

Adventist Agricultural Association
4th Annual Convention
2018
Session 1

Soil the plant stomach

PRESENTED BY:

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The Soil Food Web



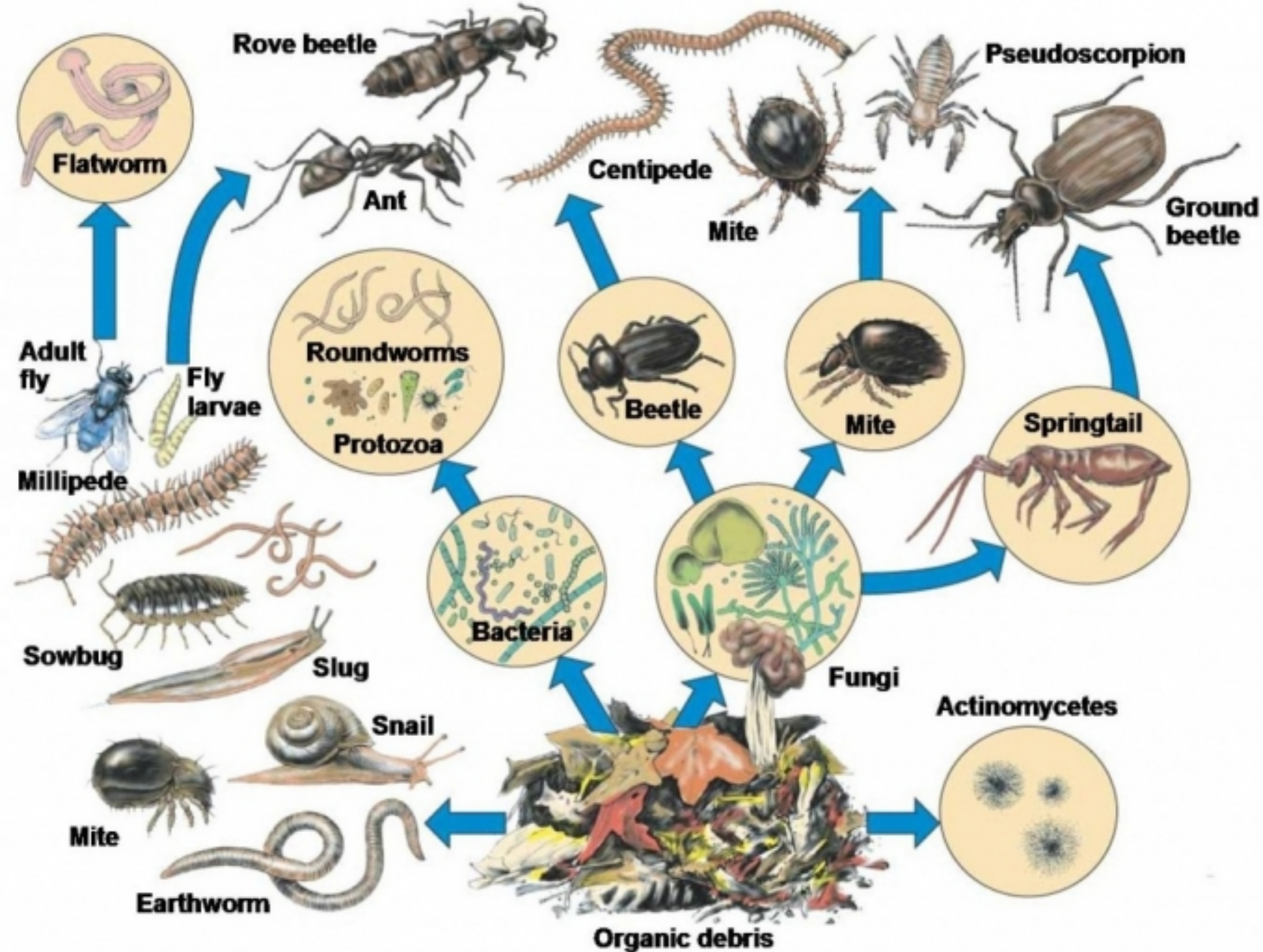
First trophic level:
Photosynthesizers

Second trophic level:
Decomposing Mutualists
Pathogens, Parasites
Root-feeders

Third trophic level:
Shredders
Predators
Grazers

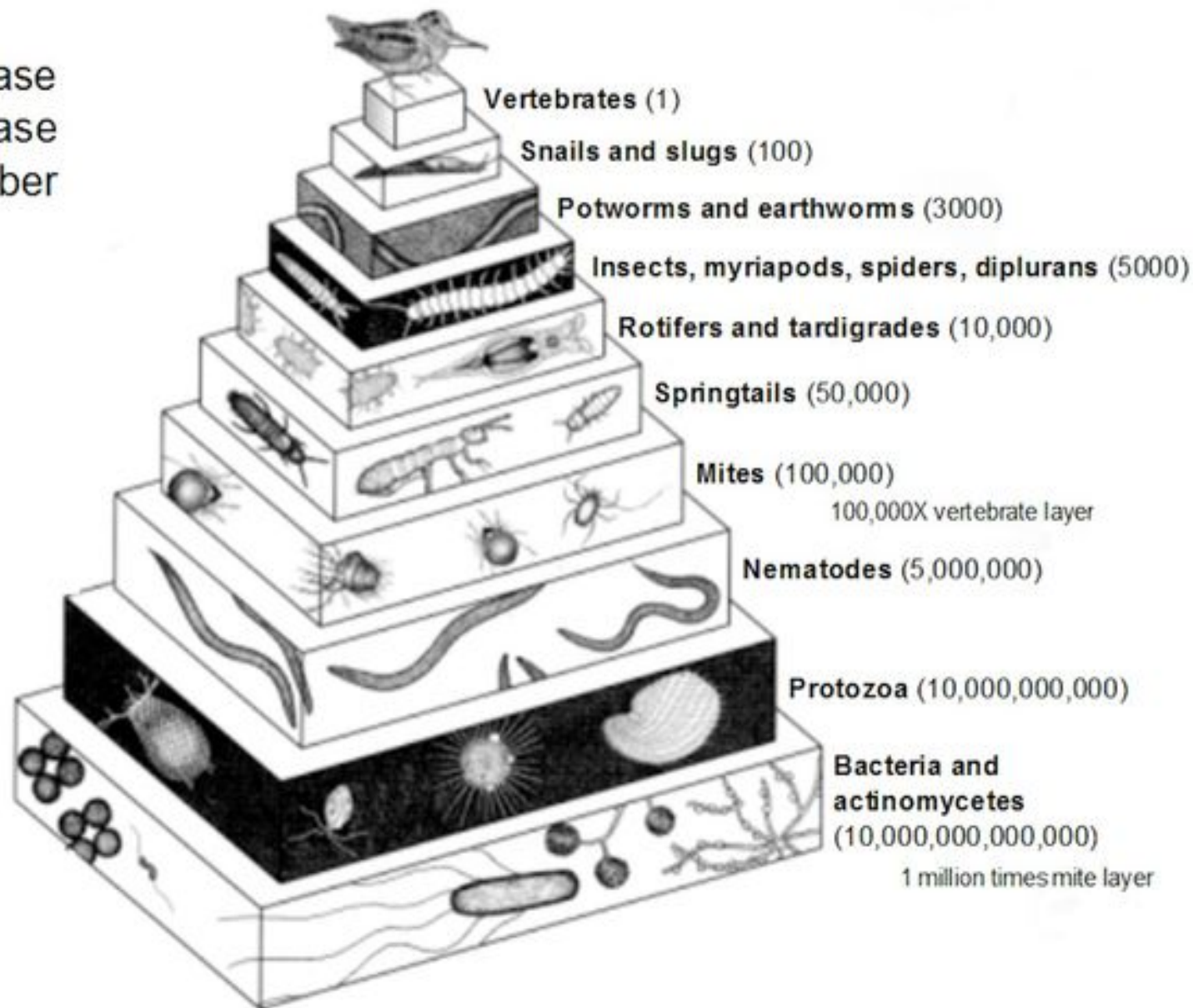
Fourth trophic level:
Higher level predators

Fifth & higher trophic level:
Higher level predators



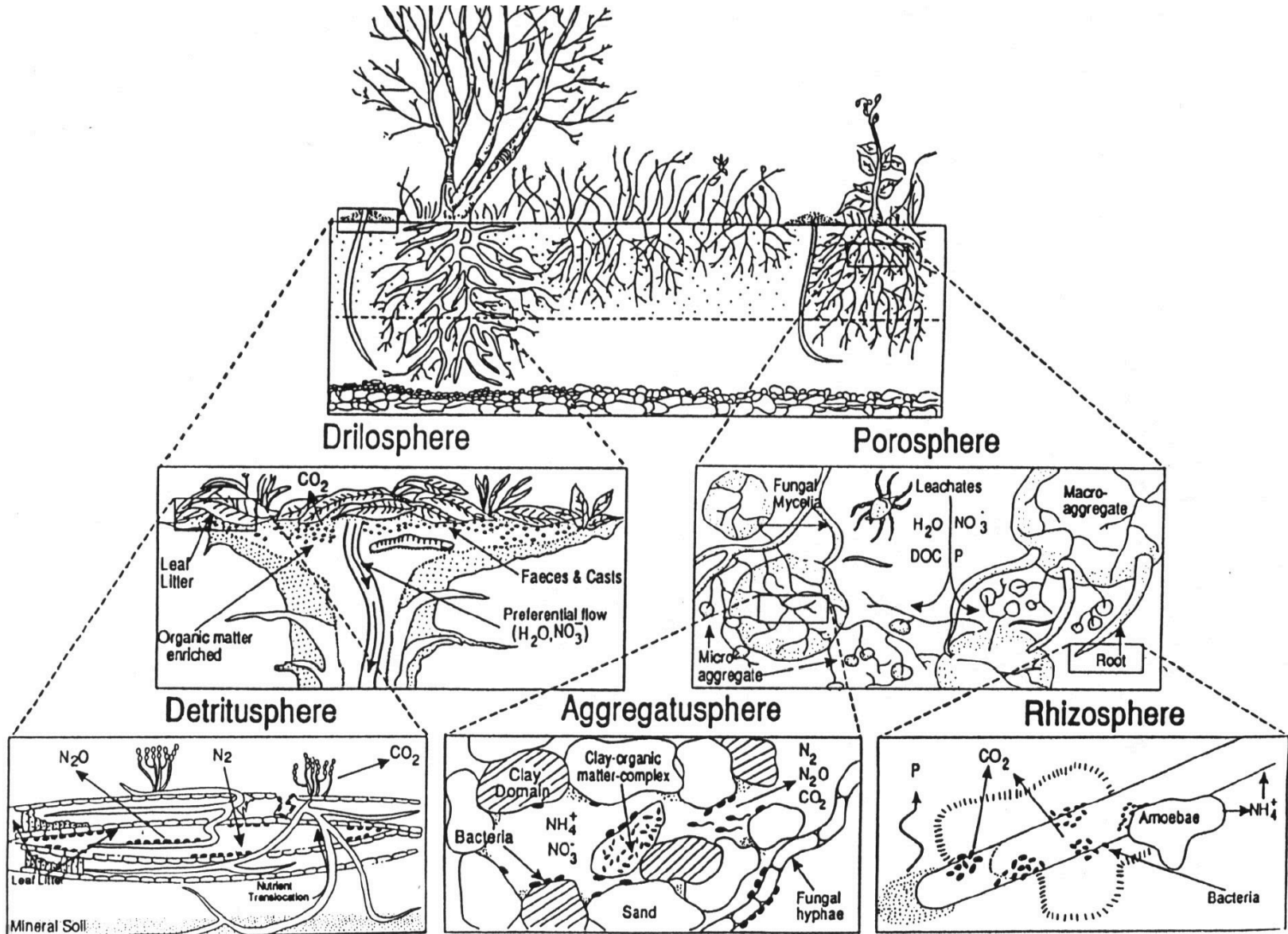
In one square meter of soil....

Organisms decrease
in size and increase
in number



Soil Microhabitats

Everything is everywhere and the milieu selects - Martinus Beijerinck



Rhizosphere

Rhizosphere

- Soil under root influence (<1 mm to >1 cm)

Rhizoplane

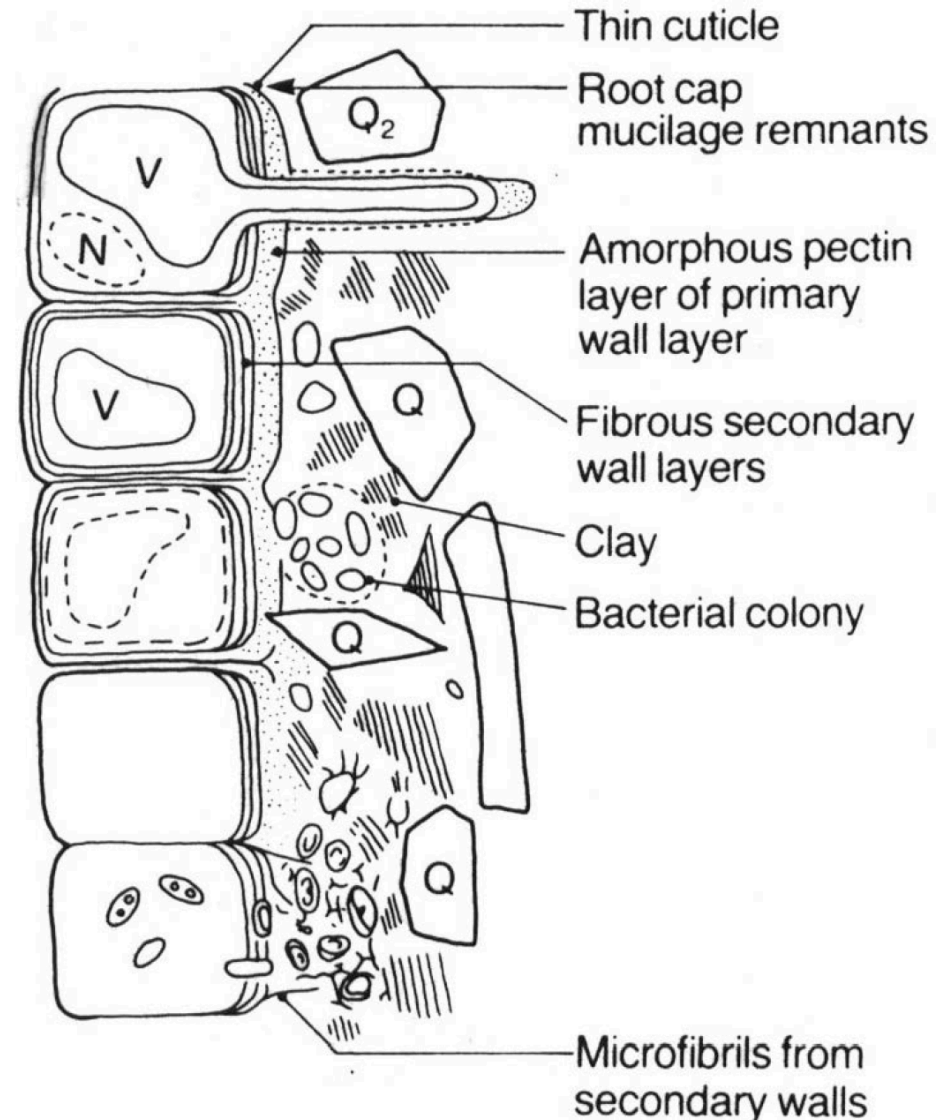
- Root surface (<100 μm)

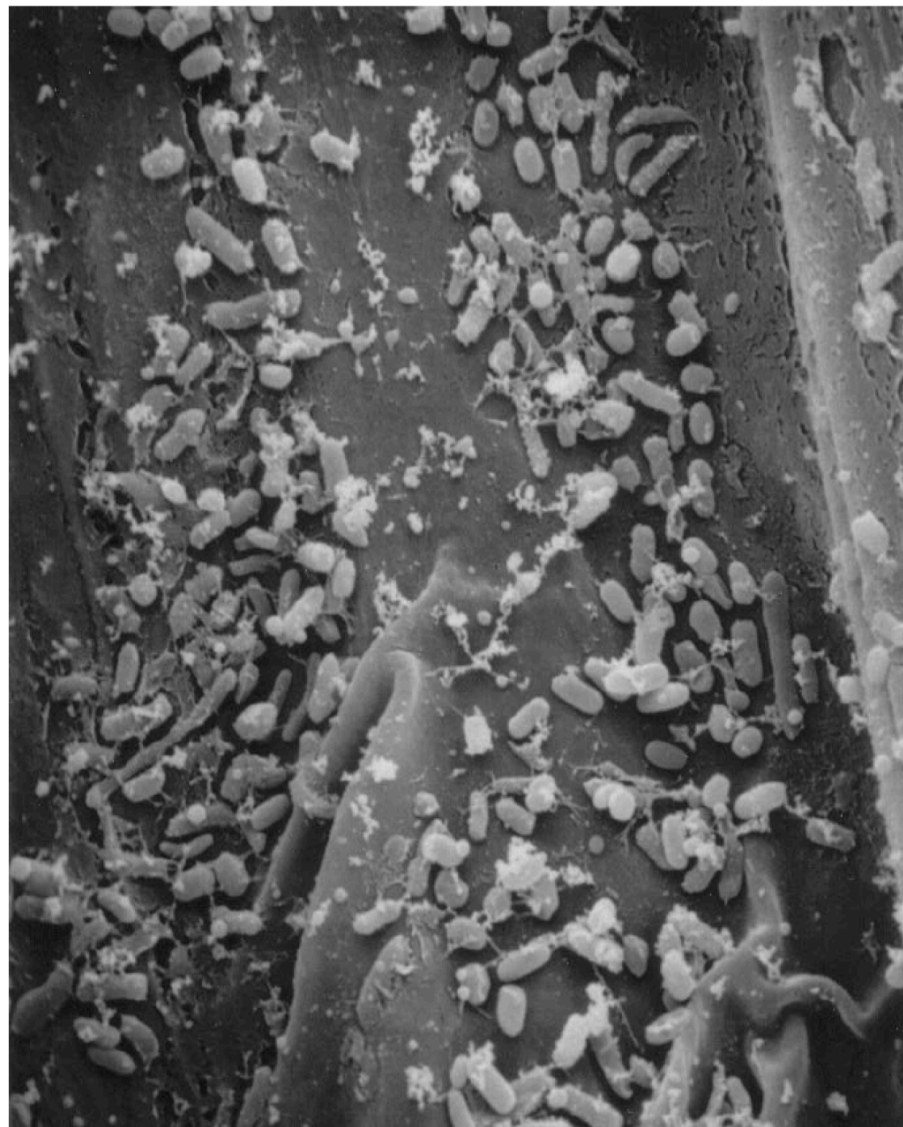
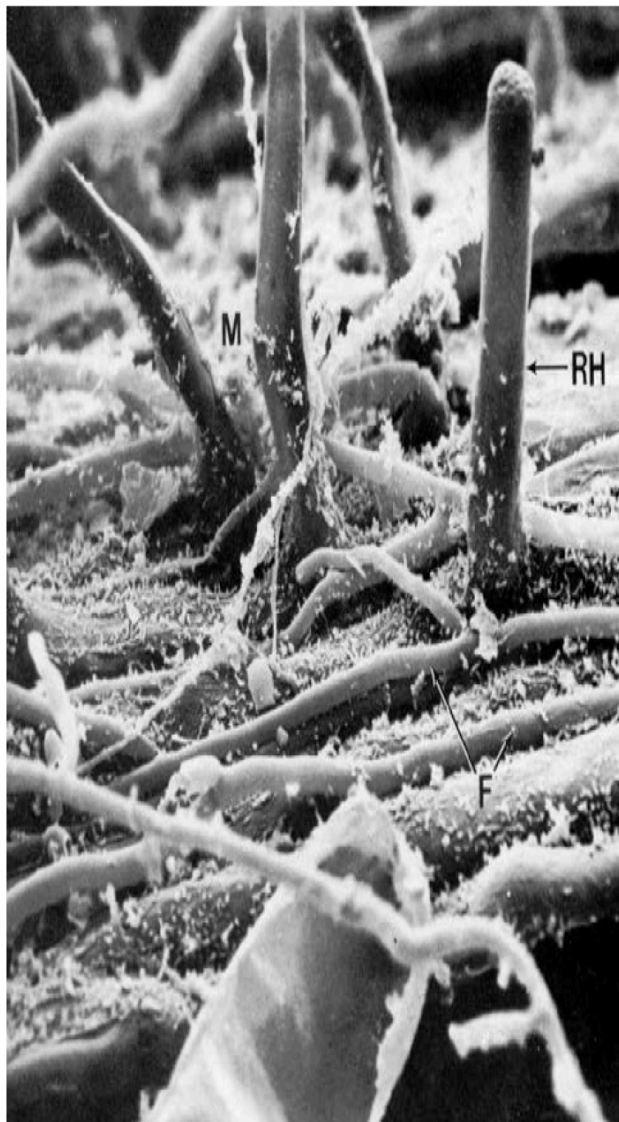
Mycorhizosphere

- Volume of soil influenced by mycorrhizae

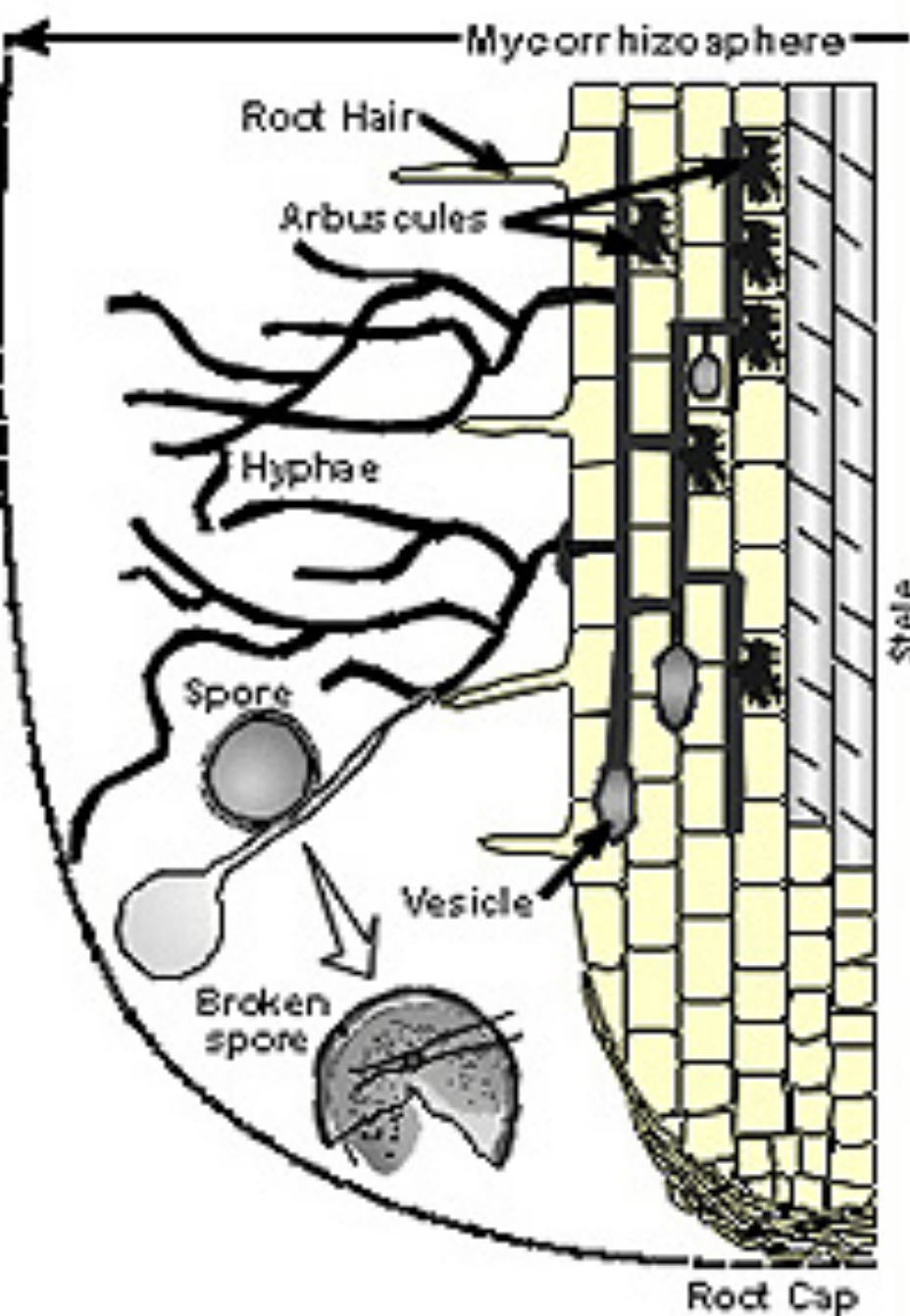
Spermosphere

- Volume of soil influenced by germinating seed

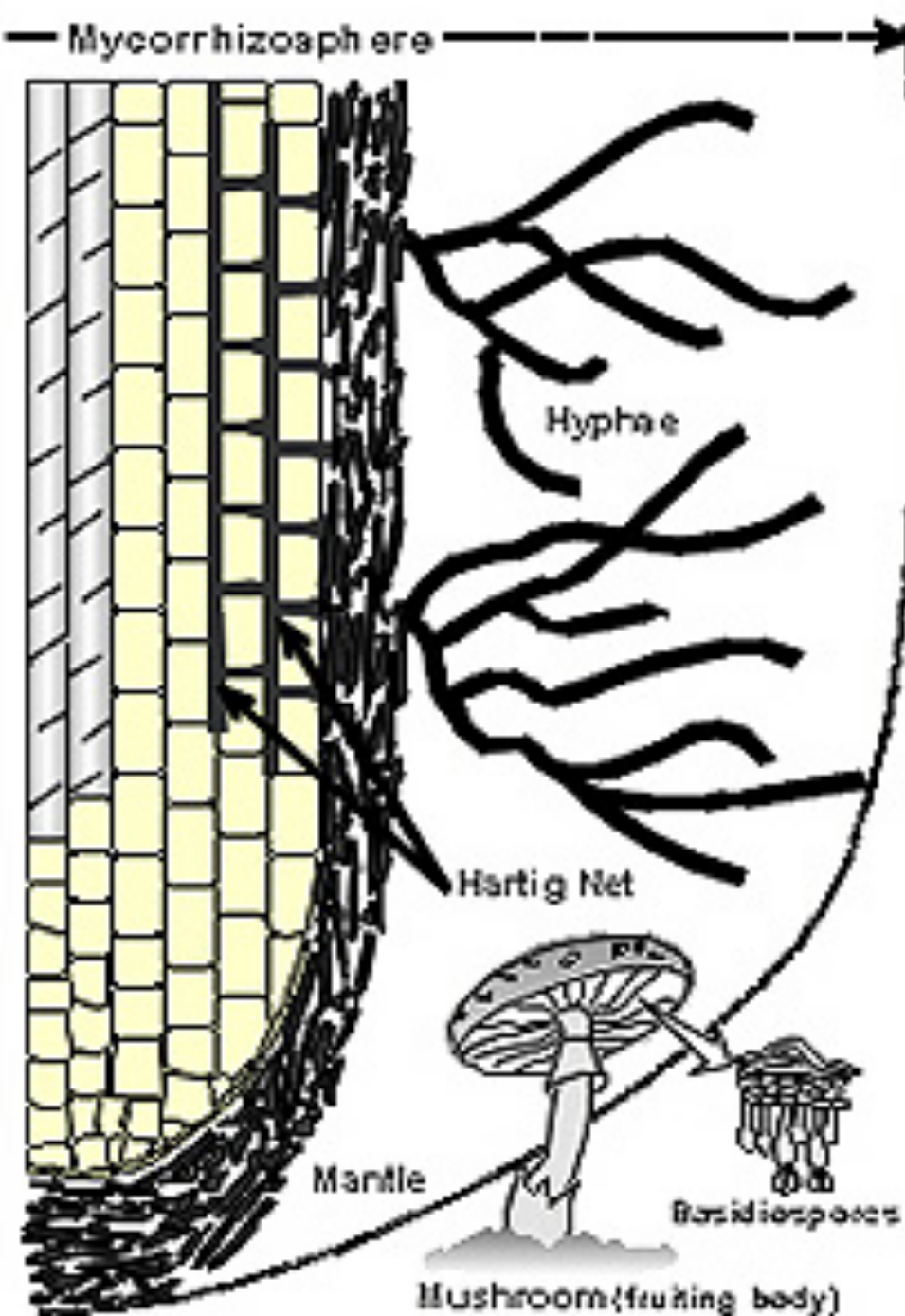




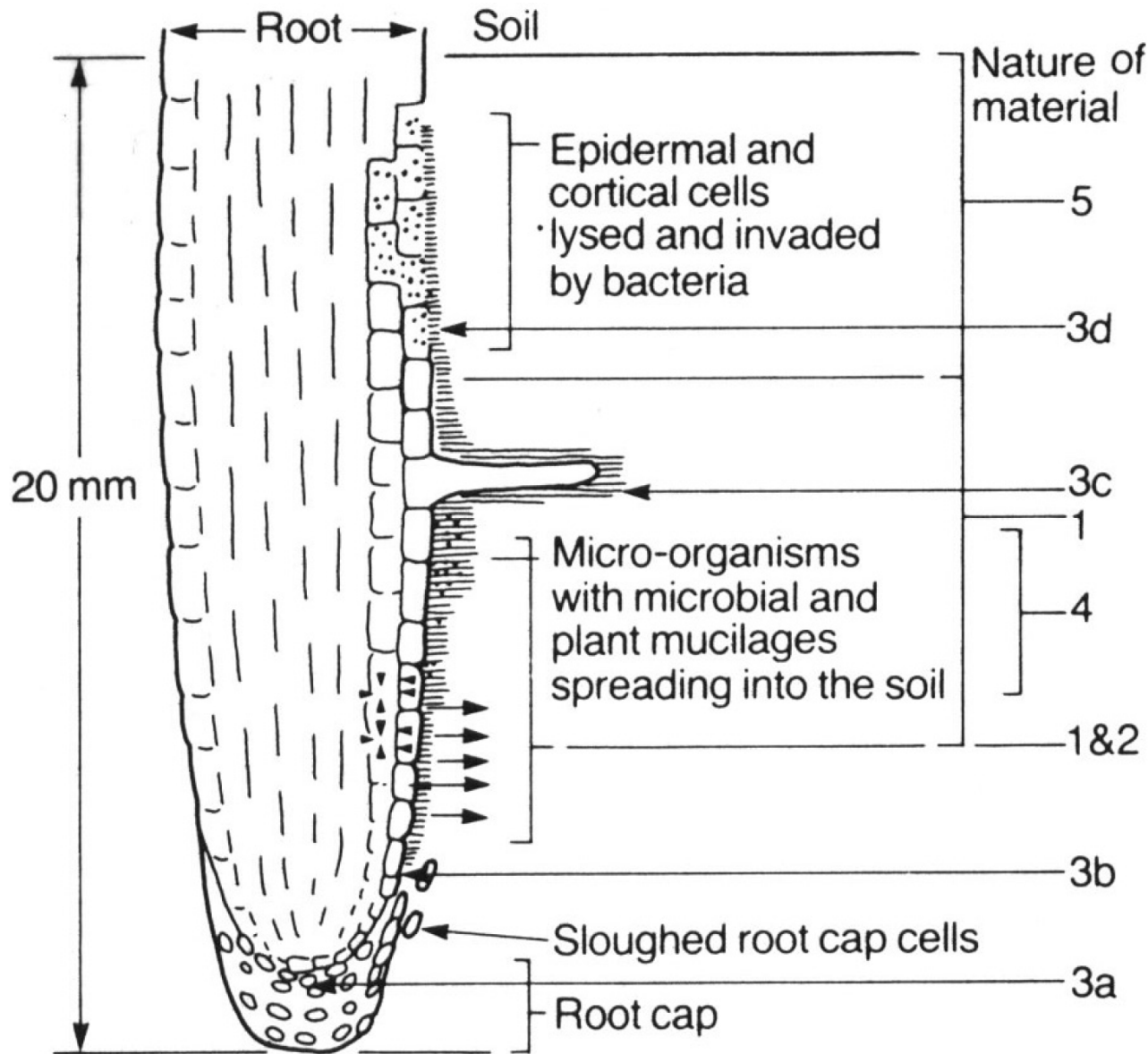
ARBUSCULAR ENDOMYCORRHIZA



ECTOMYCORRHIZA



Organic Inputs to Rhizosphere



1. Exudates
2. Secretions
3. Mucilages
4. Mucigel
5. Lysates

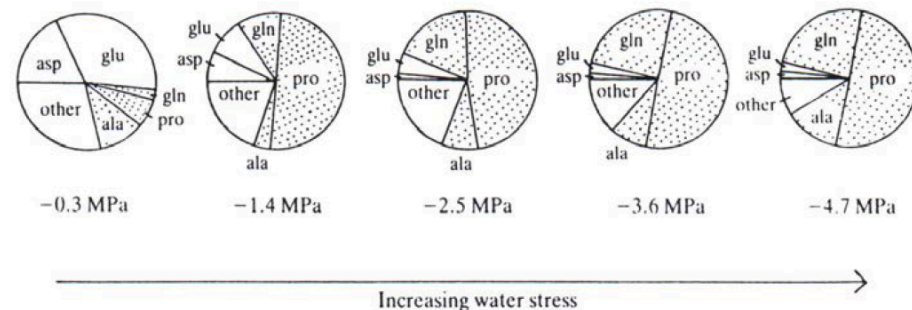
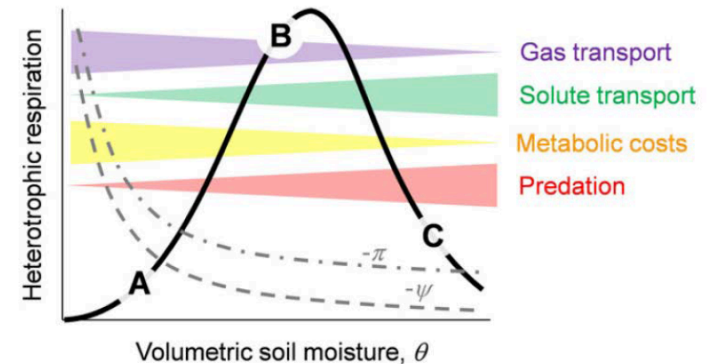
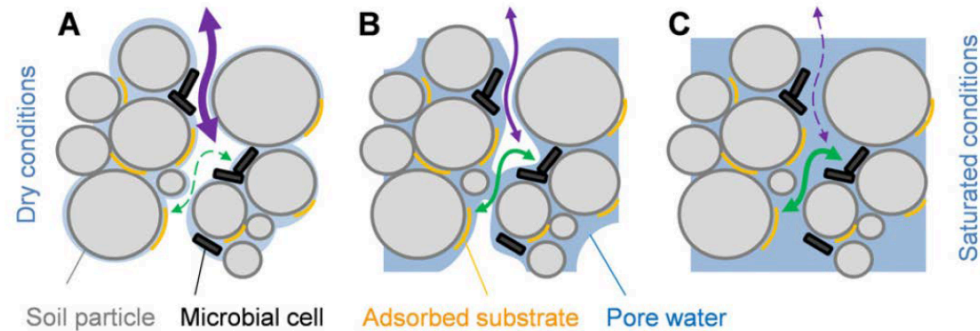
Water Effects

Oxygen Limited

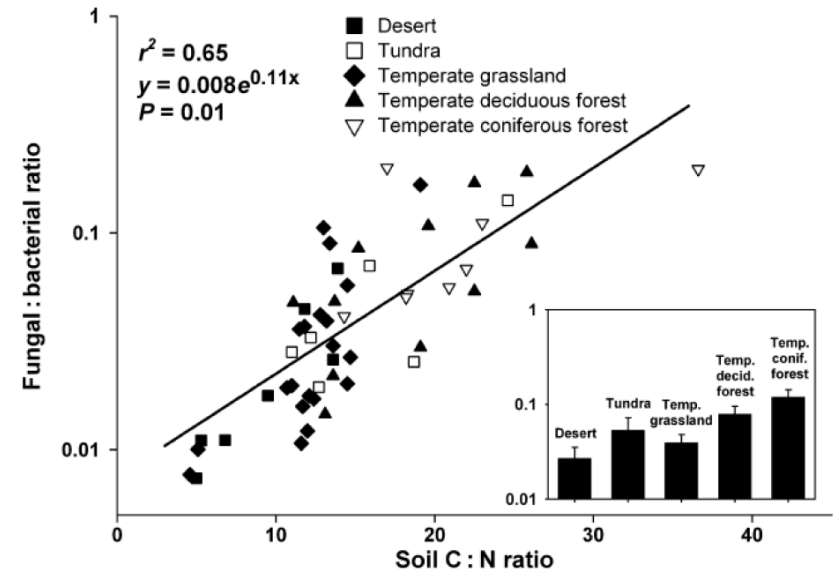
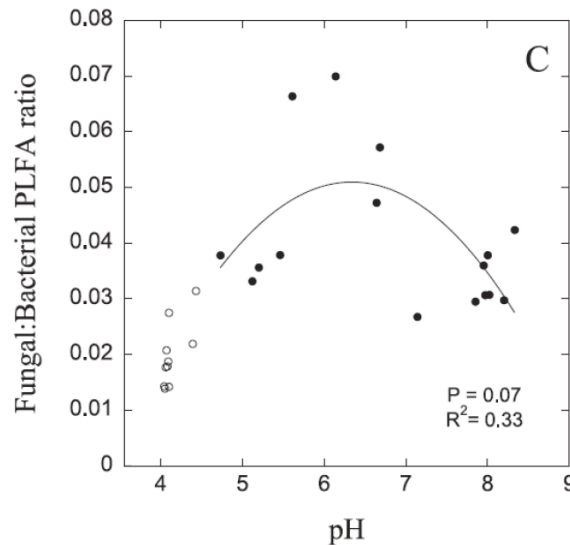
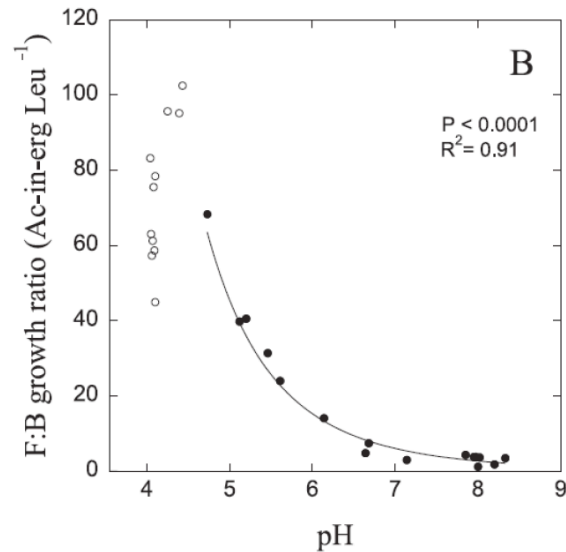
- O_2 diffusion limited
 - $D_{O_2,air}$ 10,000 times $D_{O_2,water}$

Water Limited

- Substrate diffusion limited
 - Diffusion function of path-length (tortuosity) and diffusion coefficient
- Physiological stress
 - Osmoregulation with inorganic salts or compatible solutes



pH: Fungal:Bacterial Ratios



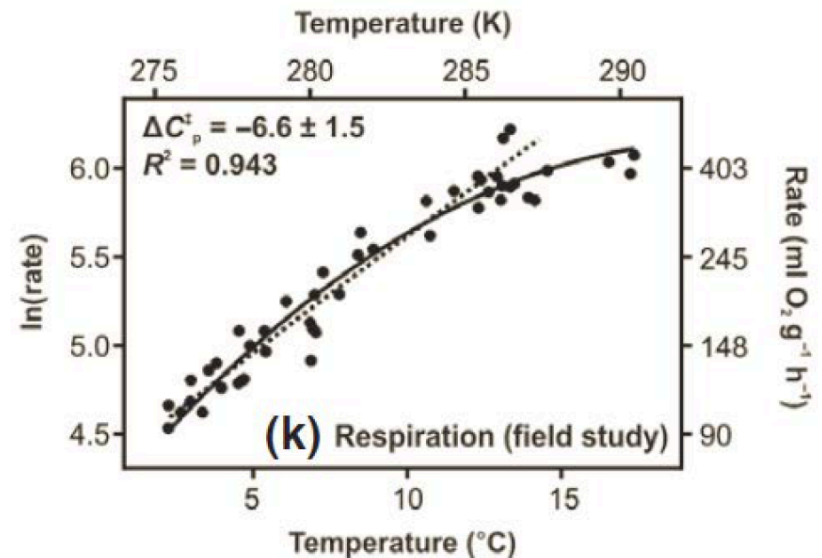
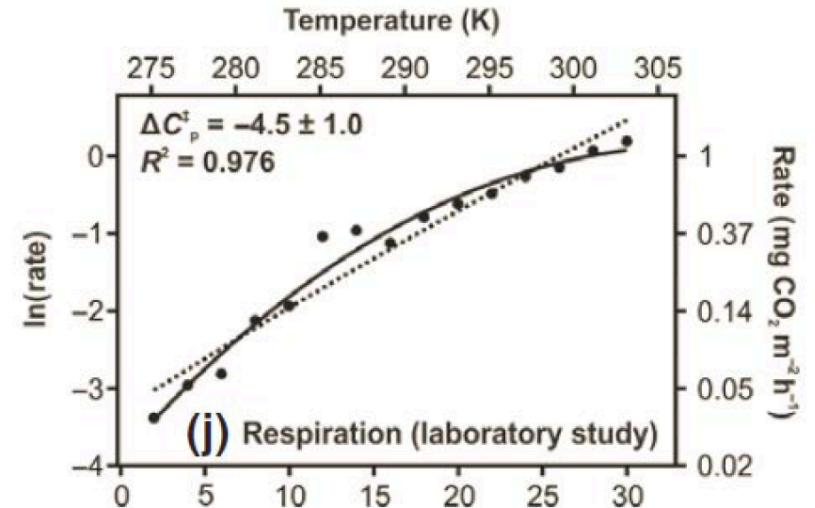
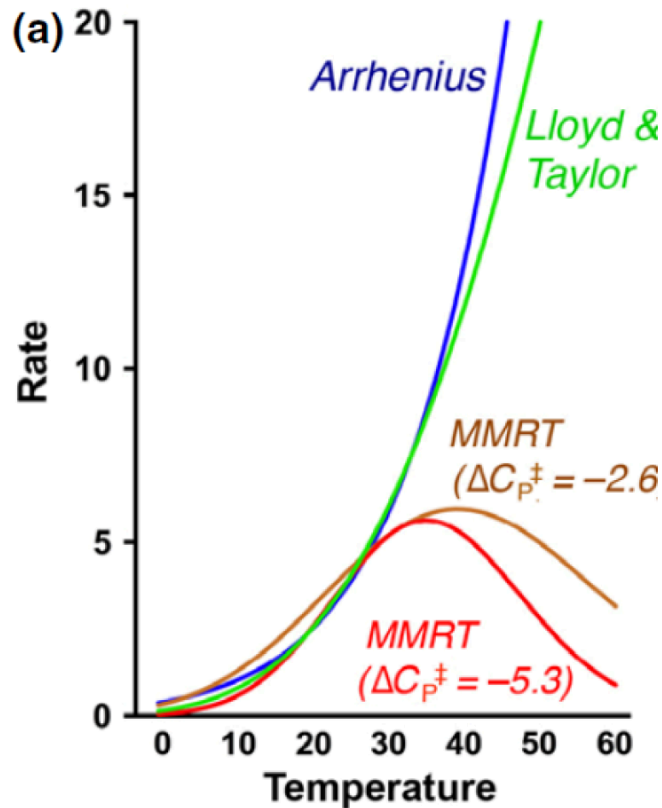
Rousk et al. (2009) *Appl Environ Microbiol* 75:1589

Fierer et al. (2009) *Ecol Lett* 12:1238

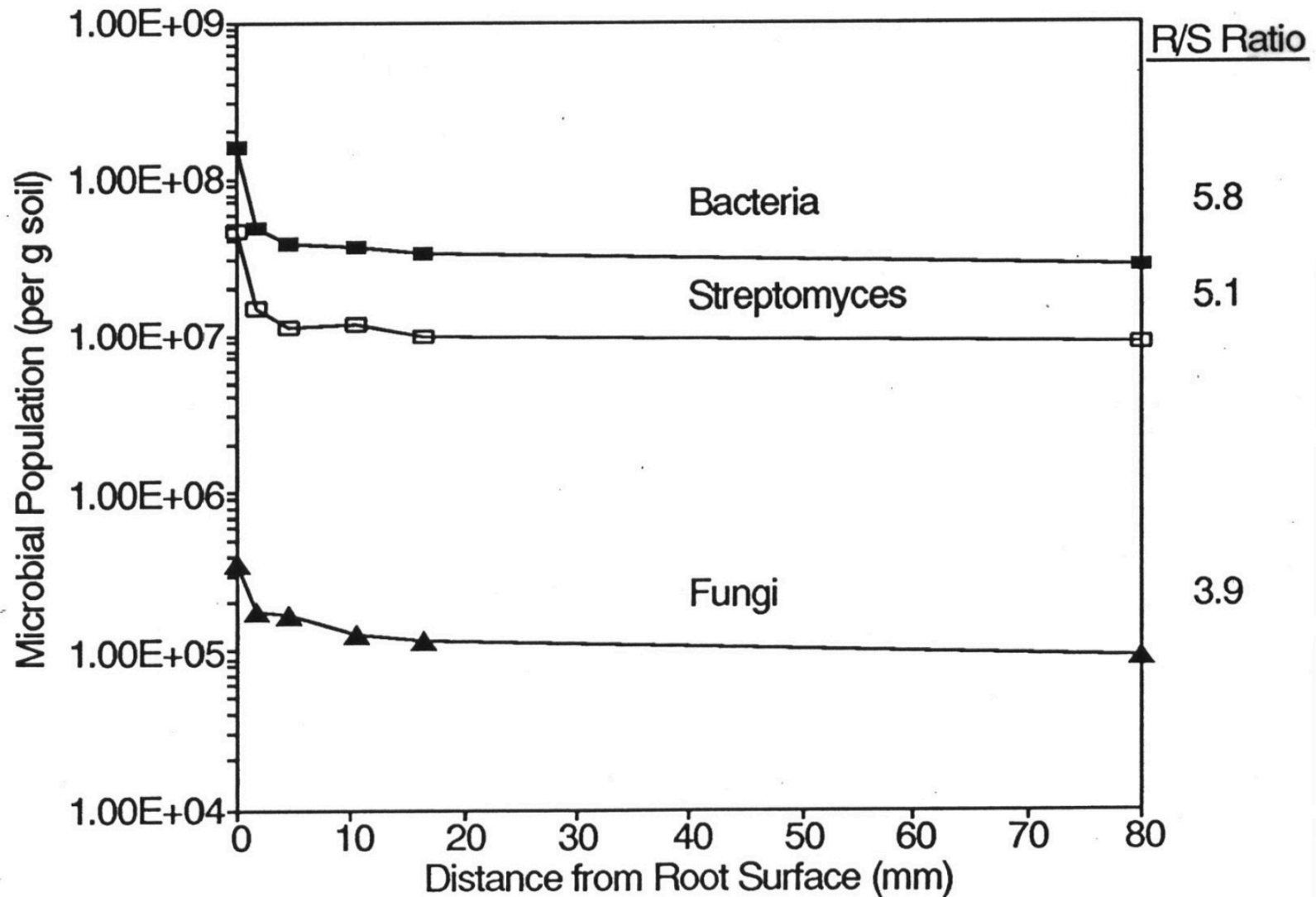
Modeling Temperature Effects

MMRT—macromolecular rate theory

$$\ln(k) = \ln\left(\frac{k_B T}{h}\right) - \frac{\Delta H_{T_0}^\ddagger + \Delta C_P^\ddagger(T - T_0)}{RT} + \frac{\Delta S_{T_0}^\ddagger + \Delta C_P^\ddagger(\ln T - \ln T_0)}{R}$$



The Rhizosphere Effect

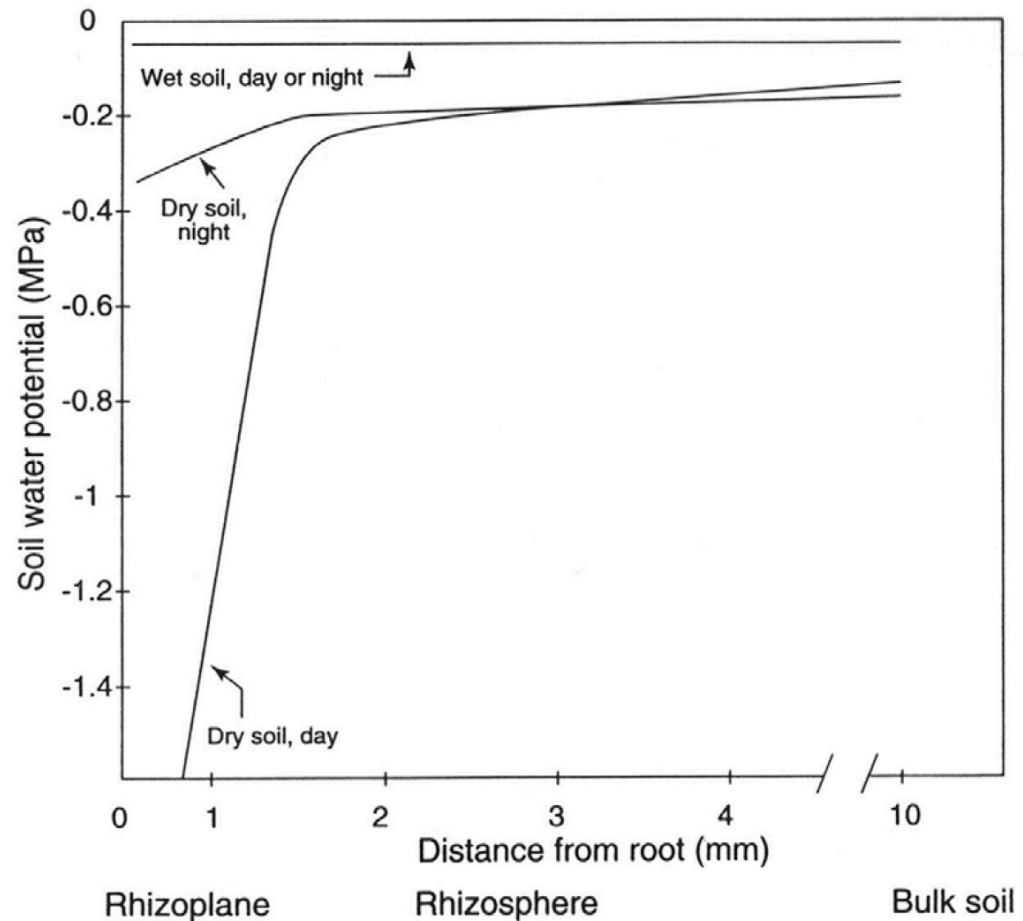


Other Rhizosphere Characteristics

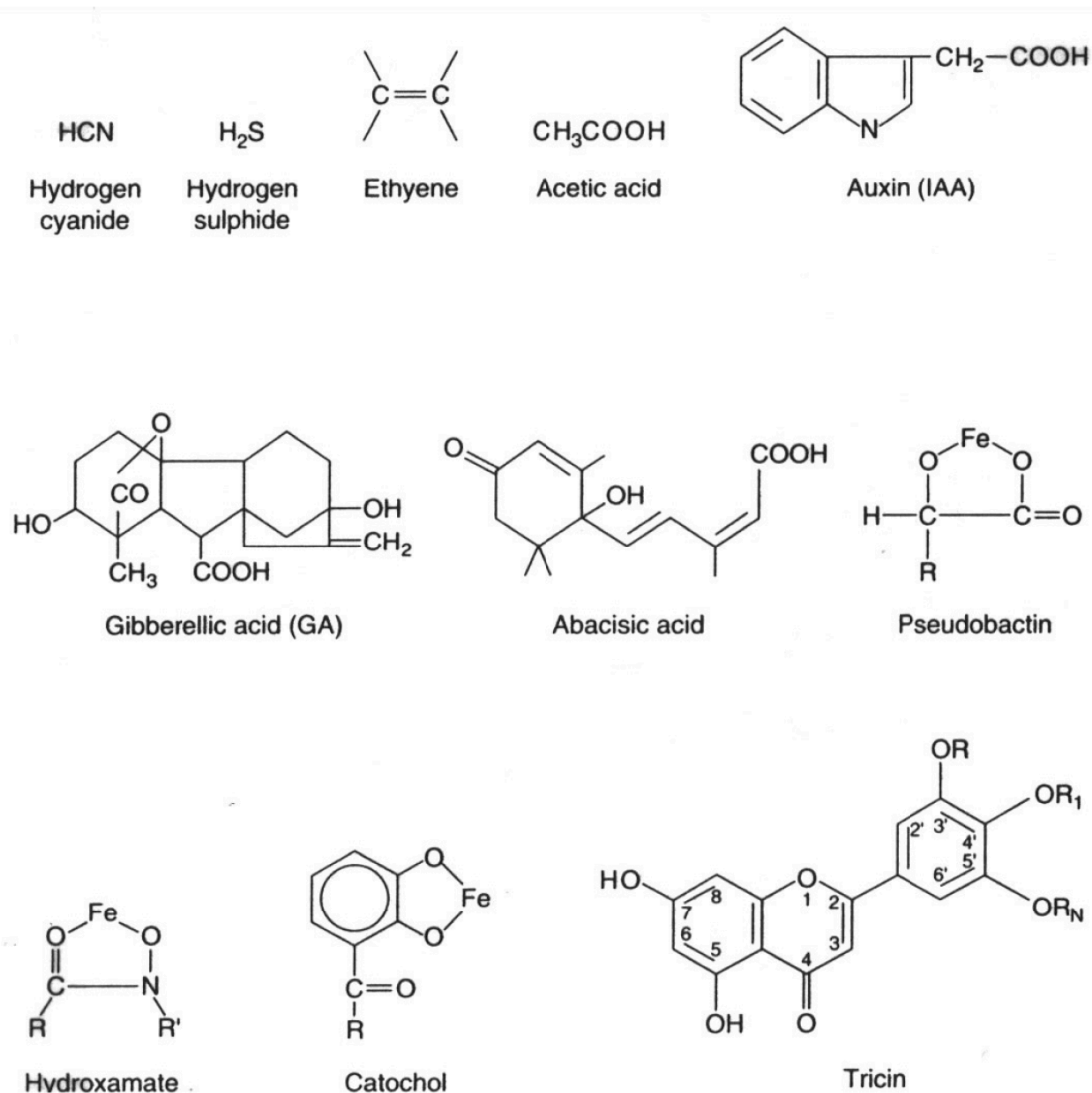
Water Uptake

Nutrient Uptake

- Nutrient depletion vs. constant flux
- pH shifts (NH_4^+ vs. NO_3^-)
- Extracellular enzymes



Composition of Exudates



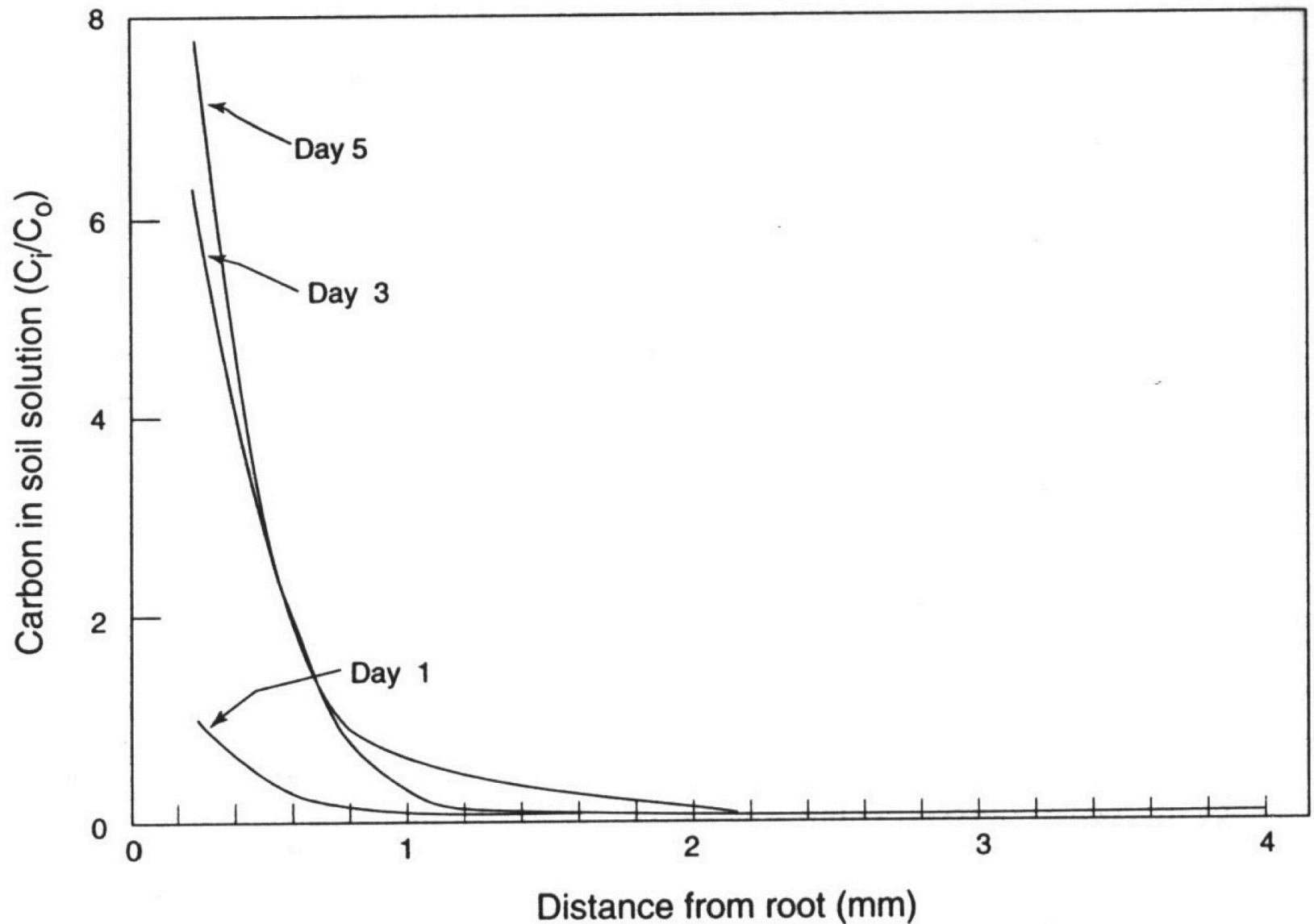
General compounds

- Sugars, amino acids, organic acids, etc.

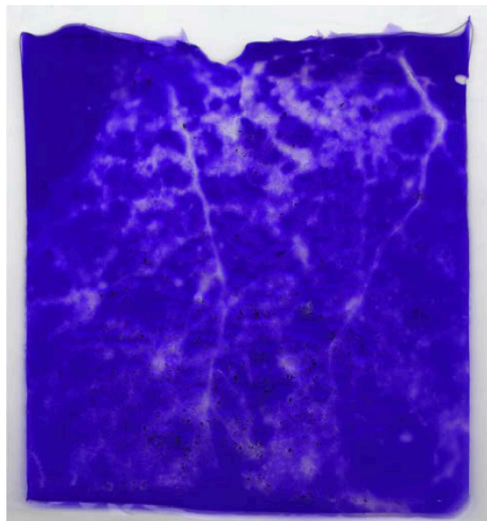
Specific compounds

- Plant hormones
- Siderophores
- Allelopathic compounds
- Symbiosis signals

Spatial Extent of Exudates



Other Rhizosphere Characteristics



Gelantine
(ng mm⁻²)

Protease activity
(ng mm⁻² h⁻¹)

568.18

0.0

455.55

1.82

272.73

9.09

109.09

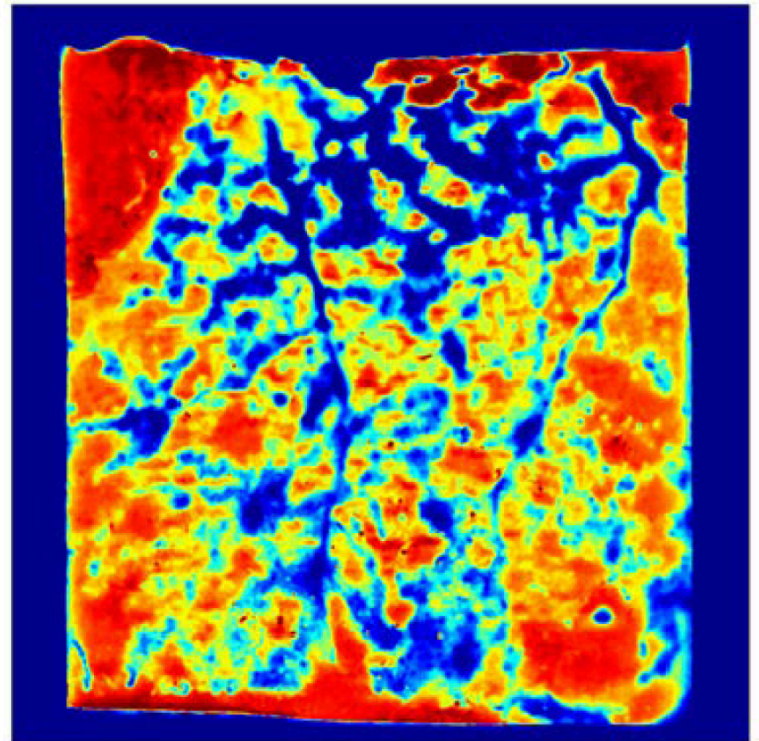
22.73

21.82

37.88

0.00

47.35



Rhizosphere Dynamics

