

LENScience Senior Biology Seminar Series

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Seminar 4—Challenges

Thanks to those schools that contributed ideas to the challenge page in seminar 4.

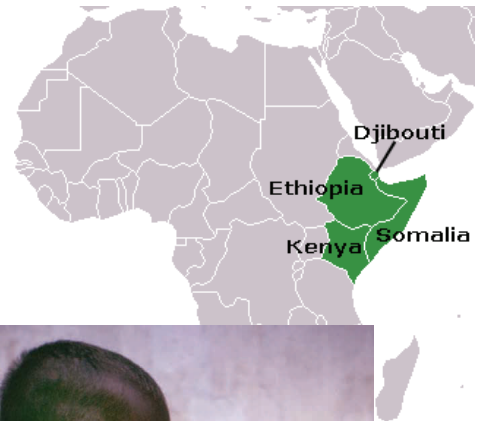
Tangaroa College	1st up with a good answer to question 1 following on from the excellent question you put to the seminar. Thanks!
Mt Maunganui College	Good team answer to challenge 2. Liked the fact that you clearly understood it was variation amongst populations that are still the same species.
Samuel Marsden College	Well done— the only school to contribute answers to ALL the challenges
Onehunga High School	Good to see different people from your school attacking different questions.
Wellington Girls' College	A clear answer that showed you understood all the issues involved.
Kristen School	Good to see you back with another answer. We liked the fact that you have again shown us that you are reading around the topic and bringing background information into your answers.
Southland Girls' High School	1st school to tackle the hardest challenge—thanks for getting everyone going on challenge 4. We hope that the questions we asked back got you thinking. Your answer clearly got other groups thinking about the challenge.
Horowhenua College	BEST answer to challenge 4 including excellent questions back for Crid.

Take up the challenge!

Seminar 5—How do plants grow?



Image Courtesy: HortResearch



Next time you crunch into an apple or stomp on yet another rotting feijoa in your garden, think about the fact that 17 million people in the Horn of Africa will need emergency food aid this year. And it's not a new issue—the child in the picture on the right has Kwashiorkor as a result of malnutrition. The photo is from 1960 but the same images are sadly seen today.

New Zealand is a very fertile land where our BIOCAPACITY is incredibly high. Not so everywhere!

Scientific research that aims to understand HOW plants grow is vital in enabling a more economic food supply for the world with less environmental impact.

In your Year 13 programme you have learnt about the role of Auxins in plant growth. It is one of those topics where you might have asked BUT HOW, and been frustrated with the answer—WE DON'T KNOW EXACTLY HOW. **In fact scientists have been trying to work out how auxins work for over 100 years!**

Seminar 5 will explore research being conducted in New Zealand that is contributing to the HOW and will in time contribute to a more economic and sustainable food supply.



African child with Kwashiorkor, 1960

Image courtesy Dr Lyle Conrad
Public Health Image Library

