

The term target cell, first conceived in animal biology, is generally taken to mean a cell that has a pre-determined competence to respond in a defined way to a specific hormone signal. In this volume, the authors present the theory that every plant cell is a target cell for one or more of the plant hormones or other regulatory signals. The different types of cells seen in a mature plant arise as a result of selective responses of meristematic cells to chemical inputs. In this context, the authors provide an overview of plant signals as well as evidence for both short- and long-distance cell-to-cell communication. An interpretation of the target cell concept at the biochemical and molecular levels is then presented using a wide range of examples. This volume will serve as a valuable reference for those working in the field of plant developmental biology.

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