

## Plant Diversity Plant Development

abscisic acid  
agent orange  
apical dominance  
auxins: IAA (indole acetic acid), 2,4-D (dichlorophenoxy acid)  
climacteric fruit  
critical day length  
cumulative growth (development)  
cytokinins  
development = cell division + growth + differentiation + morphogenesis  
developmental plasticity  
ethylene  
gibberellic acids  
herbicides: systemic (translocated) vs. nonsystemic (contact); selective vs. nonselective  
hormone  
indeterminant growth  
long-day plant vs. short-day plant  
meristems  
messenger molecule  
modular growth (development)  
photoperiodism  
plant growth regulator (substance)  
receptor molecule  
salicylic acid  
signal transduction  
totipotency  
tropism

Check yourself: you should be able to answer these questions.

1. What is development in an organism? What are the distinctive characteristics of plant development?
2. What are the properties of a hormone? Why have some plant physiologists proposed the term 'plant growth regulator' instead of plant hormone?
3. Distinguish the roles of receptor molecules and messenger molecules in signal transduction. How can a cell have several responses to the same growth regulator (hormone) or environmental stimulus?
4. Discuss the roles of the following plant hormones on plant development. In each case, note any practical applications (uses) of the hormone for humans.
  - a. auxin
  - b. gibberellin
  - c. ethylene
5. Distinguish the following:
  - a. selective vs. nonselective herbicides
  - b. systemic vs. nonsystemic herbicides
6.
  - a. What is a tropism? What are examples of tropisms?
  - b. Explain the developmental control of flowering in a short-day and long-day plant.
7. Is it possible for a short-day plant and long-day plant to both flower if kept in a growth chamber with a constant daily regime of 14 hours of artificial light and 10 hours of darkness? Explain.