



UNIT IV : PLANT PHYSIOLOGY

9. RESPIRATION IN PLANTS

10MQ+1 LAQ [1M+8 M=9M]

ROOT POINTS

- Respiration** provides energy to the plant body. It is done by the oxidation of food.
- Main contents of this chapter :** i) Breathing of plants ii) Glycolysis iii) Fermentation iv) Aerobic respiration v) Respiratory balance sheet vi) Amphibolic pathway vii) Respiratory quotient.
- The compounds that are oxidised during respiration are known as **respiratory substrates**.
- Glucose** is the favoured substrate for respiration.
- All the energy contained in a respiratory substrate does not release freely into the cell, but it is trapped as a chemical energy in the form of **ATP**.
- The **energy trapped** in ATP is utilised in various energy requirements of the organism.
- In plants respiration happens in two ways.
 - Gaseous exchange** through Stomata and Lenticels
 - Cellular respiration**
- Cellular respiration** is of two types (i) aerobic respiration (ii) anaerobic respiration.
- Respiration in the presence of oxygen is called **aerobic respiration**.
Ex: Glycolysis, Krebs's cycle.
- Respiration in the absence of oxygen is called **anaerobic respiration**. Ex: Fermentation
- Glycolysis:** [LAQ]
 - Glycolysis is the first step of **respiration** in all living organisms.
 - It occurs in cytoplasm of cells.
 - During Glycolysis, Glucose molecules break down to **release energy**.
 - Glycolysis is the **oxidation** of one glucose molecule to form 2 molecules of pyruvic acid.
- Krebs's Cycle:** [LAQ]
 - Krebs's cycle is a cycle of reactions used by all aerobic organisms to generate energy.
 - It takes place in mitochondria.
 - Acetyl coenzyme (CoA) is oxidised to form CO_2 and H_2O .
 - Also, ADP is converted into **energy-rich ATP**.
- Cytochromes are found in **crisetae of mitochondria**. [NEET-2015]
- In mitochondria, protons accumulate in the **intermembrane space**. [2011 PMT]
- Aerobic respiratory pathway is appropriately termed **amphibolic**. [2009 PMT]
- Respiratory Quotient (RQ)** Value of **Tripalmitin** is "0.7". [NEET-2019]
- In the conversion of glucose to glucose – 6 – phosphate, the first irreversible reaction of glycolysis, is catalysed by **Hexokinase** [NEET-2019]
- The number of substrate level phosphorylation in one turn of citric cycle is **one**. [NEET-2020]
- The complex II of mitochondrial electron transport chain is also known as **Succinate dehydrogenase** [NEET-2025]