

一个西瓜叶色黄化突变体的生理特性分析

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摘要:【目的】分析西瓜叶色黄化突变体的生理特性,为叶色标记的研究和应用提供理论参考。【方法】将西瓜叶色黄化突变体(YL)与正常绿叶西瓜(ZK)的生理特征进行比较,分析其叶片超微结构,光合色素的含量,光合参数,抗氧化酶活性及丙二醛含量。【结果】西瓜叶色黄化突变体YL的叶绿体超微结构基粒片层数少,与正常绿叶西瓜ZK相比叶绿体发育不完全,YL叶片叶绿素a、叶绿素b、类胡萝卜素含量平均比ZK低80.95%、83.87%、69.87%;YL的净光合速率和气孔导度显著低于正常绿叶植株,胞间CO₂浓度以及蒸腾速率低于ZK但差异不显著。YL的抗氧化酶含量低于正常绿叶植株,而伸蔓期丙二醛含量为0.56 μmol·L⁻¹,显著高于ZK。【结论】光合色素的减少是导致叶色黄化的主要原因;而叶绿体发育不完全,影响植株捕光能力,致使净光合速率下降,植株代谢能力减弱。

关键词:西瓜;叶色黄化突变体;叶绿体超微结构;光合特性;抗氧化酶活性;MDA含量

中图分类号:S651

文献标志码:A

文章编号:1009-9980(2020)04-0565-09

Physiological characteristic analysis of a leaf-yellowing mutant in water-melon

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Abstract:【Objective】Leaf color mutant, also known as chlorophyll deficiency mutation, directly or indirectly affects the synthesis and degradation of chlorophyll. In basic research, leaf color mutants are ideal materials for studying on a series of physiological metabolic processes such as photosynthesis, photomorphogenesis, hormone physiology and disease resistance mechanism of plants; in breeding, leaf color variation can be used as a marker characteristic to simplify the breeding and cross production of improved varieties. This experiment material originates from a natural mutation. The leaf turns yellow from cotyledon stage and can bear fruit normally. Therefore, the study on its leaf structure, photosynthesis and physiological characteristics can provide theoretical reference for releasing the mutation mechanism of leaf color mutation and its application in leaf color marker breeding.【Methods】The physiological characteristics of YL were studied with a leaf-yellow mutant of watermelon. The leaf color during the whole growing period was yellow. ZK is the parent material of a cultivated species with stable characteristics. The physiological indexes were measured according to three key stages: extending stage, flowering stage and mature stage. The determination time of Extending stage, Flowering stage and mature stage were 15 days, 25 days and 50 days after planting, respectively. The leaf ultrastructure, photosynthetic pigment content, photosynthetic parameters, antioxidant enzyme activity and MDA content were analyzed. The ultrastructure of leaves was observed and photographed by means of sectioning under a transmission electron microscope. The photosynthetic parameters were measured by CIRAS-3

收稿日期:2019-11-05 接受日期:2019-12-19

基金项目:国家现代农业产业技术体系(CARS-25);郑州市重大科技专项(188PCXZX802);中国农业科学院基本科研业务费专项(Y2018YJ15, Y2019XK16-03);中国农业科学院科技创新工程(CAAS-ASTIP-2018-ZFRI);国家重点研发计划(2018YFD0201310)

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(USA), and the parameters were adjusted according to the measurement environment. The measurement was carried out at 9:00–11:00 a.m. when the weather was fine. The contents of photosynthetic pigment and MDA as well as antioxidant enzyme activity were completed according to the guidance of plant physiological experiment. **【Results】**Compared with ZK, the chloroplast of YL developed incompletely, which showed that the number of grana thylakoids in the chloroplast was few, the number of grana lamellae in the grana thylakoid was less, the arrangement was disordered and the cell metabolism was weak. The cells of ZK were rich in chloroplasts, with clear grana structure, dense matrix, and developed thylakoid membrane system with large number of grana and orderly arrangement. The time, position and stage of the materials were the same. Starch grains accumulated more in chloroplast, but not in the yellow leaf mutant. The contents of chlorophyll a, chlorophyll b and carotenoid in the leaves of YL were 80.95%, 83.87% and 69.87% lower than those of ZK on average. The total chlorophyll content in the three periods of ZK was 7.35, 4.26 and 5.45 times higher than that of YL, respectively. According to the difference in photosynthetic pigment ratio of leaf color mutants, predecessors can be divided into different mutation types. One was that the mutant contained no chlorophyll b or the chlorophyll a/b value was close to or more than 20, the other was between 6-10. In this study, the chlorophyll a/b was 6.03, 6.38 and 3.18, respectively, which changed with the growth period. So the mutant belonged to the second type of mutation, probably being the total chlorophyll deletion type. The assimilation rate, stomatal conductance and transpiration rate of the leaves near the top and middle of YL were higher than those of the leaves near the base, and each index of the leaves in the middle was the highest, among which the assimilation rate was 1.04 times and 1.28 times of the leaves near the top and the base, respectively. The stomatal conductance and transpiration rate of the leaves near the top and middle of ZK were higher than those of the leaves near the base. In addition to the CAT activity of the two kinds of materials at mature stage, the SOD, POD and CAT activities of the mutants were lower than that of the green plants, among which there was a big difference in the extending stage. At the flowering stage, the average SOD content of YL mutant was $29.61 \text{ U} \cdot \text{g}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$. The POD activity of YL mutant was lower than that of ZK, about 81.3% of ZK. The change of antioxidant enzyme content indicated that the YL had certain adaptability to the environment, but its overall growth, resistance to adversity and diseases, insects and pests were weaker than the normal plants, and its metabolism was disordered in the mature stage. The content of MDA was $0.56 \mu\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$, which was significantly higher than that of ZK, but there was no obvious trend in the other two stages. **【Conclusion】**The decrease of photosynthetic pigment was the main cause of yellow leaf color. This experiment material may belong to the mutation type of total chlorophyll and chlorophyll b synthesis reduction. However, the incomplete development of chloroplast affected the light harvesting ability of plants, resulting in the decrease of net photosynthetic rate and metabolism ability of plants. These results could provide basic information for elucidating the mechanism of watermelon leaf yellowing.

Key words: Watermelon; Yellow leaf mutant; Ultrastructure of chloroplast; Photosynthesis; Antioxidant enzyme activity; MDA content

植物约 95%干物质是在光合作用过程中利用光能合成的,以提高光合效率为目标的植物光合基因研究,是植物基因工程的重要领域之一。叶色突变又称叶绿素缺陷突变,突变基因直接或间接地影响叶绿素的合成和降解,因此叶色突变体是研究植

物光合作用原理的优良资源材料^[1]。

目前国内外研究者在小麦、水稻、玉米、油菜、黄瓜、番茄、胡萝卜、棉花、花生、大豆、西瓜等许多植株群体中均发现叶色的突变株^[2]。其中自然变异大多为核隐性基因控制,并且突变株在生长势、株

高、产量、分蘖数等农艺性状方面均劣于野生型。随着植物生理学、功能基因组学相关研究的不断深入,叶色突变渐渐受到重视。在育种工作中,叶色变异可作为标记性状,简化良种繁育和杂交生产^[3-4];在基础研究中,叶色突变体是研究植物光合作用^[5]、光形态建成^[6-7]、激素生理以及抗病机制等生理代谢过程的理想材料^[8-9];同时可利用此突变体分析鉴定基因功能,了解基因间互作^[1]。

目前水稻叶色突变的研究比较深入,涉及的突变类型也较为丰富。迄今,已经发现 190 多份叶色突变材料,其中鉴定出的相关基因至少有 145 个,已被成功克隆的基因至少有 44 个^[10]。水稻叶色黄化或者黄绿突变基因有 30 个左右,仅在水稻 3 号染色体上就已鉴定到黄化突变基因十余个,例如 *Chl1*、*Ygl98*、*Ygl3*、*OsDVR*、*Chl12(t)*、*Ygl5*、*Ygl7*、*Pyl-v*、*OsCHLH*、*XWS*^[11]。

葫芦科作物中,黄瓜叶色突变的类型以及相关研究较多,例如黄瓜已发现 *v*、*v-1*(淡绿色)、*yc-1*、*yc-2*(黄子叶)、*yp*(黄绿)、*gc*、*cd*、*ls*(致死)等叶色突变类型^[12]。黄瓜叶色黄化突变体 CMCC,该突变来源于 EMS 诱变,其为光敏型突变并且能正常结实。研究者通过测量生理方面指标,进行基因的粗定位和精细定位, qRT-PCR 验证候选基因的表达量。研究表明,该候选基因 *Csa4G637110* 在突变体以及野生型中表达存在明显差异,该基因编码类锌指蛋白,可能参与了黄瓜叶绿体的发育或叶绿素的合成^[13]。甜瓜的叶色突变体研究主要以黄绿突变体 9388-1 及其杂交后代为材料,目前已分析其理化特性以及蛋白表达差异,结果显示该突变体通过多种途径改变生理功能,从而维持正常的光合作用与能量代谢^[14-15]。

西瓜 [*Citrullus lanatus* (Thunb.) Matsum. et Nakai] 上对于叶色突变体的研究尚不深入,且对于全生育期叶色黄化突变体的研究较少。因此,本研究将西瓜叶色黄化突变体材料和正常绿叶材料生理特性进行对比研究,以期揭示西瓜叶片黄化突变体的发生原理及为其应用提供依据。

1 材料和方法

1.1 材料

叶色黄化突变材料来源于西甜瓜种质资源中期库,绿叶材料由郑州果树研究所二倍体西瓜课题

组提供。2019 年 3 月将材料种植于中国农业科学院新乡综合试验基地的塑料大棚内,行距 1.5 m,株距 0.4 m,三至四叶期定苗,双蔓整枝,常规管理。

1.2 主要测定指标与方法

1.2.1 叶绿体超微结构 取幼苗期的叶色黄化突变材料以及绿叶材料嫩叶,用 4% 戊二醛(以 pH 7.2 的磷酸缓冲液配置)4 ℃ 过夜固定,磷酸缓冲液冲洗 3 次,1% 铁酸固定 1 h,磷酸缓冲液冲洗 3 次,用 30%、50%、70%、80%、95%、100% 的乙醇和丙酮逐级脱水 5 min,最后用树脂包埋,切片后用醋酸铀染色,透射电镜下观察^[15]。

1.2.2 光合色素含量 分别取叶色黄化突变材料和绿叶材料的不同生育期(伸蔓期,开花期,成熟期)叶片,测定其叶绿素含量,3 次重复,取平均值。测定方法参照李合生^[17],用 UV-1800 紫外分光光度计进行测定,含量以 mg·g⁻¹ 表示。计算公式如下:

$$C(\text{Chl.a})=12.1 \times OD_{663}-2.81 \times OD_{646}$$

$$C(\text{Chl.b})=20.13 \times OD_{646}-5.03 \times OD_{663}$$

$$C(\text{caro})=[1\ 000 \times OD_{470}-3.27 \times C(\text{Chl.a})-104 \times C(\text{Chl.b})]/229$$

$$C(\text{Chl})=C(\text{Chl.a})+C(\text{Chl.b})$$

$$\text{色素含量}=C(\text{Chl}) \times 0.025/0.2$$

1.2.3 光合指标 采用美国 CIRAS-3 便携式光合作用测量仪,在晴朗天气的 9:00—11:00,选择处于成熟期的叶色黄化突变材料,绿叶材料的相同叶位的叶片(双蔓整枝,随机选取一条蔓自顶芽往下数第 5、10、15 枚叶片)。3 次重复,取平均值。

1.2.4 氧化酶活性及 MDA 含量 分别取叶色黄化突变材料和绿叶材料的不同生育期叶片,测量方法参照陈建勋等^[18]的方法。SOD 测量步骤:3 mL 反应体系中含 1.5 mL 50 mmol·L⁻¹ pH 7.8 的磷酸缓冲液,0.3 mL 130 mmol·L⁻¹ 甲硫氨酸,0.3 mL 750 mmol·L⁻¹ 氯化硝基氮蓝四唑(NBT),0.3 mL 100 μmol·L⁻¹ EDTA-Na₂,0.3 mL 20 μmol·L⁻¹ 核黄素,0.25 mL H₂O₂,最后加入 0.05 mL 酶液摇匀,在日光下反应 30 min,测定 560 nm 处的吸光度值。SOD 活性单位以抑制 NBT 光化学还原的 50% 为 1 个酶活性单位表示。

POD 测量步骤:3 mL 反应混合液中含 0.3% 的 H₂O₂ 1 mL,0.2% 愈创木酚 0.95 mL,50 mmol·L⁻¹ pH 7.0 的磷酸缓冲液 1 mL,酶液 0.05 mL 启动反应,记录 1 min 内 470 nm 下光吸收值的变化,POD 活性

单位以每分钟光密度增加 0.01 定义为 1 个活力单位。

CAT 测量步骤:3 mL 反应混合液中含 0.3% 的 H₂O₂ 1 mL, H₂O 1.95 mL, 最后加入 0.05 mL 启动反应, 记录 3 min 内 240 nm 下光吸收值的变化, CAT 活力单位以每分钟光密度减少 0.01 定义为 1 个活力单位。

酶活单位以 U·g⁻¹·min⁻¹ 表示。

MDA 测量步骤:称取 0.5 g 新鲜叶片, 加入 2 mL 5% 三氯乙酸(trichloroacetic, TCA)研磨匀浆, 在 3 000 r·min⁻¹ 离心 10 min, 取上清液 2 mL(对照用 2 mL 蒸馏水), 再加入 3 mL 0.5% 的硫代巴比妥酸(thiobarbituric acid, TBA), 混匀后在沸水浴中反应 30 min, 迅速冷却后离心, 取上清液分别于 532、600、450 nm 波长下测定 OD 值。MDA 含量用如下公式计算:

$$c(MDA)/(\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}) = 6.46 \times (\text{OD}_{532} - \text{OD}_{600}) - 0.56 \times \text{OD}_{450}$$

1.3 数据分析

利用 SPSS 19.0 进行差异显著性分析(LSD), Excel 2013 进行数据处理及图表制作。

2 结果与分析

2.1 材料表型及叶绿体超微结构分析

叶色黄化突变材料自种子萌发后, 子叶期即表现为黄化叶(图 1-a), 该突变为非致死突变, 且该黄化性状能稳定遗传。该黄化突变性状不随环境变化而恢复绿色, 该突变体可以正常结实, 植株正常并无矮化现象。图 1-a、b、c 分别为两类材料子叶、功能叶、植株、果实对比。

利用透射电镜(TEM)观察发现, 绿叶材料 ZK 的细胞中叶绿体体积较大, 基粒结构清晰, 基质浓厚, 类囊体膜系统发达, 基粒的数目多, 排列整齐(图 2-a、c)。而黄化突变体 YL 叶片中叶绿体体积较小, 叶绿体中基粒类囊体数目少, 且基粒类囊体中的基粒片层数也较少(如图 2-b、d)。取材时间、部位及苗龄一致, 绿叶材料中淀粉粒在叶绿体中积累较多(图 2-a、c), 而黄化突变材料中淀粉粒不明显(如图 2-b、d)。

2.2 光合色素含量

由图 3 可知, 西瓜叶色黄化突变体 YL 的叶绿素 a、叶绿素 b、总叶绿素和类胡萝卜素含量在不同



a. 子叶、功能叶;b. 整个植株;c. 果实。
a. Cotyledon, functional leaf; b. Plants; c. Fruit.

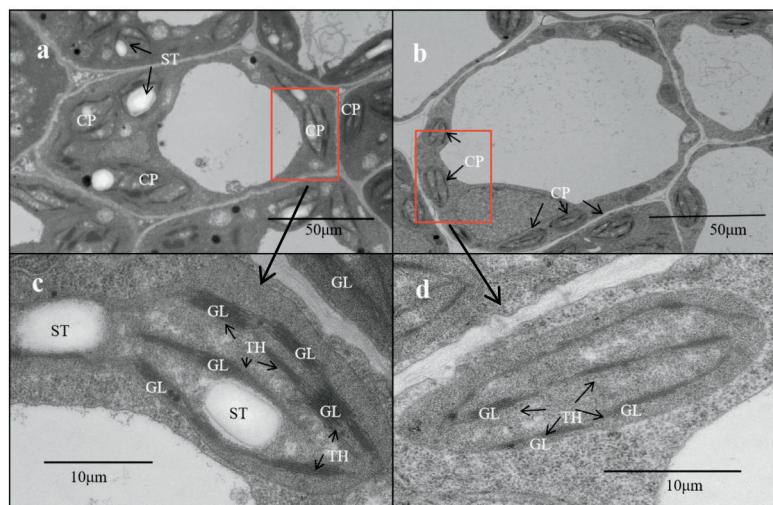
图 1 两种材料对比

Fig. 1 Comparison of two materials

时期均显著低于同期绿叶材料 ZK, 在伸蔓期, 开花期, 成熟期, 叶绿素 a 含量 YL 平均比 ZK 低 80.95%; 叶绿素 b 平均低 83.87%; 类胡萝卜素平均低 69.87%; ZK 三个时期的总绿素含量分别是 YL 的 7.35、4.26、5.45 倍。YL 在伸蔓期、开花期、成熟期叶绿素 a/b 值分别是 6.03、6.38、3.18。

2.3 突变体叶片光合作用参数分析

YL 的净光合速率和气孔导度显著低于正常绿

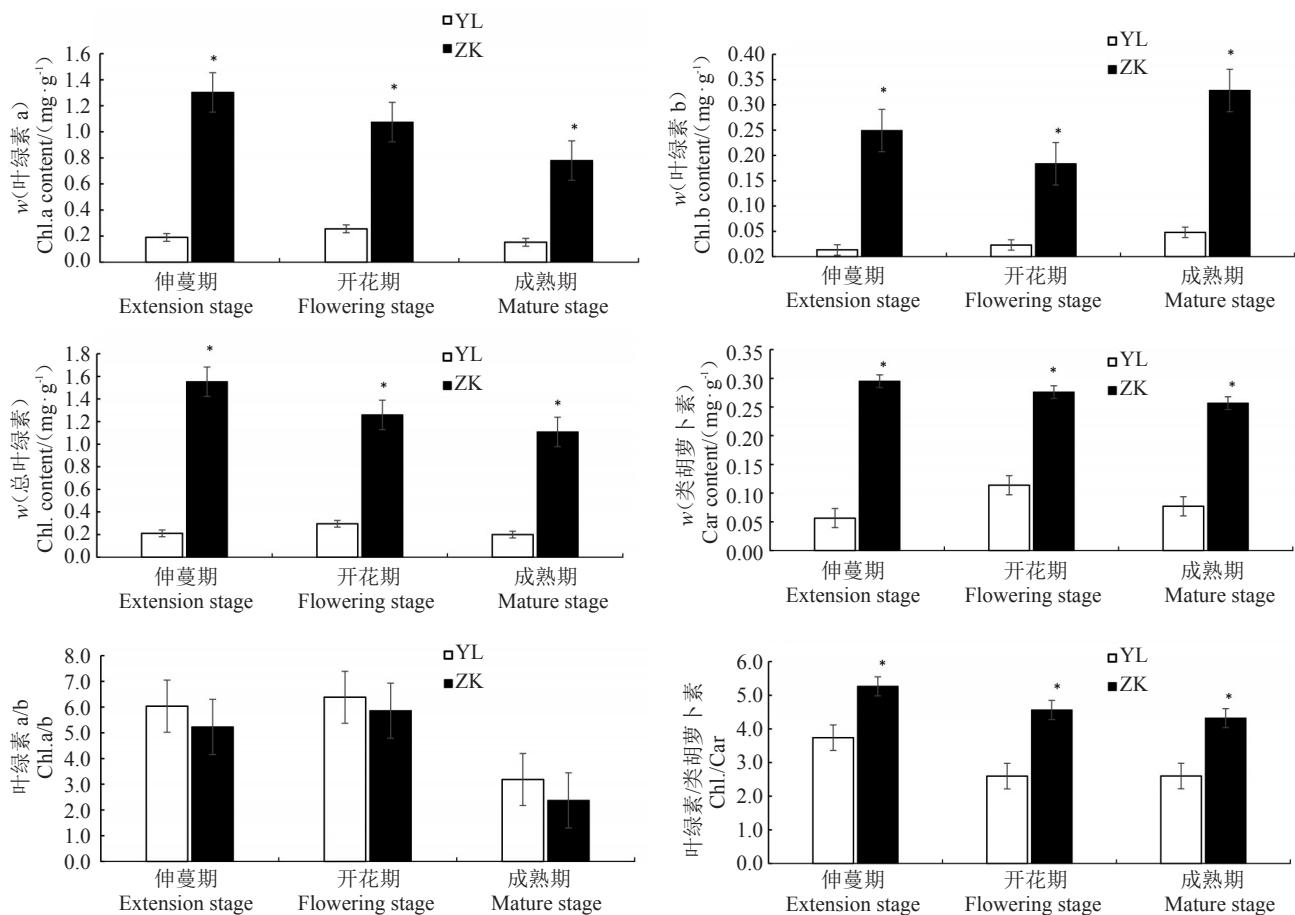


a、c. 绿叶材料; b、d. 黄化突变体; CP. 叶绿体; ST. 淀粉粒; TH. 类囊体; GL. 基粒片层。

a and c. Green leaf material; b and d. Yellowing mutant material; CP. Chloroplast; ST. Starch granule; TH. Thylakoid; GL. Grana lamellae.

图2 两类材料叶绿体超微结构

Fig. 2 Ultrastructural charts of chloroplasts of two kinds of materials



伸蔓期、开花期、成熟期测定时间为定植后 15、25、50 d。图中*和不同小写字母表示在 0.05 水平上差异显著性。下同。

The determination time of extension stage, flowering stage and mature stage were 15, 25, 50 days after planting respectively. In the figure, * and small letters indicate significant differences at the level of 0.05. The same below.

图3 两类材料不同生育时期光合色素含量及相对比值

Fig. 3 Photosynthetic pigment content and relative ratio of two kinds of materials at different growth stages

叶植株(表1),以第10片叶为例分别比绿叶植株低13.28%、65.82%。胞间CO₂浓度以及蒸腾速率低于ZK但差异不显著。YL的近顶端、中部叶片的净光合速率、气孔导度和蒸腾速率高于靠近基部的叶片,中部叶片各项指标均为最高,其中净光合速率分别是近顶端、近基部叶片的1.04倍,1.28倍。ZK

合速率、气孔导度和蒸腾速率高于靠近基部的叶片,中部叶片各项指标均为最高,其中净光合速率分别是近顶端、近基部叶片的1.04倍,1.28倍。ZK

表1 两类材料不同叶位光合作用相关参数比较

Table 1 Comparison of photosynthesis related parameters of two kinds of materials at different leaf positions

材料 Material	净光合速率 Assimilation rate, A/ (μmol·m ⁻² ·s ⁻¹)	气孔导度 Stomatal conductance, G/ (mmol·m ⁻² ·s ⁻¹)	胞间CO ₂ 浓度 Internal CO ₂ concentration, C/ (mg·kg ⁻¹)	蒸腾速率 transpiration rate, E/ (mmol·m ⁻² ·s ⁻¹)
YL-I	22.5±0.86 b	981.0±5.57 b	322.0±8.60 a	9.5±0.50 a
ZK-I	28.3±2.63 a	2 920.0±7.13 a	336.7±2.05 a	9.3±0.39 a
YL-II	23.5±3.82 b	1 068.3±7.65 b	324.0±6.48 a	9.6±0.87 a
ZK-II	27.1±5.24 a	3 125.0±9.17 a	336.3±5.51 a	8.9±1.30 a
YL-III	18.3±3.99 b	617.7±6.91 b	323.3±6.31 a	8.2±1.03 a
ZK-III	28.3±3.73 a	1 834.0±8.30 a	328.3±4.19 a	8.9±0.96 a

注:YL、ZK 分别表示黄化突变体、正常绿叶材料。I、II、III数字递增表示叶片由幼嫩到成熟,自顶芽向下第5、10、15 片功能叶。

Note: YL and ZK represent the yellow mutant and normal green leaf material respectively. The increasing numbers of I, II, and III indicate that the leaves are from tender to mature. Fifth, tenth and fifteen functional leaves from growth point.

的近顶端、中部叶片的气孔导度和蒸腾速率高于靠近基部的叶片,净光合速率、胞间CO₂浓度并没有显著差异。

2.4 突变体叶片抗氧化酶及丙二醛总活性

突变体YL叶片中的SOD酶活性在生育期内呈现先下降再上升的趋势(表2)。突变体YL在开花期,机体内SOD平均含量为29.61 U·g⁻¹·min⁻¹,ZK叶片中SOD平均含量约为YL的1.19倍。

POD在突变体YL叶片中的呈逐渐上升趋势,且突变体YL较绿叶材料ZK的POD酶活性较低,约为ZK的81.3%。突变体YL在伸蔓期时CAT活性显著低于绿叶材料,YL自身CAT活性在成熟期约是伸蔓期的2.62倍。

丙二醛(MDA)可以反应机体膜脂过氧化损伤程度,突变体YL在伸蔓期时MDA含量显著高于绿叶材料,并随生长发育呈下降趋势,含量约为0.5

表2 两类材料不同生育时期抗氧化酶及丙二醛总活性

Table 2 Antioxidant enzymes and total malondialdehyde activities of two kinds of materials at different growth stages

酶 Enzyme	材料 Material	伸蔓期 Extension stage	开花期 Flowering stage	成熟期 Mature stage
SOD/(U·g ⁻¹ ·min ⁻¹)	YL	36.22±7.93 b	29.61±4.61 a	48.87±6.97 b
	ZK	79.87±8.99 a	35.31±8.21 a	72.28±8.79 a
POD/(U·g ⁻¹ ·min ⁻¹)	YL	117.65±5.82 a	123.55±7.92 a	125.33±6.44 a
	ZK	150.20±8.86 a	148.63±9.41 a	154.67±6.93 a
CAT/(U·g ⁻¹ ·min ⁻¹)	YL	3.95±0.77 b	8.40±2.27 a	10.34±1.78 a
	ZK	8.00±0.22 a	9.23±2.08 a	10.74±3.07 a
MDA/(μmol·L ⁻¹)	YL	0.56±0.07 a	0.54±0.11 a	0.44±0.29 a
	ZK	0.44±0.08 b	0.51±0.05 a	0.51±0.08 a

μmol·L⁻¹。

3 讨 论

3.1 叶绿体结构及叶片光合色素含量与叶色突变的关系

肖华贵等^[19]发现,甘蓝型油菜黄化突变体NY

的叶绿体数目和基粒片层数减少是导致叶色黄化的主要原因,在黄瓜^[13]、甜瓜^[15]、番茄^[20]的相关研究中也得到了相似结果。本研究发现的黄化突变体YL属于后者,其来源于自然变异,从子叶期即表现为黄化,一直持续到成熟期,叶绿体数量变化不大,但形态和结构发生了不同程度的改变,基粒片层数

明显减少,造成叶绿素含量大幅降低,叶片黄化。由于黄化持续时间较长,植株的生长发育和农艺性状受到较大的影响,主要表现为生育期推迟,产量相关性状变差,这与很多作物突变体特征相似^[21-22]。

前人根据叶色突变体光合色素比值差异划分不同的突变类型,一类是突变体不含叶绿素 b 或者叶绿素 a/b 值接近或超过 20,另一类突变体的叶绿素 a/b 值为 6~10^[23],本研究中叶绿素 a/b 值随生育期而变化,属于第二类突变类型。高等植物叶绿素合成途径中任何一个步骤出现问题都会导致叶绿素合成受阻。叶色突变体光合色素的含量及比例往往发生不同程度的改变^[24]。本研究中叶色突变体的叶绿素 a、叶绿素 b 含量均低于正常植株,叶绿素 a/b 值却高于正常植株,说明叶绿素 b 含量降低的幅度大于叶绿素 a 降低的幅度;突变体的总叶绿素含量、类胡萝卜素含量均低于正常植株。由此推断,该突变植株黄化可是由总叶绿素含量降低引起。这与前人研究水稻叶色突变体所得结论即叶绿素 a/b 值高,叶绿素含量较低,作物叶色变浅基本一致^[25]。其他作物如甜瓜^[15]、番茄^[20]、甘蓝型油菜^[19]、芝麻^[24]、玉米^[26]均有相似研究结果。

3.2 叶片抗氧化酶活性及丙二醛含量与叶色突变的关系

本研究中,除成熟期二者的 CAT 活性基本持平外,SOD、POD、CAT 活性均表现为突变体低于正常植株,说明突变造成植株抗氧化能力下降。此结论与前人研究不尽相同,抗氧化酶活性随生育期而变化,在结果期 POD 的活性仍保持在较高水平^[27],这可能与生育期后期细胞内过氧化氢含量增高,机体通过提高 POD 活性延缓衰老有关。但突变体的抗氧化酶活性均高于对照,例如甜瓜在伸蔓期和结果期,生物活力较为旺盛,叶绿素缺乏导致叶色突变体叶片细胞内超氧自由基大量产生,从而引发 SOD 活性增强^[16]。这可能和突变材料以及环境因素有一定关系。YL 的 MDA 在植株生长旺盛时期稍高于 ZK,说明叶色黄化突变是突变体中保护酶系统,虽然可以清除一部分活性氧和自由基,但仍需提高 MDA 含量来缓解膜脂过氧化带来的不良影响,这与李万青等^[28]的研究结果相似。

3.3 西瓜叶色突变的研究及叶色黄化突变机制分析

西瓜的遗传基础较为狭窄,自然突变率低,通过遗传转化,运用生物技术创制突变体库比较困

难,通过化学诱变获得突变性状较难稳定遗传,因此报道的西瓜叶色黄化突变体较少。目前主要为张建农等^[29]发现的黄化叶片突变体,朱娜娜^[30]通过 EMS 诱变产生叶片变浅、叶片黄化突变体,但存在部分黄化致死表型,没有进行基因定位及后续研究,马双武等^[4]发现了后绿材料并应用于叶色形状标记。本试验材料是一个新的叶色突变材料,可稳定遗传,正常结实,可用作叶色标记进行纯度鉴定、良种繁育等工作。

叶色突变的分子机理较为复杂,与叶色变异相关的基因主要涉及四个生理代谢过程:叶绿素代谢途径、血红素—光敏色素生色团合成途径、编码其他叶绿体蛋白过程、与光合系统无直接关系基因的突变^[31]。目前研究大部分与叶绿素代谢途径相关,例如李燕群等^[32]研究表明,水稻黄绿叶突变体 507ys 中叶绿素含量大幅度降低,编码叶绿素酸酯 α 加氧酶 OsCao I 的基因编码区的碱基序列中,一个 G 突变为 A,谷氨酸突变为赖氨酸,导致叶绿素酸酯 α 加氧酶失活,叶绿素 b 合成受阻。Zhang 等^[33]发现,突变基因 GhRVL 与镁螯合酶 I (ChlI) 为同源基因,叶色突变可能是由于突变型与野生型的启动子差异,影响基因的表达,引起叶绿素代谢过程中叶绿素 a 合成前体物质减少。徐磊^[34]对番茄叶色黄化突变体差异蛋白进行研究,发现番茄叶色黄化突变体 06883 的 Rubisco 量的不足,可能是导致叶片发黄的原因之一。

根据本试验光合色素含量结合高等植物叶绿素合成途径初步推测,造成西瓜叶片黄化的主要原因是叶绿素 a 合成之前就出现了异常,而叶绿素 a 再向叶绿素 b 转化过程中也受到了不同程度的阻碍。这还需要通过测量相关酶的基因表达量等进一步验证。此外类胡萝卜素含量的降低可能是乙酰丙酸途径异常造成的^[35]。

4 结 论

本试验所研究的西瓜全生育期叶色黄化突变体,其突变类型可能为总叶绿素减少突变类型,突变体叶片的叶绿体形态结构发生改变,进而影响光合作用,植株生长势弱于正常绿叶植株。从光合色素含量上看,叶绿素的合成途径中也出现异常。叶色突变的生理生化原因比较复杂,为了将叶色突变更好的用于标记性状,以及光合作用机理研究、鉴定基因功能等,需要进一步从分子水平探究叶色突

变的机制。

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