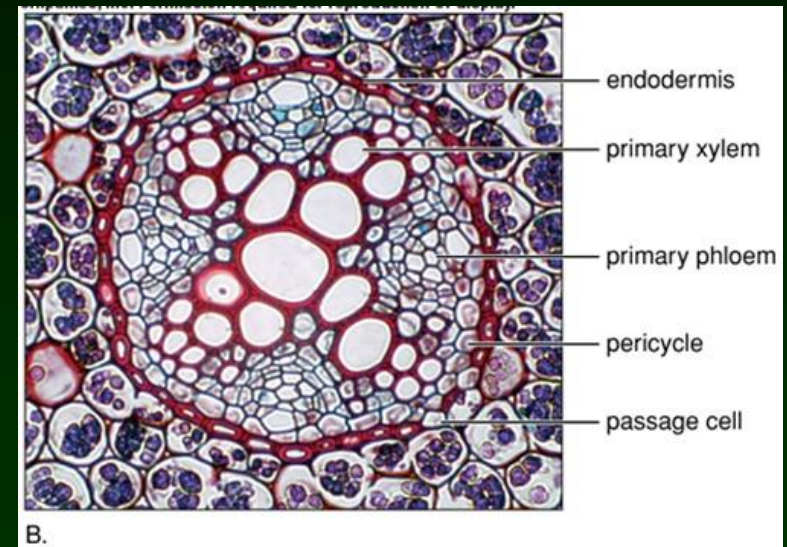
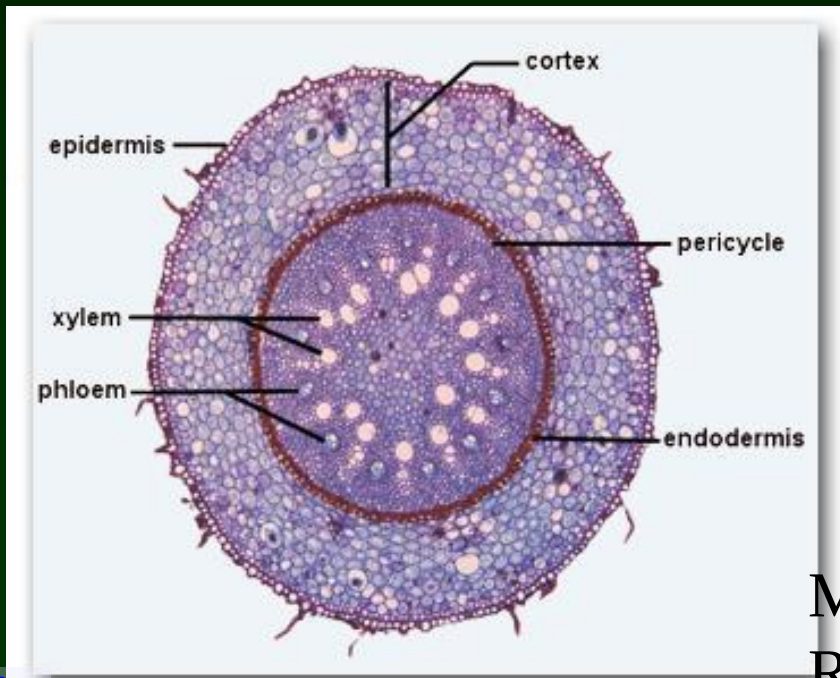


Lateral root formation

Root Structure ...

Vascular Cylinder ...

- **Xylem T.:** with Vessel Elements
- **Phloem T.** with Sieve-tube Elements and Companion Cells
- Other tissue patterns:



Vascular cylinder
of dicot root

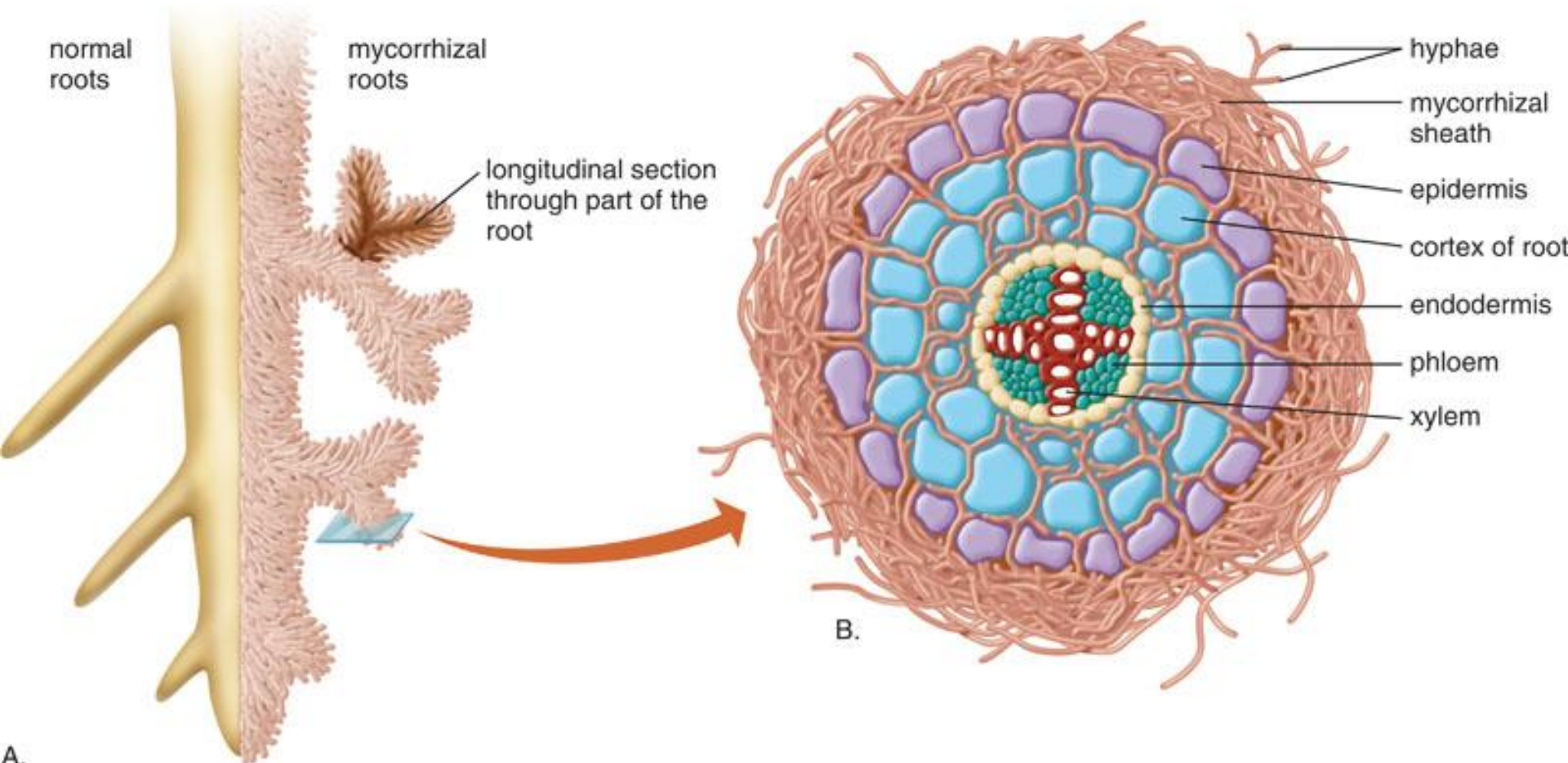
Monocot
Root

Mycorrhizae

- ❖ **Mycorrhizae** - Fungi that form a mutualistic association with plant roots
 - **Mutualistic association:** + + Both organisms benefit
 - Plant benefits: more water and nutrients, (phosphorus)
 - Fungi benefits: sugars and amino acids to fungus.

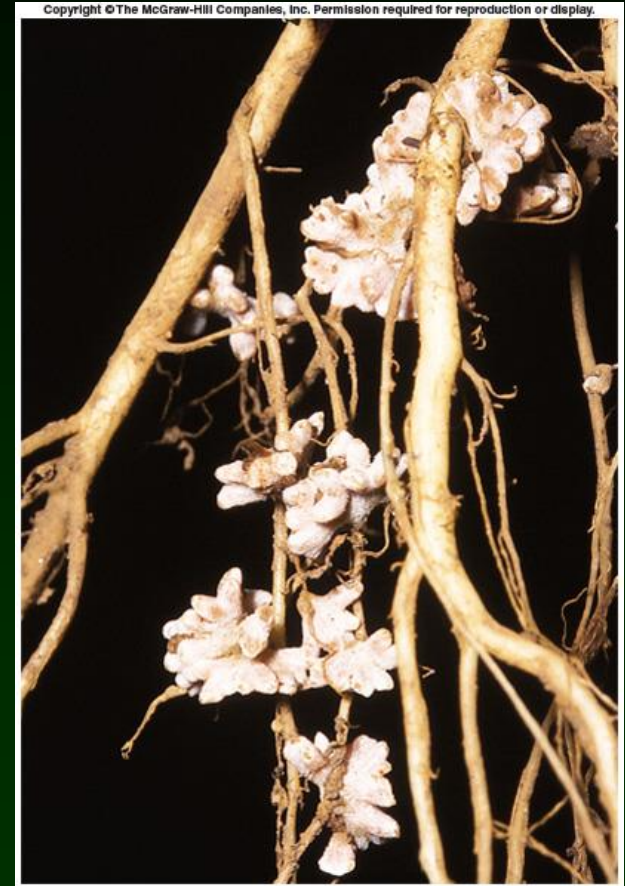
Mycorrhizae

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Root Nodules

- ❖ **Bacteria and Plants:**
 - **Nitrogen-fixing Bacteria:** convert N_2 into nitrates for roots.
 - **Root nodules** contain large numbers of nitrogen-fixing bacteria.
 - **Legume Family (Fabaceae)**

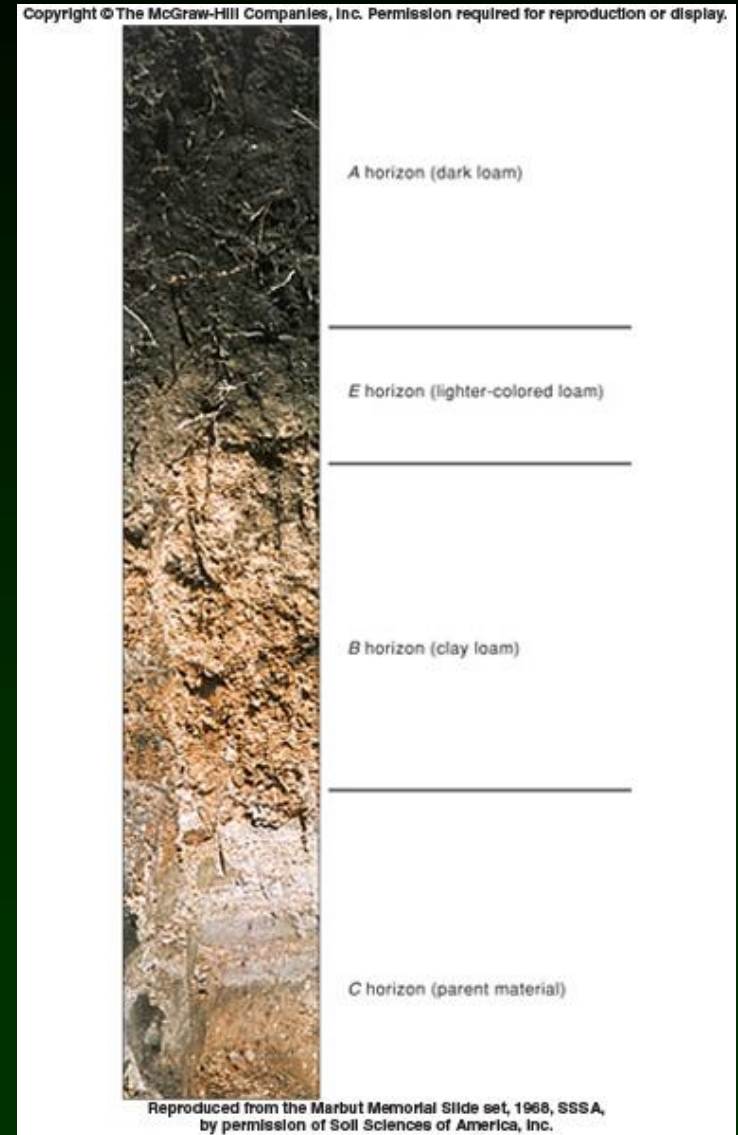


Root nodules on roots

Soils

❖ Soil Layers = horizons:

- **Topsoil**
 - **A horizon** - Dark loam, more organic material
 - **E horizon** - Light loam
- **B Horizon** - Subsoil
 - More clay, lighter in color
- **C Horizon** - Parent material

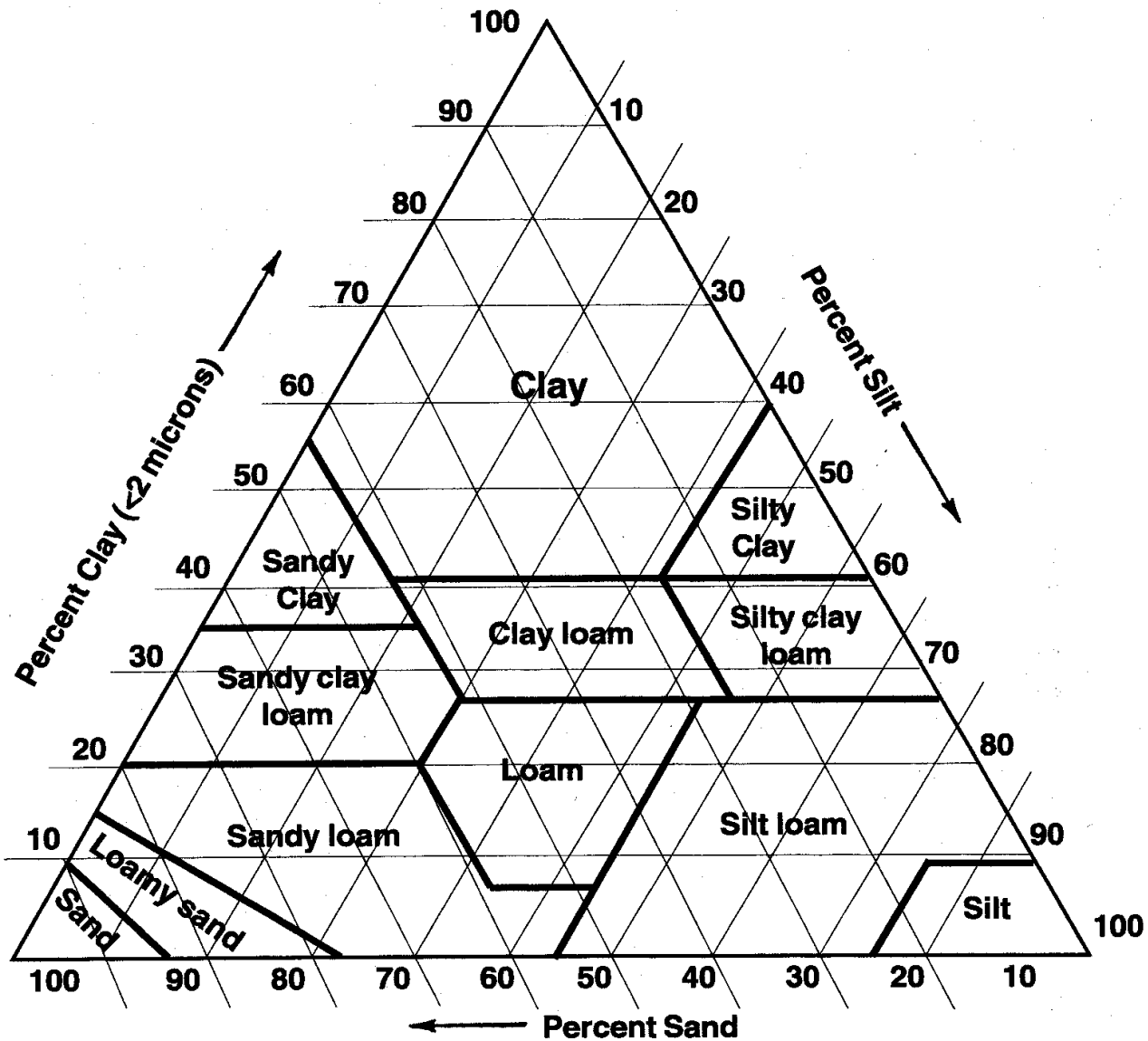


Soil profile

Soils

Soil Texture and Mineral Composition

- ❖ **Soil Texture** – particle sizes
 - **Sand** – Visible particles
 - Drain too quickly
 - **Silt** - Particles small; need microscope
 - **Clay** - seen with e- microscope
 - Clay particles = **Micelles**
 - charged and attract +ions = Mg^{++} and K^{+}



Soils

- ❖ **Best soils: 40% silt, 40% sand and 20% clay**
- ❖ **Soil Structure** - Arrangement of soil particles into aggregates
 - pore spaces occupying 40-60% of soil .

Soils

Water in the Soil

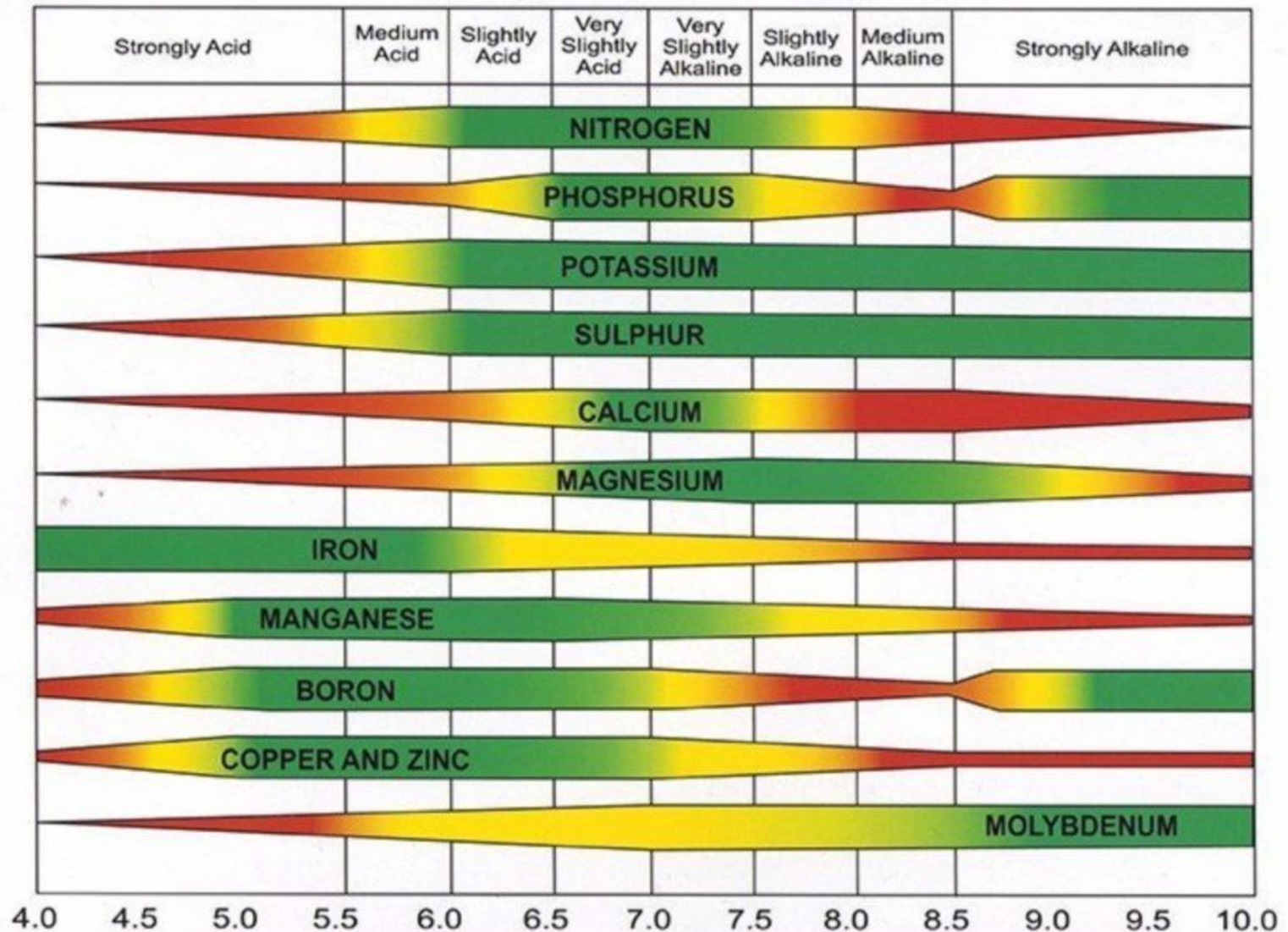
- ❖ **Hygroscopic Water** - Physically bound to soil
→ unavailable
- ❖ **Gravitational Water** - Drains out of pores
- ❖ **Capillary Water** - held against gravity in pores
 - Plants mostly dependent upon
 - Affected by organic matter and underground water

Soils

Soil pH

- ❖ **Alkalinity: some minerals less available**
 - copper, iron and manganese
 - **Solution: adding sulfur**
 - → sulfuric acid by bacteria, or by
 - add nitrogen fertilizers
- ❖ **Acidity inhibits nitrogen-fixing bacteria.**
 - **Solution: liming = add calcium or magnesium**

How soil pH affects availability of plant nutrients.



SOURCE: <https://www.emporiumhydroponics.com/what-is-ph-1-to-14>