

Legend for Plate 1

FIGURE 1 "Absorption-prints" made by placing moist filter-paper in contact with the cut surfaces of three bananas in the green (G), ripe (R) and very ripe (V R) conditions. The decrease in the amount of "free" tannin is indicated by the unstained condition of the filter-paper. The always greater amount of free tannin in the peel is also indicated. *d/*

FIGURE 2 The corresponding cut surfaces, after treatment with nitrous ether, to which the tannin reacts by becoming dark brown. It is thus seen that, in spite of ripeness, the amount of tannin remains constant. It thus appears that non-astringency is due to the combining of the tannin with another substance. A piece of the pulp taken from the surface just beneath the peel is also shown.

FIGURE 3 Loosened pulp cells with considerable starch within them, taken from a green fruit.

FIGURE 4 Similar cells taken from a ripe fruit. There is a small amount of starch still present in some cells.