

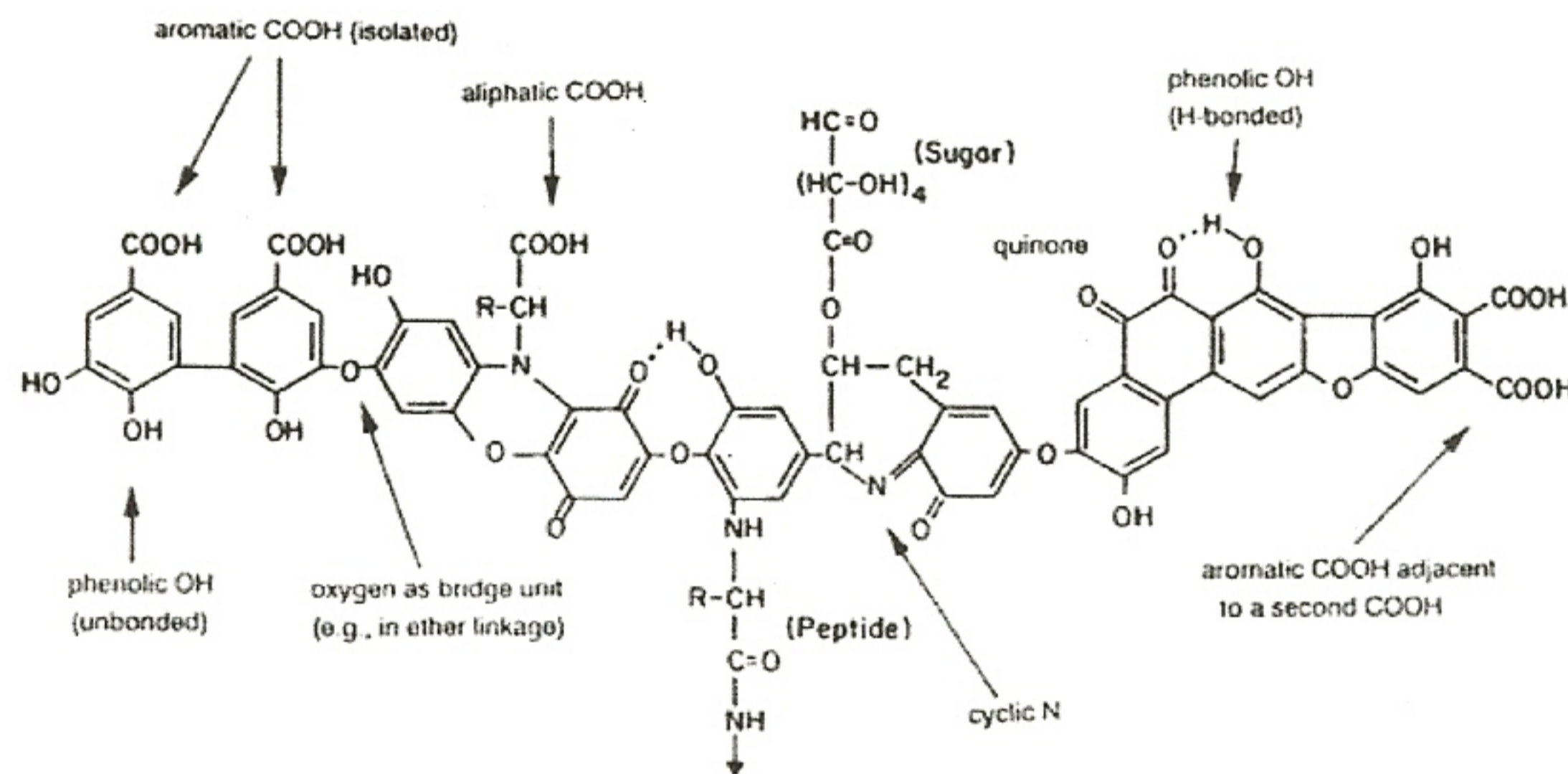
BIOGREEN™

'Saves water naturally'

What are HUMIC ACIDS?

Humic acids are the water-soluble organic acids naturally present in humus (fully-decomposed soil organic matter). Humic acids are a large family of organic compounds with similar characteristics. They are defined by the process through which they are isolated, rather than by a particular chemical structure – operationally, humic acids are the materials that can be extracted from humus by alkali, but are insoluble in acids.

Humic acids are complex polymers that carry a wide variety of chemical structures on the surface of the molecule. These structures enable humic acids to bind water, salts, trace elements and nutrients, some of which become the food for a thriving community of beneficial microbes living in the humus or peat.



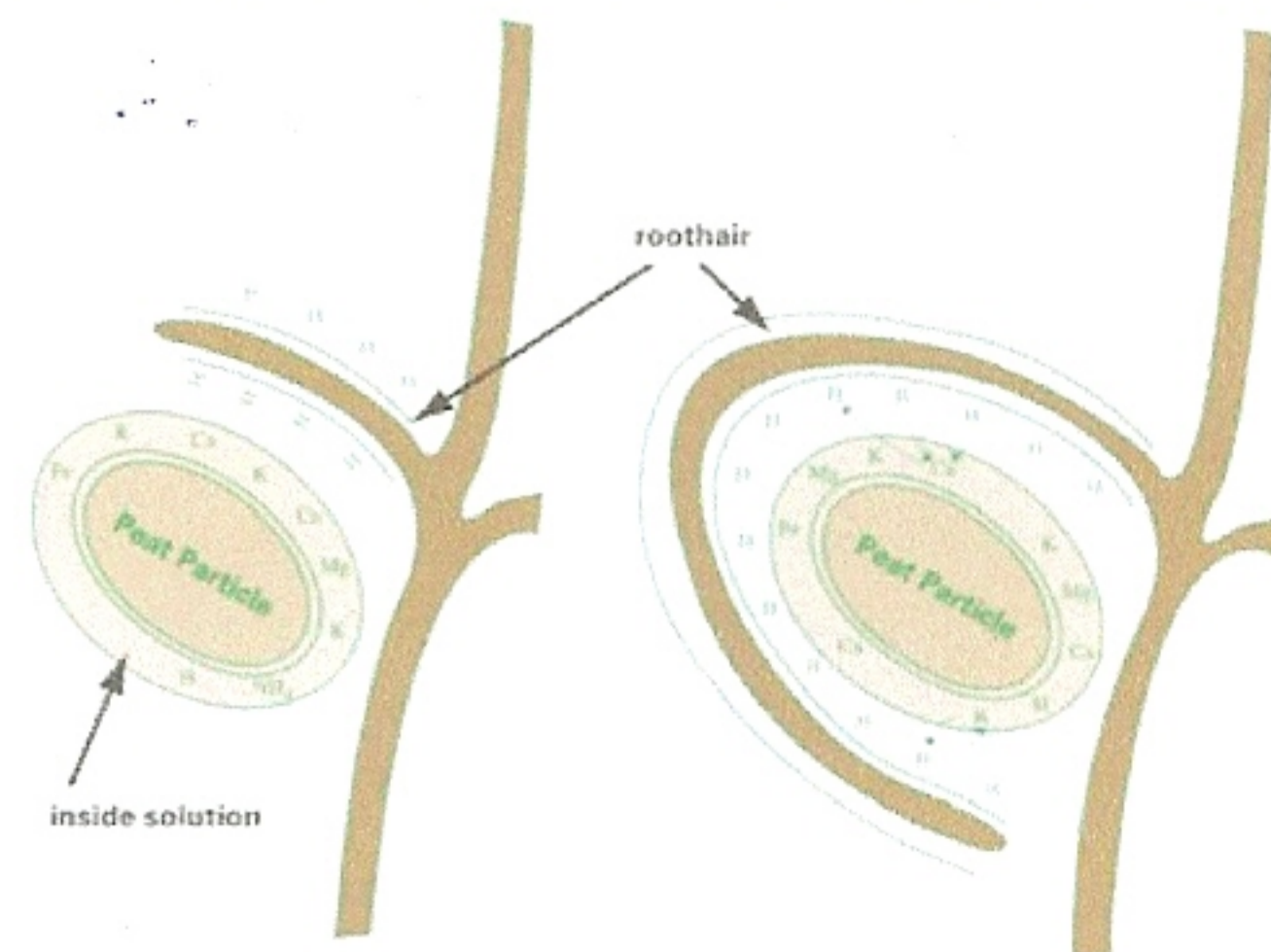
Together, the various chemical structures and the microbes stimulate root formation and growth in plants. As they develop, roots growing in the presence of humic acids are provided not only with on-going stimulus, but also with all the micronutrients that are so essential for vigorous growth of the plant.

Because they are not very soluble at acidic and near-neutral pH, humic acids are only slowly lost from soil or potting mixes. As a result, materials that contain high levels of humic acids, such as **Biogreen™** peat, provide a stable, long-term stimulus to root growth and plant and crop development.



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Hydrogen ions around the plant root hairs can be exchanged for cations and other nutrients held by the humic acids in the peat particle