

CONSTITUTIVE STRUCTURAL DEFENSE

- They are the first line of the host defense

1. Wax layers

2. Cuticle thickness (e.g. in resistant flax, *Melampsora lini*)

3. **Structure of cell walls:** The thickness and toughness of the outer wall of epidermal cells are apparently important factors in the resistance of some plants to certain pathogens.

4. Structure of natural openings

- Size of stomata (e.g. small stomata in resistant citrus to *Xanthomonas campestris*).
- Location and shape, opening & closing of stomata (e.g. resistant wheat to rusts).

5. Hairs (trichomes)

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