

WHAT IS PROPAGATION?



Reproduction is the production of OFFSPRING. When humans CONTROL plant reproduction it is called PROPAGATION. In nature, plants reproduce both SEXUALLY (using flowers & cones), and ASEXUALLY using vegetative parts of the plant. **Vegetative propagation** is asexual reproduction, growing NEW plants from ROOTS, STEMS, and LEAVES.

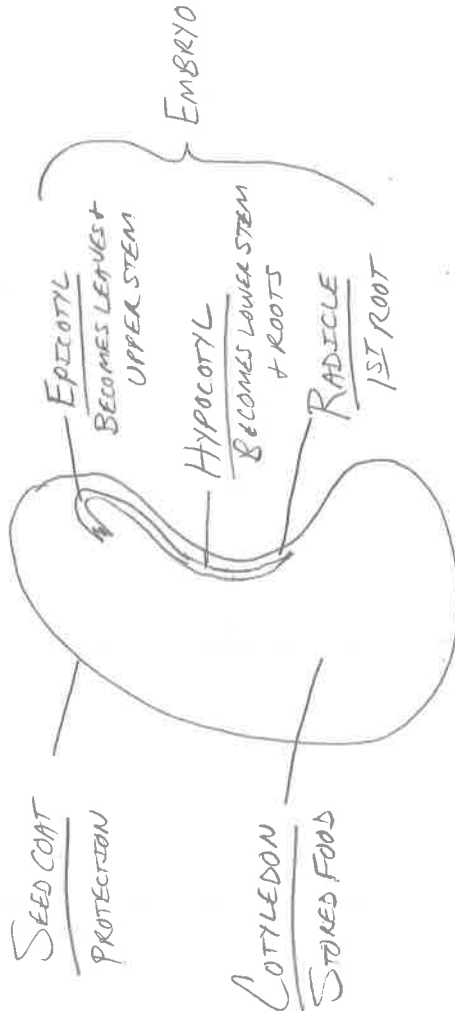
TYPE OF REPRODUCTION	ASEXUAL	SEXUAL
DESCRIPTION	The offspring is a <u>CLONE</u> of its <u>ONE</u> parent Ex. RUNNERS These clones come from <u>STEMS</u> that run along the ground, forming <u>NEW</u> plants 	The offspring is a <u>COMBINATION</u> Of genes from its <u>TWO</u> parents Ex. FLOWERS – When pollinated produce <u>SEEDS</u> 
GENETICS	Offspring have the <u>SAME</u> DNA as their one parent so they are genetically <u>IDENTICAL</u>. Plant propagators can produce <u>LARGE</u> quantities of desirable plants <u>QUICKLY</u>	Offspring are a <u>UNIQUE</u> new combination of genes. Produces genetic <u>VARIABILITY</u>, but the offspring can be missing desired <u>TRAIT</u>



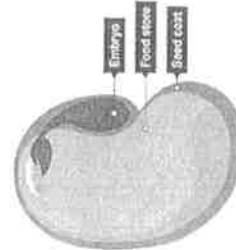
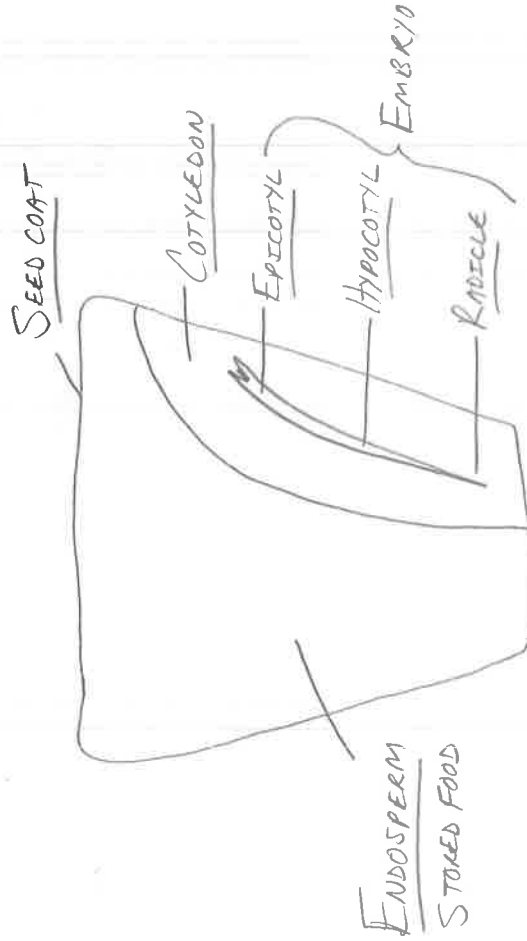
SEED STRUCTURE

Seeds are the product of SEXUAL reproduction in ANGIOSPERMS (flowering plants) and Gymnosperms (cone-bearing plants).

Seed cross-section (Dicot) Ex. BEAN



Seed cross-section (Monocot) Ex. CORN



"A seed is like a BABY plant, in a Box, with it's LUNCH." (Dr. James Haynes 1993)

SEED DORMANCY

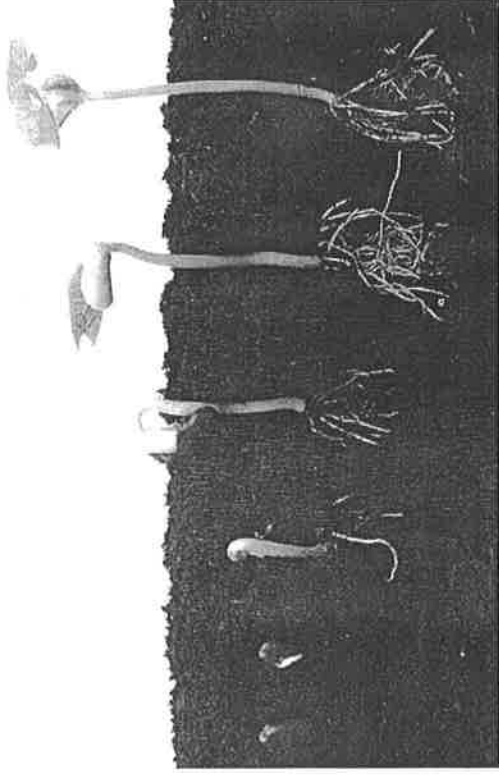
After formation, most seeds will NOT begin to GROW until they experience a time of DORMANCY (the seed is ALIVE but not actively growing). Seeds remain dormant during an "AFTER RIPENING" period. During this period the cold winter conditions PREPARE the seed for germination by inducing hormonal & enzymatic CHANGES within the seed. Also, the FREEZING and THAWING serve to damage the tough seed coat, allowing WATER into the embryo. In nature this would occur NATURALLY as seeds pass through the DEGESTIVE tracts of animals, and microbes in the SOIL help break down seed coats.

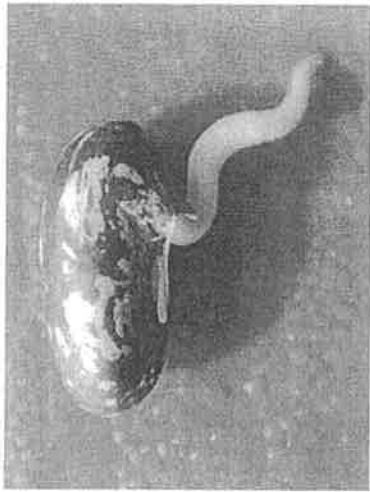
Plant propagators can SIMULATE after ripening by PRECONDITIONING the seeds.

STRATIFICATION - EXPOSING dormant seeds to COLD temperature to mimic winter

SCARIFICATION - Mechanically breaking down the seed COAT using:

- A. ABRASION by rubbing with sand paper or TUMBLING in drums with SAND or gravel
- B. SOAKING in hot water to SOFTEN the seed coat
- C. SULFURIC ACID to DISSOLVE the seed coat





SEED GERMINATION

Seed germination is when the EMBRYO begins to grow and EMERGES from its seed coat.

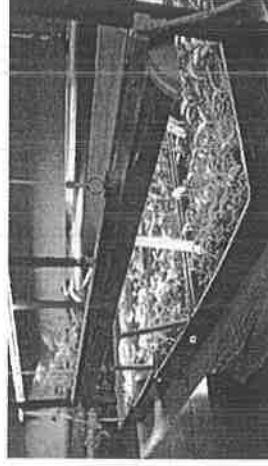
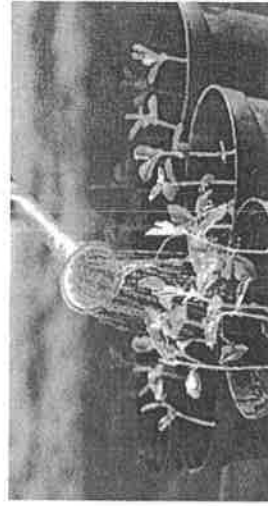
Most seeds have 3 germination requirements:

1. WATER
2. OXYGEN (for cellular RESPIRATION)
3. Correct TEMPERATURE

PLANTING THE SEEDS:

The factors of successful propagation are:

- ✓ Good quality SEED
- ✓ Correct MEDIA (soil components)
- ✓ Correct planting TECHNIQUE
- ✓ Appropriate LIGHTING, WATERING, TEMPERATURE, NUTRIENTS, & DRAINAGE

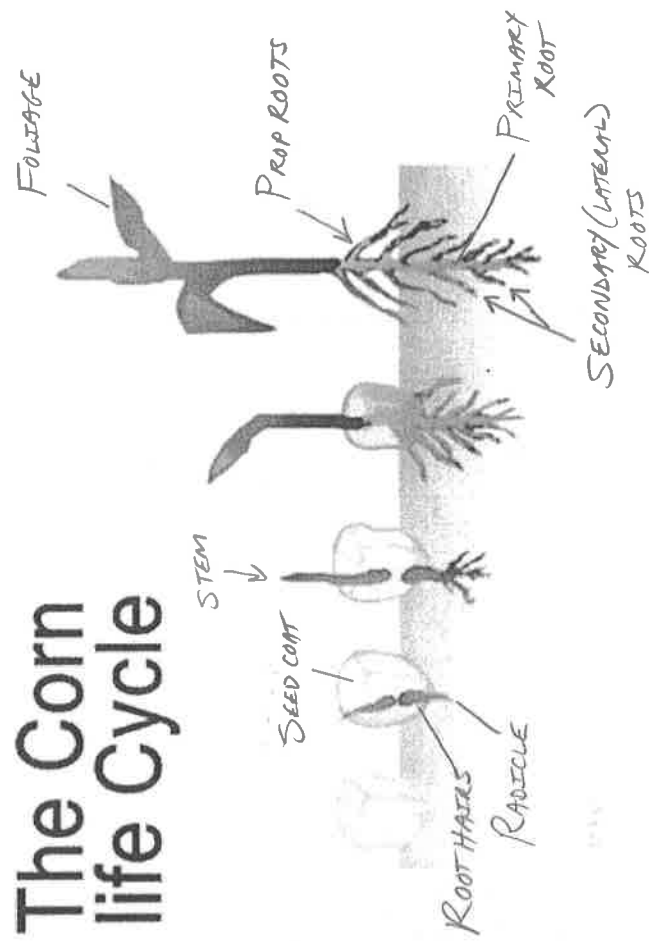
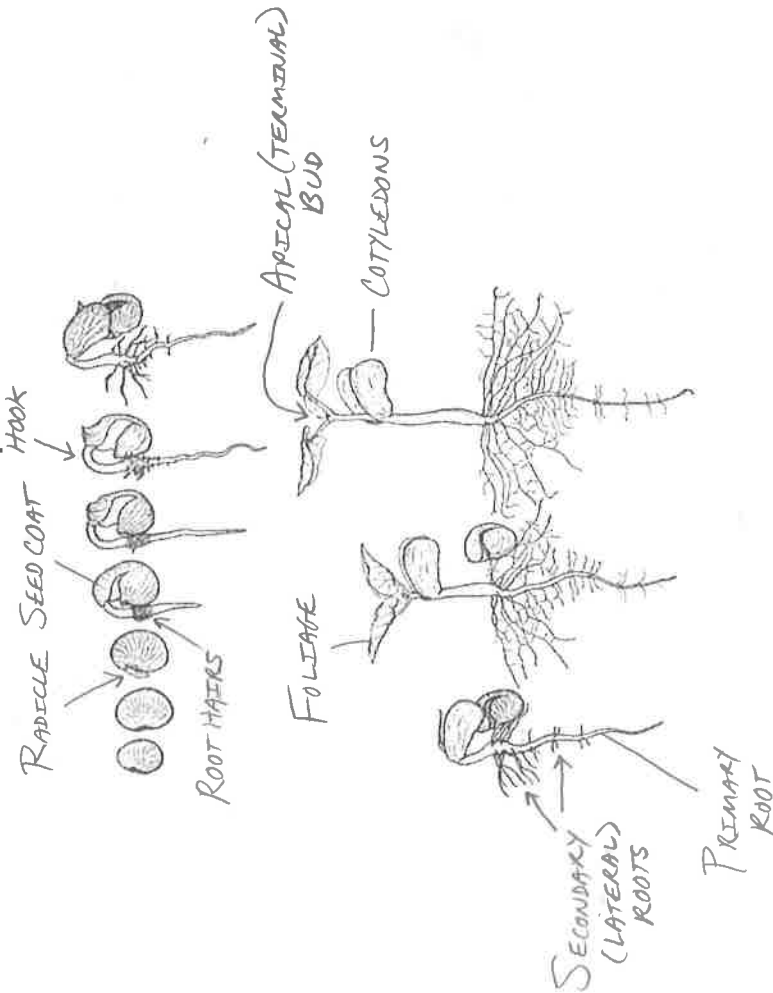


(FYI – Some plants, such as mango, dandelions, and grasses can produce seeds ASEXUALLY by APOMIXIS. The plants produced from these seeds are actually CLONES of the parent plant.)

EARLY GROWTH OF THE PLANT

After germination, the FIRST structure to emerge from the seed is the embryonic root or RADICLE.
 The radicle ANCHORS the seed in the soil and allows the embryonic plant to ABSORB water.

Bean Development

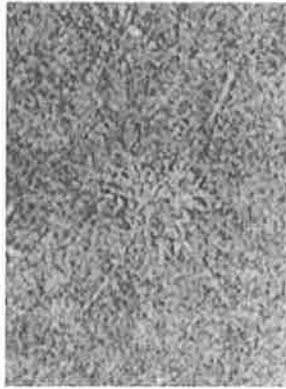


ASEXUAL PROPAGATION TECHNIQUES

(1) RUNNERS & STOLONS - Stems that grow along the GROUND or from AERIAL stem tissue, and form NEW cloned plants at their nodes.



Strawberry



Crabgrass



Spider plant

(2) SUCKERS - New Shoots that grow from adventitious Buds on the roots or the base of the STEM or trunk. The suckers can be CUT from the parent and TRANSPLANTED.

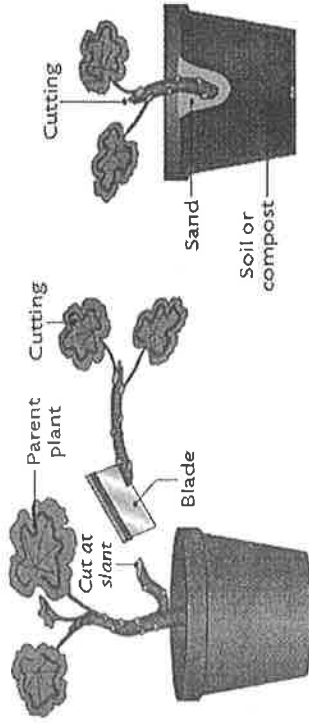


Black locust
sucker removed

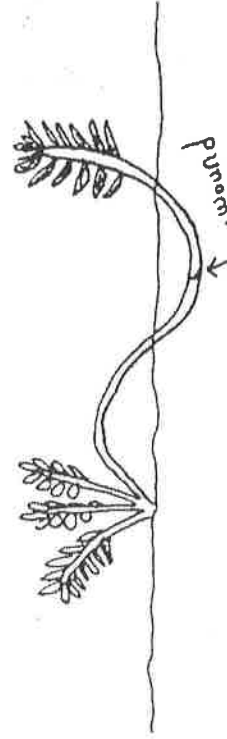
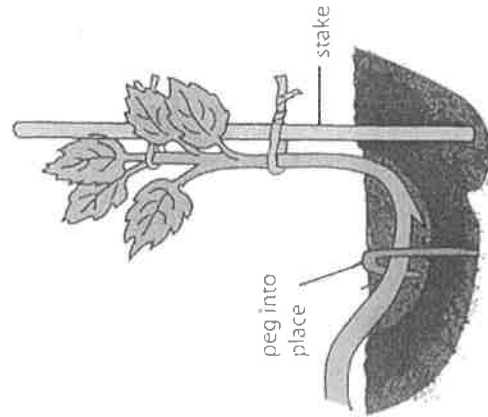
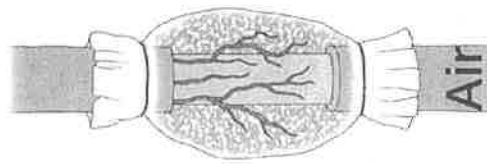


Rose sucker

(3) CUTTINGS - SEGMENTS of leaves, stems, or roots are CUT off the parent plant and NEW roots and shoots develop. Propagation by stem cuttings is the MOST common means of reproducing plants ASEXUALLY.

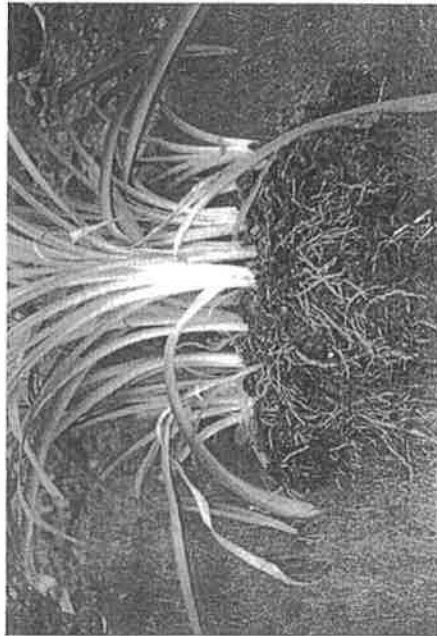
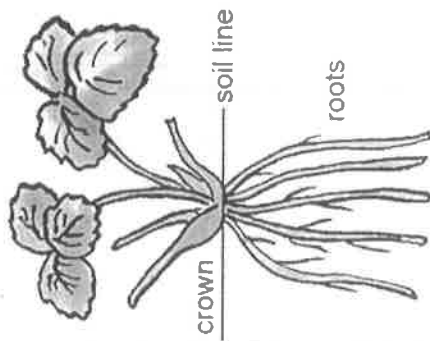


(4) LAYERING -- Roots develop on a STEM that is still ATTACHED to the parent plant. The stem is WOUNDED, rooting HORMONE is applied, and the stem is BURIED or wrapped in a cool, moist medium that promotes root formation. The SECTION of stem with roots can then be REMOVED from the parent plant and transplanted.

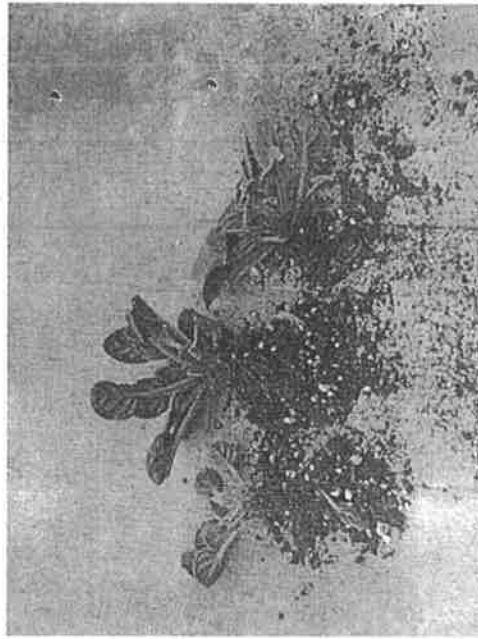


Layering

(5) CROWN DIVISION – The CROWN of herbaceous perennials is the JUNCTION of the roots and the shoots. Plants can be dug up and DIVIDED into sections, that can be replanted individually.



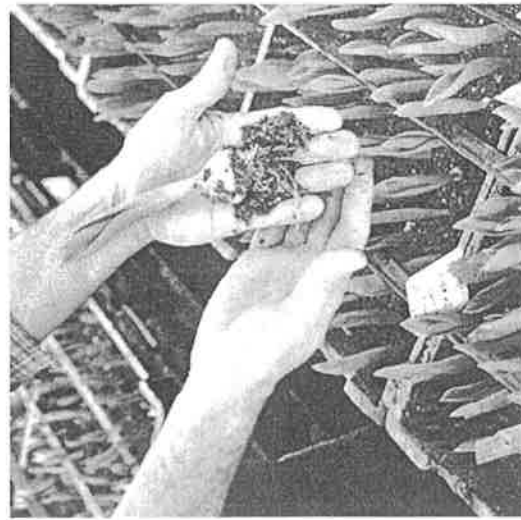
Clump of daylilies that can be divided into smaller sections and replanted



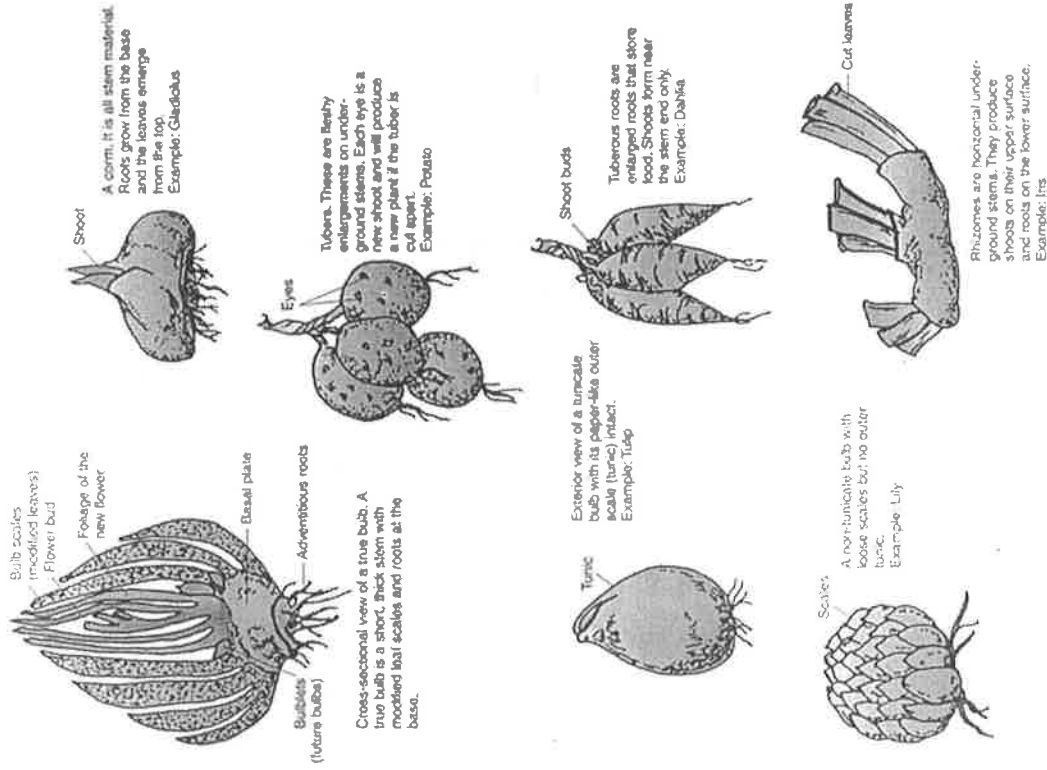
African violet sections

(6) GEOPHYTES (GEO = EARTH PHYTE = PLANT)

These are PERENNIAL plants with UNDERGROUND storage organs to store FOOD, NUTRIENTS, & WATER. At the end of the growing SEASON the stems DIEBACK and the plant SURVIVES in the ground as a dormant organ. In the spring, buds produce new SHOOTS. Propagation of geophytes can be done by SEPARATION of natural clones or by CUTTING the plant into sections.



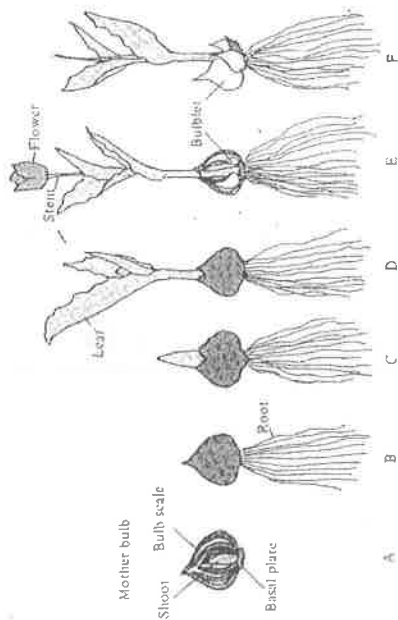
Tulip bulbs sending up new shoots



EXAMPLES OF GEOPHYTES

BULBS

Bulbs can branch underground producing BULBULETS that are clones. Bulbets take their energy from the parent bulb, but eventually produce their own stems and can be SEPARATED from the parent.



HARDY BULBS – Can be planted in the FALL and bloom in the SPRING. Hardy bulbs are left in the GROUND year-round. Ex. Tulips, DAFFODILS, & hyacinth

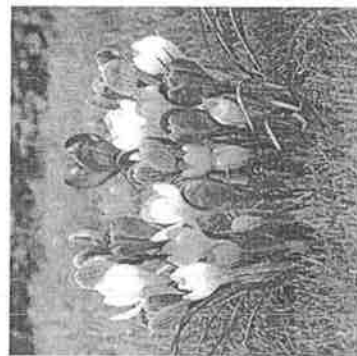
TENDER BULBS – Are planted in the SPRING and bloom in the SUMMER. Tender bulbs must be DUG up and stored indoors BEFORE the ground freezes. Ex. Calla lilies, ranunculus

CORMS

Corms are similar to bulbs but are SOLID inside (no scales). Ex. Gladiolus, crocus



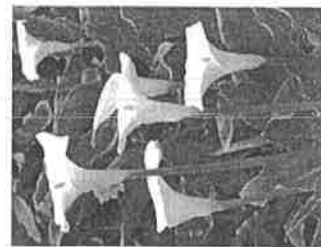
DAFFODIL



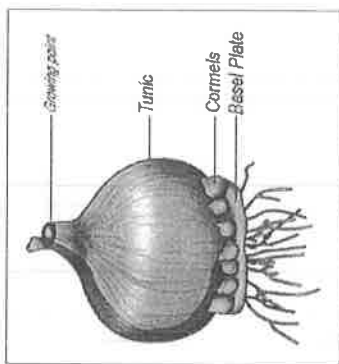
CROCUS



RANUNCULUS



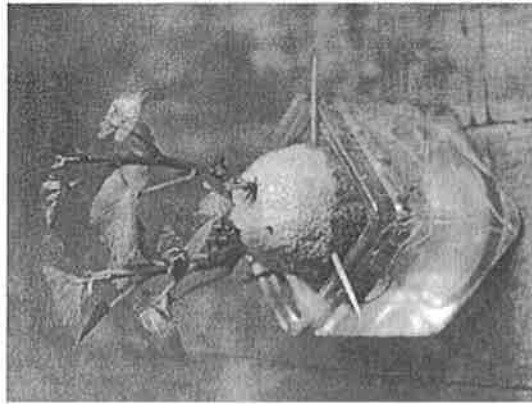
CALLA
LILLY



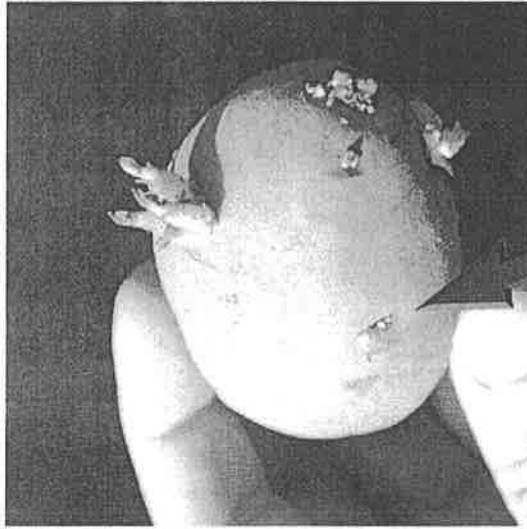
GLADIOLUS

TUBERS

Tubers have several nodes, or growing points, called EYES. Each eye can DEVELOP into its own plant.



New potato plants
growing from the eyes



EYE

RHIZOMES

Rhizomes are STEMS that grow HORIZONTALLY along the surface of the SOIL or just BELOW it. Rhizomes BRANCH out with each portion growing ROOTS and SHOOTS of its own.



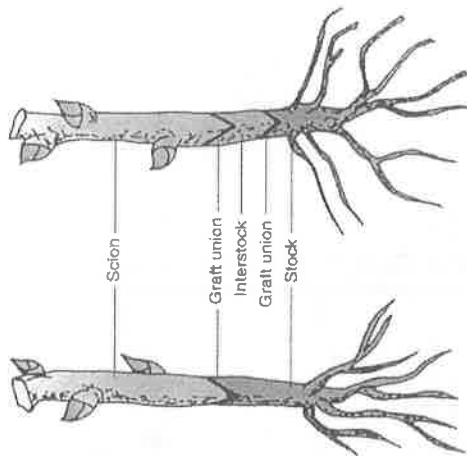
Iris flowers



Iris rhizomes can be cut into
pieces and replanted

OR
↓

(7) GRAFTING – The union of parts from TWO of more plants into a SINGLE plant. Grafting is commonly used in WOODY plants to produce desired plants, UNUSUAL forms, or to repair DAMAGED plants. NOT all plants can be grafted.



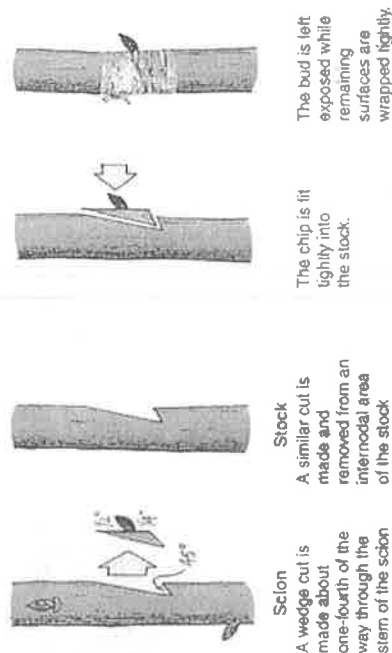
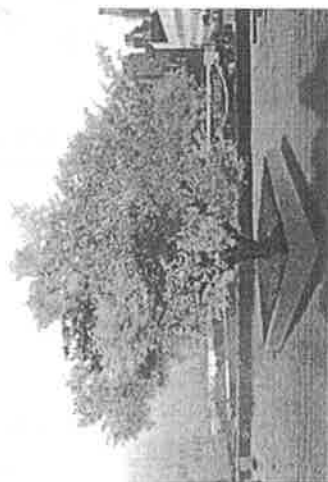
STOCK – The portion of the graft with the ROOT system

SCION – The portion of the graft that will develop BRANCHES, FOLIAGE (leaves) and FLOWERS

After the scion and stock have been CUT and JOINED, they are tied into place. Then the area of the wound is SEALED with WAX or TAPE to keep the moisture IN and disease OUT.

"TREE OF 40 FRUIT"

A tree designed by a professor who grafted in branches from 40 different types of fruit trees



BUDDING is a type of grafting in which a BUD is inserted into the stock and develops a new SHOOT

Grafting by cuttings with Roses allows growers to display different VARIETIES of roses on one plant.

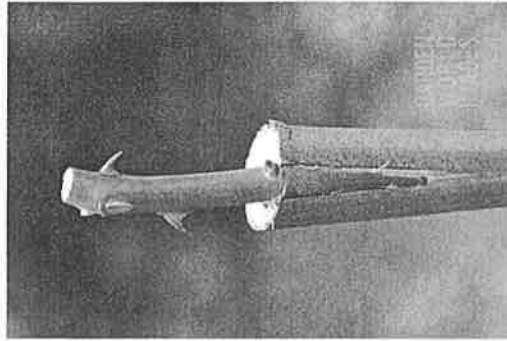
Beautiful and unusual rose bushes can be DESIGNED.

Also, growers can GRAFT roses onto the root stock of HARDIER bushes to allow them to grow in colder CLIMATES



Various rose colors grafted onto one bush

Many FRUIT trees are grafted to MAINTAIN particular varieties or cultivars of fruit. For example, if APPLE seeds are planted, the grower will NOT get an identical copy of the TREE that produced the apple. Grafting is the only way to get an EXACT copy.



Grafting a rose stem



Multiple grafts on an apple tree branch

(8) **TISSUE CULTURE** – The propagation of plants from TINY pieces of plant TISSUE, usually MERISTEMATIC shoot tissue. The piece of tissue is REMOVED from the parent plant under STERILE conditions and grown in a NUTRIENT media in a carefully controlled environment. Through cell division, a new CLONED plant grows.

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Tissue culture

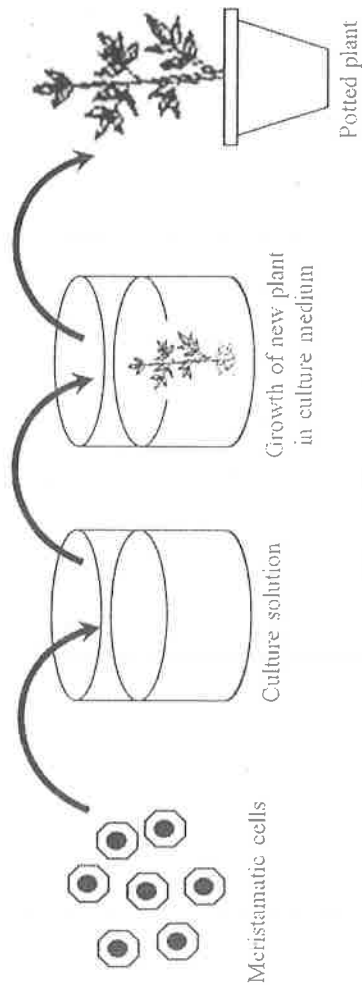
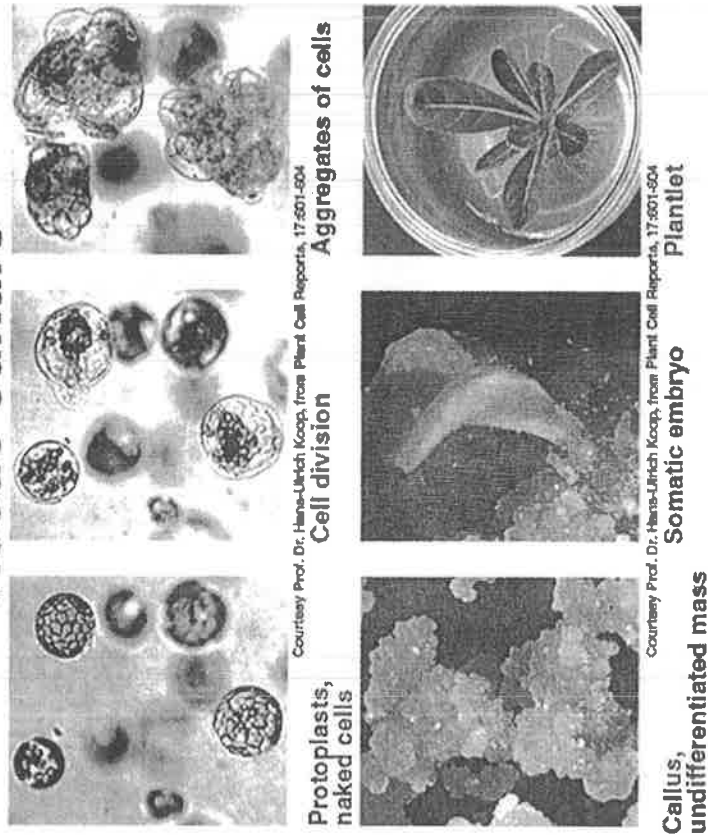


Fig. 13 Tissue culture

MEDIA = PLURAL
MEDIUM = SINGULAR

MEDIA FOR PROPAGATION

The growing medium is the ENVIRONMENT in which the plant is grown, and needs to SUPPORT the developing SEEDLINGS by providing:

NUTRIENTS WATER AERATION SUPPORT CORRECT pH

Natural (field) soil is NOT always used in propagation because it can be too HEAVY, contain weed SEEDS and PATHOGENS, and may not provide the AERATION, water holding capacity, and DRAINAGE needed. Several soilless or SYNTHETIC growing media have been designed and contain various combinations of:

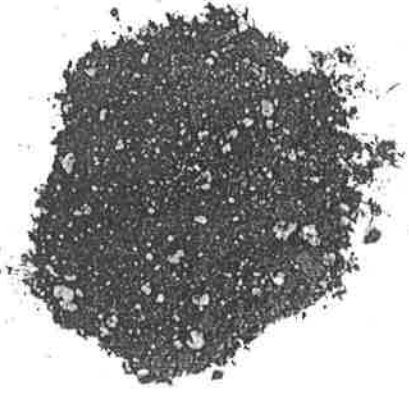
SPHAGNUM (PEAT) MOSS - Dehydrated REMAINS of acid-bog plants. It is LIGHT in weight and can absorb 10 to 20 times its weight in WATER. Sphagnum moss also provides NUTRIENT retention, aeration, and DRAINAGE.

BARK - Small PARTICLES of pine bark obtained from the wood & paper industries. Bark provides excellent drainage and AERATION.

SAND - COARSE sand provides aeration and DRAINAGE.

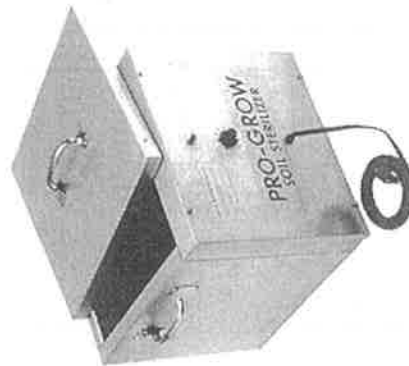
PERLITE - A LIGHT-WEIGHT mineral of volcanic origin PROVIDING aeration & drainage

VERMICULITE - A mineral with FLATE-LIKE particles that increase water holding capacity. It is also a good source of POTASSIUM and magnesium.



FIRED CLAY - Clay pebbles that are FIRED in a kiln causing them to EXPAND. Fired clay PROVIDES excellent drainage and aeration.

All of the materials used as propagation media must be steam PASTEURIZED before use to ELIMINATE weed seeds, nematodes, fungi and other PATHOGENS.



1 cubic ft

Product Details Description

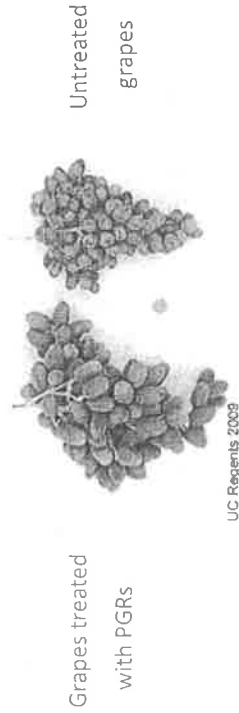
The Soil Sterilizer is an effective way to combat soil-borne weeds, pests, molds, and disease. With an adjustable temperature range of 140-200 degrees F, the Sterilizer pasteurizes the soil, creating a clean, pest-free soil that's ready for seeds, seedlings, or cuttings.



The artificial MEDIA may also have LOW nutrient content for the seedlings, and will need to be SUPPLEMENTED with fertilizers and be adjusted for the correct pH.

PLANT GROWTH REGULATORS

Plant Growth Regulators (PGRs) are NATURALLY occurring or SYNTHETIC compounds that AFFECT plant growth and development.



3 TYPES OF PGRs:

1. Growth- PROMOTING chemicals
(Plant grows MORE)
2. Growth- INHIBITING chemicals
(Plant grows LESS)
3. ROOT - promoting chemicals
(Roots grow MORE)

NATURALLY OCCURRING PLANT HORMONES (These may work INDIVIDUALLY or TOGETHER)

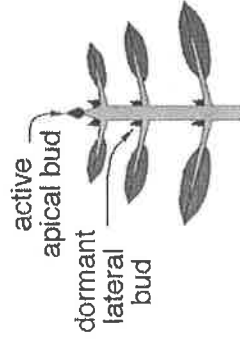
(1) AUXIN - BOTH promotes and inhibits growth

Ex. APICAL DOMINANCE

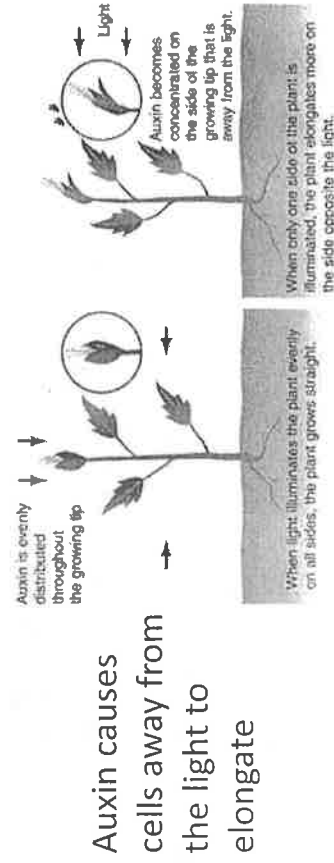
Promotes the growth of the

APICAL (terminal) bud while

Inhibiting the growth of LATERAL (axillary) buds. "Pinching" is a practice of REMOVING the apical bud to promote FULLER bushy growth.



Ex. PHOTOTROPISM - The ability of plants to BEND toward the LIGHT



(2) **GIBBERELLINS** – Cause cell elongation often causing INCREASES in plant height. Growers can apply gibberellic acid to make plants grow taller more QUICKLY and to STIMULATE the development of FLOWERS. Gibberellins also help with seed GERMINATION and the production of seedless FRUITS (parthenocarpic fruit) by applying gibberellins to the pistils of flowers.

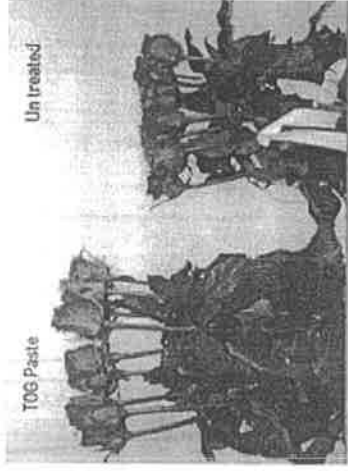
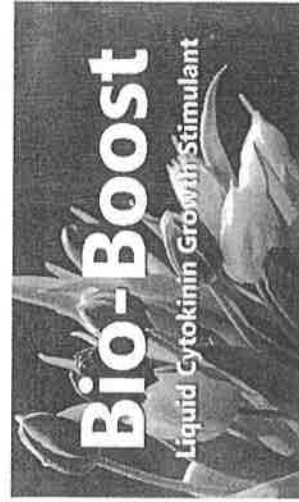


Fig 2: Effect of T.O.G. PASTE on stem length of rose flowers © 'Milva' (Israel 2005)

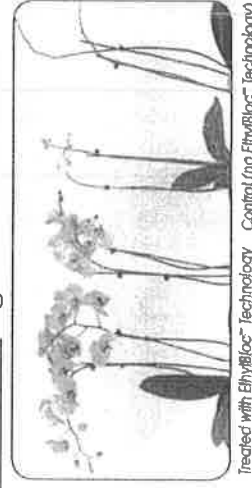
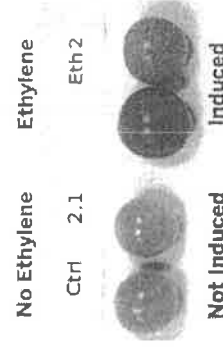
Synthetic gibberellic acid paste applied to roses

(3) **CYTOKININS** – Used in tissue culture to promote cell DIVISION and differentiation. Cytokinins also delay aging and are used in FLOWER shops to keep leaves green and cut flowers FRESH.

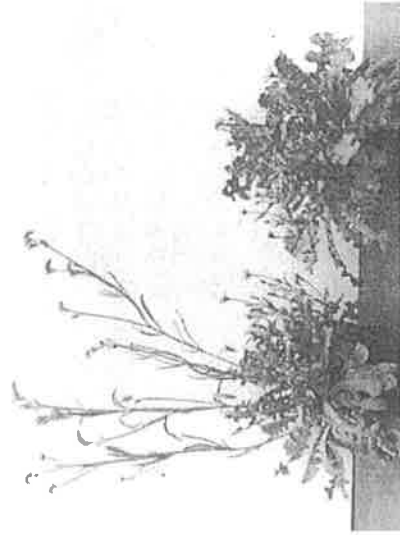


(4) **ETHYLENE GAS** – Often called the "RIPENING" hormone, it causes fruits to CHANGE in color & texture as they ripen.

Ethylene gas is used commercially to ripen BANANAS and PEARS. Ethylene also affects flowers causing leaf YELLOWING, flower & petal DROP, and Leaf ABSCISSION (falling off). Sensitivity to ethylene varies among plants. Many fresh cut FLOWERS are sensitive to ethylene and can be TREATED against its effects.



SYNTHETIC GROWTH REGULATORS



GROWTH RETARDANTS – Many synthetic products are growth INHIBITORS used to produce SHORTER, fuller plants. Some plants grow too TALL getting “LEGGY” and undesirable. Growth retardants can:

- Prevent BLOW-OVER of taller plants
- Prevent plants from growing OUT of the pots
- Provide ATTRACTIVE, compact plants
- Increase ease of TRANSPORT

ROOTING HORMONES - Vegetative CUTTINGS can be dipped in rooting hormones to promote & ACCELERATE root formation. The main component of commercial rooting hormones is AUXIN.



Some turf GRASSES are treated with growth retardants, particularly those on sloping DIFFICULT to mow areas. This REDUCES the cost of fuel and labor to mow.



GARFIELD

