

Chapter 9

Use With Section 2

ENRICHMENT

● Plant Responses

Commercial Use of Plant Hormones

One way growers make sure that the produce you buy in the store looks perfect is to treat it with natural or synthetic plant hormones. Some methods involve the use of chemicals that cause the plant to produce the hormone. Many of the foods we eat have been treated before they get to the grocery shelves.

Use references to find out more about the use of these substances and fill in the table below.

Hormone	Effect
	produces larger grapes; stalk on each cluster lengthens
	promotes growth of plants from root cuttings
	ripens bananas
	prevents fruit from falling off trees before harvest
	can be used as weedkiller, promotes uncontrolled growth

Answer the following questions.

1. Why are hormones used? _____

2. What is an easy way to speed up the ripening of store-bought fruit? _____

