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RESPIRATION IN PLANTS

Respiration is an energy releasing enzymatically controlled catabolic process which involves a step-wise oxidative breakdown of food substance inside living cell.



- Cellular respiration is the mechanism of breaking down of food materials within the cell to release energy for synthesis of ATP-

As Erwin, released during oxidation is not used directly but utilized in synthesis of ATP, which is broken down when energy is required. Therefore, ATP is called energy currency of cells.

a The process of respiration requires oxygen. In plants oxygen is taken in by stomata, lenticels and root hairs.

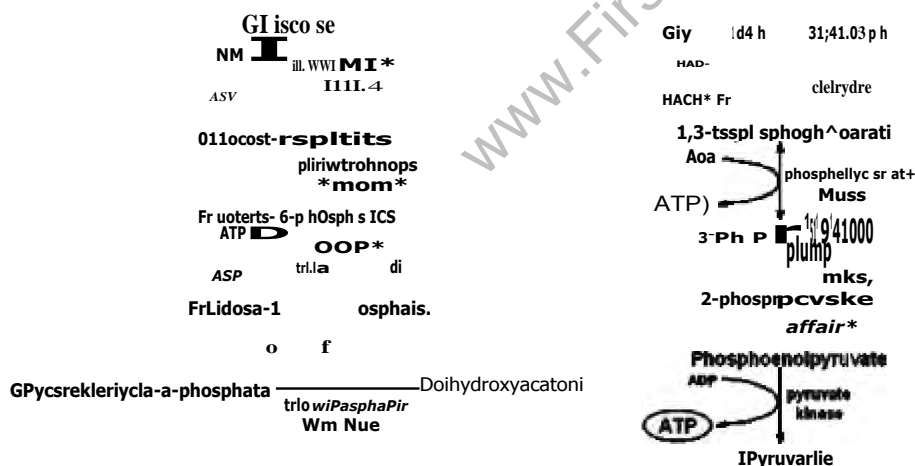
■ Respiratory Quotient is the ratio of the volume of carbon dioxide produced to the volume of oxygen consumed in respiration over a period of time. RQ is equal to one for carbohydrate and less than one for protein and peptones.

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Aerobic Respiration is an enzymatically controlled release of energy in a stepwise catabolic process of complete oxidation of organic food into carbon dioxide and water with oxygen acting as terminal oxidant.

Glycolysis

- The scheme of glycolysis is given by 'Gustav Embel Otto Meyerhof, and Parinas. It is also called 5 MIR pathway.
- Glycolysis is the partial oxidation of glucose or similar hexane sugar into two molecules of pyruvic acid through a series of enzyme mediated reaction releasing some ATP and NADH_2 . It occurs in cytoplasm.



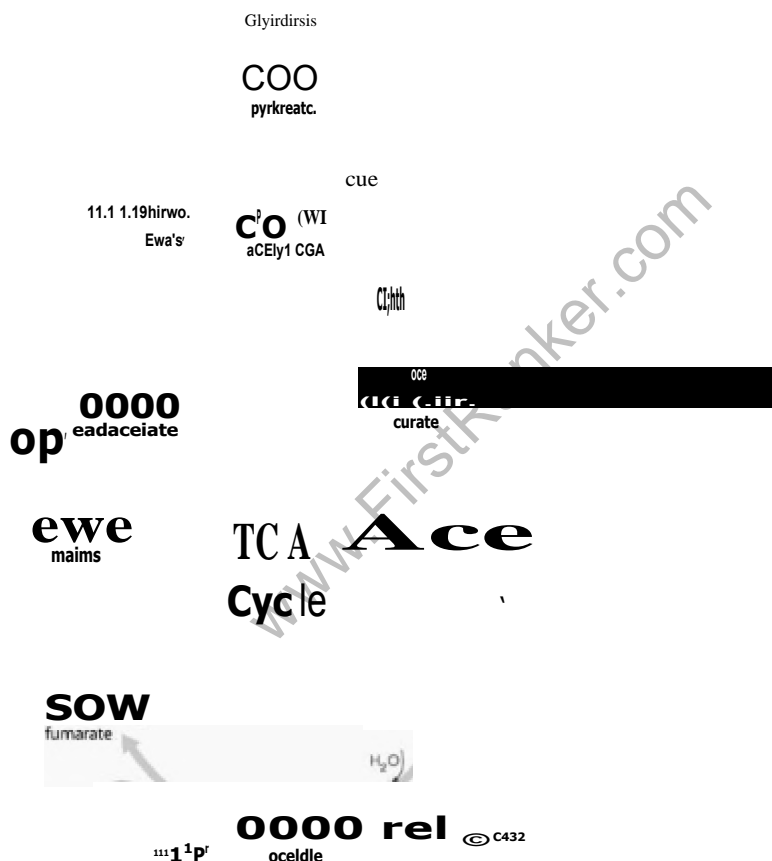
In alcoholic fermentation by yeast, pyruvic acid is converted to ethanol and CO_2 . The enzyme involved is pyruvic acid decarboxylase and alcohol dehydrogenase catalyze this reaction.

- In both lactic acid fermentation and alcoholic fermentation very less amount of energy is released.
- Yeasts poison themselves to death if concentration of alcohol reaches above 13%.

Oxidation of Pyruvate to Acetyl-CoA is done to produce CO_2 and NADH . The reaction catalyzed by pyruvate dehydrogenase involves the participation of several coenzymes including NAD^+ .

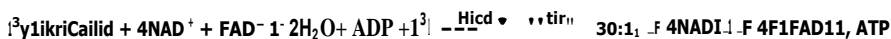
Pyruvate + NAD^+ → Acetyl-CoA + CO_2 + NADH + H^+

4. The Acetyl CoA enters a cyclic pathway called TC cycle or Krebs cycle.



Tricarboxylic Acid Cycle/Krebs Cycle

- ICA cycle was discovered by Hans Krebs in 1940. This cycle is called TCA cycle because initial product is citric acid.
- The two molecules of pyruvate are completely detached in Krebs cycle to form two molecules of ATP, ENADIA and 2FADH₂.



Terminal Oxidation is the name of oxidation found in aerobic respiration that occurs towards end of catabolic process and involves the passage of both electrons and protons of reduced coenzyme to oxygen to produce water.

Electron Transport Chain

The metabolic pathway through which the electron passes from one carrier to another inside the inner mitochondrial membrane is called ETC or mitochondrial respiratory chain.

* Electrons from FADH₂ produced during citric acid cycle are oxidized by FADH dehydrogenase and electrons are transferred to ubiquinone located within the inner membrane. Ubiquinol also receives electrons from NADH transferred to cytochrome c via cytochrome c complex.

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■ When the electrons pass from one carrier to another via electron transport chain, they produce ATP from ADP and inorganic phosphate. The number of ATP molecules synthesized depends upon electron donor.
 * Oxidation of one molecule of NADH yields 3 molecules of ATP, while oxidation of one molecule of FADH_2 produce two molecules of ATP.

Oxidative phosphorylation	Photophosphorylation
a) It occurs in respiration process.	a) It occurs in photosynthesis.
b) Energy of oxidation reduction is used for production of proton gradient required for phosphorylation.	b) Light energy is utilized for production of proton gradient for phosphorylation.

Amphibolic Pathway

- Glucose is the favored substrate for respiration. All carbohydrates are usually converted into glucose before utilized for respiration.
- Fats need to be broken down into glycerol and fatty acid, which is further broken down converted into Acetyl CoA and enter the respiratory pathway.
- Proteins are broken into amino acids and further enter into Krebs cycle.
- Breaking down process within an organism is called catabolism and synthesis process is called anabolism. So, respiration is an Amphibolic pathway.