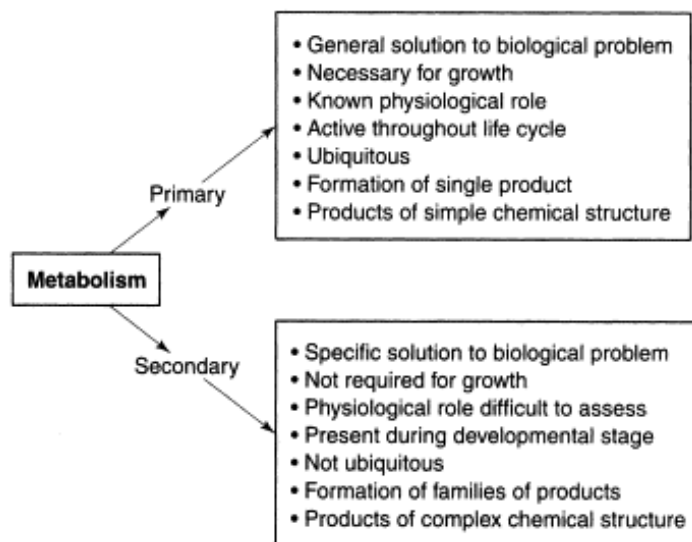


## PLANT METABOLISM – KEY ACTIONS AND TERMS

### Role and function of primary and secondary metabolites:



#### • Primary metabolite

- Primary metabolites – which include carbohydrates, lipids, proteins and nucleic acids – are essential for growth and development.
- They are universally present in all plants as pivotal components of metabolic pathways. They include energy sources like sucrose and structural elements like cellulose.

#### • Secondary metabolite

- Secondary metabolites – which include alkaloids, terpenoids and phenolics – are not essential for survival, but play critical roles in plant interactions with their environment.
- They are specialised in defense against herbivores and pathogens. They have unique physiological effects on other organisms, including humans.

### Additional terms:

#### • GLV

- Green leaf volatile.

#### • Terpene/terpenoid

- Major biosynthetic building block.

#### • VOC

- Volatile organic compound.