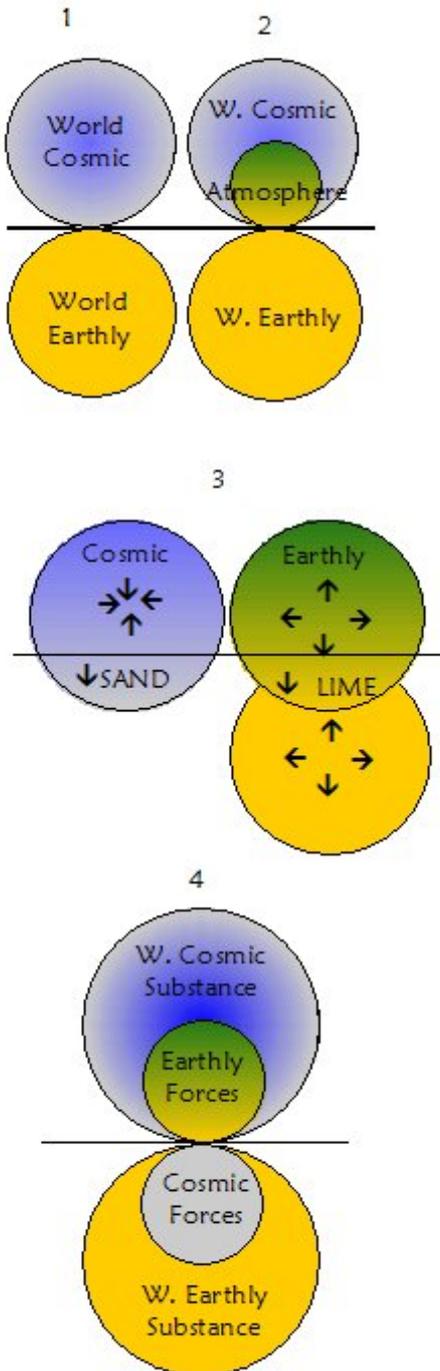


## From Lecture One to Lecture Two



In Lecture Two we are presented with a deeper interpretation of the Calcium and Silica processes, than outlined in Lecture One. Sadly, in lecture 2, there is a significant confusion created, when RS describes the Cosmic and Earthly processes, in the opposite manner to that indicated in Lecture one.

In lecture One we have the World Cosmic and World Earthly realms outlined, as we would expect. The World Cosmic above and the World Earthly below. (1) In lecture one we can take it that we are presented with the physical reality of life on Earth, as RS talks predominately about the effects of the Siliceous and Calcium substances and their relationship to the planets and plants.

In lecture two though RS talks about these activities direction of working in the opposite manner. The Cosmic activity is described as coming from the Earth and a Earthly activity as coming from above the Earth, in fact from the Atmosphere. So how did he get there?

In Lecture Two, RS is talking in greater detail about the growth processes occurring inside the plant, and so we must trace, quickly, the journey of how life came into being. Initially there was only the physical Earth and the surrounding Cosmos. (1) Eventually, out of the coming together of the four elements of Warmth, Air, Water and the salts of the Earth, Blue Green Algae appeared near the surface of the oceans. For millions of years this algae released free Oxygen into the Earth's environment, until it eventually created the atmosphere the Earth has today. The evolution of life on Earth is in direct relationship to the development of this atmosphere.

The Atmosphere is made up predominately of the Elements of Nitrogen and Oxygen while there are small amounts of Hydrogen and Carbon distributed throughout as well. RS describes these elements as the carries of the spiritual activities into matter. Hydrogen carries the Spirit, Nitrogen the Astral, Oxygen the Etheric and Carbon is the basis of physical life forms. Due to the presence of Oxygen and Carbon, we now have a environment necessary for life to be able to exist. It is this releasing of Oxygen into the atmosphere that carries the Earthly activity and the life bearing etheric activities into the atmosphere. It is this etheric activity carried in the atmosphere that RS is particularly concerned with in lecture 2 and what he is referring to as the Earthly aspect of the atmosphere. (2) This the World Etheric and works as forces back upon the plant.

In lecture 2 RS also tells of how the World Cosmic activity is first drawn into the Earth by the presence of Siliceous Sand, and then due to the presence of Clay, how this Cosmic process can then radiate back upwards, as forces, through the plant. Lime, a substance that has also accumulated in the Earth through deposits of life forms, namely from seashell and later bones, is the medium by which this atmospheric 'Earthly Etheric' is sucked back into the physical Earth, thus allowing biological activity to occur in the Earth. (3)

Lecture two primarily discusses how these two 'Force' activities work upon plant growth, however there is also references to the 'Substance' activities as well, providing a fourfold picture of plant growth, we are challenged to work with as the basis of Biodynamic practice. We have to keep in mind while reading this lecture, that the 'Force' processes are taking place within the broader reality of the World Cosmic and World Earthly realms. This perspective is revisited in more practical ways in lecture 6 and then again later in Lecture 8.