

Girdling experiment :

Girdling, also called ring-barking is the complete removal of a strip of bark (consisting of cork cambium or "phellogen", phloem, cambium and sometimes going into the xylem) from around the entire circumference of either a branch or trunk of a woody plant.

Girdling results in the death of the area above the girdle over time. A branch completely girdled will fail and when the main trunk of a tree is girdled, the entire tree will die, if it cannot regrow from above to bridge the wound.

Experiment: first performed by Hartig 1837()

To identify the tissues through which food is transported.

On the trunk tree a ring of bark upto a depth of the phloem layer is removed

The portion of bark above the ring on the stem swell after a few weeks.

This shows that the phloem tissue is responsible for the translocation of food.

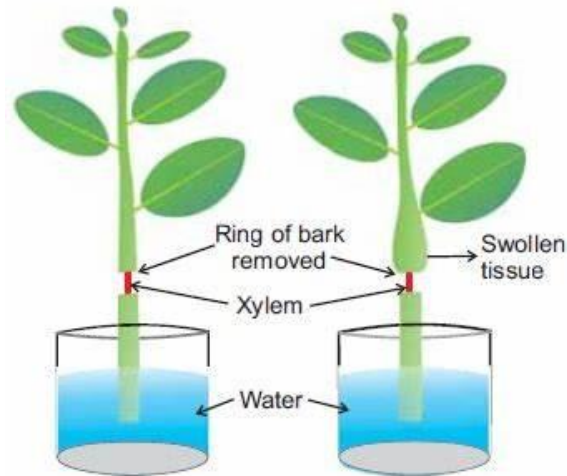


Figure 11.20: Ringing experiment

Human practices of girdling including forestry, horticulture, and vandalism. Foresters use the practice of girdling to thin forests.

Girdling is also used as a technique to force a fruit-bearing plant to bear larger fruit.

references:

<https://en.Wikipedia.org>