

 Chapter 35~
Plant Structure and Growth

### **Plant Organization**

- Plant morphology is based on plant's evolutionary history
- Need to draw in nutrients from the ground and the air

- Plant Organs
  - Root system = roots
  - Shoot system = leaves and stems

#### Roots

- Function: absorbs minerals and water and can store carbohydrates
- Types: fibrous, taproot and lateral roots, adventitious (arising from other organs – stems or leaves), prop (aerial roots), storage, pneumatophores (air roots)
- Root hairs = tiny hairs that increase surface area of the root, but not anchorage



**Eudicot Root** 



#### Monocot Root















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#### Stems

- Function: attachment of leaves, transport
- Structure: nodes (leaf attachment), internodes (between leaves), axillary bud (forms lateral shoots), apical/terminal bud (shoot elongation)
- Types: Rhizomes (horizontal shoot that grows just below the surface), bulbs, stolons (horizontal shoots that grow above ground), tubers

### Stems

- Apical dominance= inhibition of axillary buds by apical buds; helps to increase exposure to light after damage
  - Cut off apical buds to allow plant to grow fuller















Function: photosynthetic organ

 Structure: blade, petiole (joins leaf to stem), and veins (vascular tissue)

 Adaptations: tendrils, spines, storage, reproduction











### **Plant Tissue**

- Dermal, Vascular, and Ground
- <u>Dermal</u> (epidermis): single layer of cells for protection
  - Cuticle waxy film covering the epidermis
  - Periderm replaces the epidermis in some types of plants (part of bark)

### **Plant Tissues**

#### <u>Vascular</u> (material transport)

- xylem: water and dissolved minerals roots to shoots
  - tracheids & vessel elements: xylem elongated cells dead at maturity
- **phloem**: food from leaves to roots and fruits
  - sieve-tube element: phloem tubes alive at maturity capped by sieve plates
  - companion cells (non-conducting) connected by plasmodesmata
- stele = vascular tissue of root and stem

#### **Plant Tissues**



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### **Plant Tissues**

- <u>Ground (photosynthesis, storage,</u> support):
  - pith (internal to vascular tissue)
  - cortex (external to vascular tissue)

# Plant Tissue Cell Types

#### Parenchyma

 primary walls thin and flexible; no secondary walls; large central vacuole; most metabolic functions of plant (chloroplasts)



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# Plant Tissue Cell Types

#### <u>Collenchyma</u>

 unevenly thick primary walls used for plant support in young plant structures (no secondary walls; no lignin)



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# Plant Tissue Cell Types

#### <u>Sclerenchyma</u>

 support element strengthened by secondary cell walls with lignin (may be dead; xylem cells); fibers and sclereids for support



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### Primary Tissues of Roots

- Stele = the vascular cylinder where both xylem and phloem develop
- Cortex = region of the root between the stele and epidermis (innermost layer: endodermis)



### Primary Tissues of Roots

 Lateral roots = arise from pericycle (outermost layer of stele); just inside endodermis, cells that may become meristematic

#### Lateral Root Growth



### Primary Tissues of Stems

- Vascular bundles (xylem and phloem)
- Surrounded by ground tissue
- Mostly parenchyma; some collenchyma and sclerenchyma for support



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### **Primary Tissues of Leaves**

- Epidermis/cuticle (protection; desiccation)
- Stomata (tiny pores for gas exchange and transpiration)/guard cells (regulate pore opening and closing)



### **Primary Tissues of Leaves**

 Mesophyll: ground tissue between upper and lower epidermis (parenchyma with chloroplasts); palisade (most photosynthesis) and spongy (gas circulation)



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# Plant Growth

# <u>Meristems</u> = perpetual embryonic tissue

- *apical*: tips of roots and buds; primary growth
- *lateral*: cylinders of dividing cells along length of roots and stems; secondary growth (wood)

#### Life Cycles

- annuals: 1 year (wildflowers; food crops)
- biennials: 2 years (beets; carrots)
- perennials: many years (trees; shrubs)



# Primary growth

#### <u>Roots</u>

- root cap = protection of meristem
- *zone of cell division* = primary (apical) meristem
- zone of elongation = cells elongate; pushes root tip
- zone of maturation = differentiation of cells (formation of 3 tissue systems)

#### <u>Shoots</u>

 Grows from apical meristem and axillary buds (form lateral shoots)



# Secondary Growth

#### Two lateral meristems

- Vascular cambium = produces secondary xylem (wood) and secondary phloem (diameter increase; annual growth rings)
- Cork cambium = produces thick covering that replaces the epidermis; produces cork cells; cork plus cork cambium make up the periderm;
  - Bark = all tissues external to vascular cambium (phloem plus periderm)





