

Edexcel (B) Biology A-level

CP06 - Water potential of plant cells

Flashcards

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What is plasmolysis?



What is plasmolysis?

Where the protoplasm of the plant cell begins to shrink away from the cell wall.



What is incipient plasmolysis?



What is incipient plasmolysis?

Where the water potential of the cytoplasm is the same as the solution.

The point at which plasmolysis just begins to occur.

When 50% of cells in a tissue are plasmolysed.



Why are the plant cells left in the mineral salt solution for 20 minutes before observation?



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To allow time for osmosis to reach equilibrium.



Outline the procedure to this practical.



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1. Transfer a small set volume of each mineral salt solution into a watch glass. Place one of the sections of plant tissue into the watch glass and leave for 20 minutes.
2. Remove each section using forceps. Mount in a drop of the corresponding solution on a microscope slide and cover with a coverslip.
3. Observe 25 cells and make a note of how many are plasmolysed.

