

转录组和代谢组联合分析桑葚发育过程中可溶性糖和有机酸代谢的变化

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摘要:【目的】探究桑葚发育过程中可溶性糖和有机酸代谢及转录表达水平, 揭示桑葚品质形成的分子机制。【方法】以青果期(W1)、转色期(W2)、成熟期(W3)白色桑葚为试验材料, 分别测定3个阶段可溶性糖和有机酸含量及转录组变化, 并基于转录组与代谢组联合分析揭示调控可溶性糖和有机酸代谢的分子机制。【结果】共检测到64种代谢物, 其中有机酸52种、可溶性糖12种。分析发现, 蔗糖、葡萄糖和D-果糖为桑葚中主要可溶性糖类物质, 苹果酸、柠檬酸和琥珀酸为桑葚中主要有机酸类物质。转录组测序共获得58.65 Gb Clean Data, 差异基因分析发现W3 vs W1组获得的差异基因数量最多为9098个。而KEGG富集分析表明, W2 vs W1和W3 vs W2组中差异基因富集到与糖酸代谢相关的通路, 主要为淀粉和蔗糖代谢及三羧酸循环通路, 在W2 vs W1组中有52个上调的差异基因富集到淀粉和蔗糖代谢, 27个上调的差异基因富集到柠檬酸循环, 在W3 vs W2组中有27个上调的差异基因富集到淀粉和蔗糖代谢。代谢组和转录组关联分析表明, *NINV*、*HK*、*CS*、*ACO*、*MDH*和*ICDH*是桑葚糖酸积累的关键调控基因。荧光定量分析(qRT-PCR)表明, 关键调控基因在不同发育时期表达上调, 与转录组中表达趋势一致。【结论】基因*NINV*、*HK*、*CS*、*ACO*、*MDH*和*ICDH*在桑葚成熟中可溶性糖和有机酸的合成与代谢中具有重要调控作用, 初步揭示了桑葚口感变化的生物学基础。

关键词: 桑葚; 代谢组; 转录组; 可溶性糖; 有机酸

中图分类号: S663.2

文献标志码: A

文章编号: 1009-9980(2024)04-0690-13

Transcriptome and metabolome combined analysis metabolism change of soluble sugars and organic acids in mulberry fruit during development stages

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Abstract: 【Objective】 Through the systematic study of the metabolism and molecular mechanism of sugar and organic acids, the mechanism of fruit taste formation was well revealed. In this study, we investigated the metabolism of soluble sugar and organic acid and transcriptome expression levels during the development of mulberry (*Morus alba*) in order to reveal the molecular mechanism of fruit quality formation of mulberry. 【Methods】 White mulberry fruits were used as experimental materials at greening stage (W1), transforming stage (W2) and ripening stage (W3). The content and transcriptome of the soluble sugar and organic acid at three stages were determined separately, and the molecular mechanism of regulation of the soluble sugar and organic acid metabolism were analyzed based on the combination of transcriptome and metabolome. By exploring the key differential genes regulating the synthesis and

收稿日期: 2024-01-02

接受日期: 2024-02-26

基金项目: 河北省“三三三人才工程”资助项目(A202101051); 河北省教育厅一般项目(QN2020236); 河北省自然科学基金项目(C2019406113, H2023406059); 承德市基础研究专项(202205B069); 承德医学院校级课题(202214); 大学生创新创业训练计划项目(2022040, 2023034, 2023141)

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metabolism of the soluble sugar and organic acid during mulberry ripening, the metabolic network was proposed to elucidate the influence of fruit development on the metabolism of the soluble sugar and organic acid. The UPLC-MS/MS targeted metabolomics method was used to detect the changes of metabolites at 3 developmental stages, and the Cluster analysis was performed on the obtained different substances. The expression of the differential genes was analyzed by qRT-PCR and the obtained differential genes were further analyzed through KEGG (Kyoto encyclopedia of genes and genomes) pathway enrichment analysis. **【Results】** A total of 64 metabolites were detected, including 52 organic acids and 12 soluble sugars. According to the cluster analysis of different substances, the results showed that there were obvious changes in sugar and acid metabolism during the mulberry fruit development. Through the data analysis, it was found that the sucrose, glucose and D-fructose were the main soluble sugars in mulberry fruits, and their contents continued to increase during the development of mulberry fruits, and reached a peak at W3. The malic acid, citric acid and succinic acid were the main organic acids in mulberry fruits. According to the assembly analysis of the transcriptome sequencing data of the mulberry samples at different developmental stages, a total of 58.65 Gb was obtained. The differential gene analysis of gene expression at different developmental stages showed that W3 vs W1 group had the largest number of differential genes, reaching 9098. The Venn map was drawn for the 3 different genes in comparison combinations, among them 762 genes were expressed in common. The W3 vs W1 group contained the largest number of the unique differential genes, with 2836 differential genes. The second group was W2 vs W1 with 499 unique differential genes, and the least group was W3 vs W2 with 195 unique differential genes. The results showed that transcription and translation of a large number of genes were activated at the beginning of fruit development, while transcription and translation of some genes were inhibited at maturity. The KEGG enrichment analysis showed that the differential genes in W2 vs W1 and W3 vs W2 groups were enriched into carbohydrate-related metabolic pathways, which were mainly starch and sucrose metabolism and tricarboxylic acid cycle pathways. In the W2 vs W1 group, 52 upregulated differential genes were enriched in the starch and sucrose metabolism, and 27 upregulated differential genes were enriched in the citric acid cycle. In the W3 vs W2 group, 27 upregulated differential genes were enriched for the starch and sucrose metabolism. Combined with the differential gene identification, correlation analysis and common KEGG pathway analysis of the differential genes and differential metabolites related to soluble sugar and organic acid metabolism were carried out, there were significant differences in the expression of some candidate genes related to the soluble sugar and organic acid metabolism in mulberry. In this study, four differentially expressed *SUSY* genes were detected, and their expression levels were high in the early stage of fruit development, but significantly decreased with fruit development; three differentially expressed *NINV* genes were detected, and their expression increased with the development of fruit. Two differentially expressed *FRK* genes were identified, which were highly expressed at the early stage of fruit development; one differentially expressed *HK* gene was identified, and its expression gradually increased with the fruit development. In addition, this study also found that the expression of the two *MDH* genes increased during fruit ripening, and the expression of the *MDH* was significantly correlated with malic acid content. These results indicated that these genes play a significant role in the regulation of mulberry maturation. The metabolome and transcriptome association analysis showed that the *NINV*, *HK*, *CS*, *ACO*, *MDH* and *ICDH* were the key regulatory genes of saccharic acid accumulation in mulberry. The qRT-PCR analysis showed that the expression of key regulatory genes was up-regulated at different developmental stages, which was consistent with the expression trend in the transcriptome. The TCA cycle was promoted in

the ripening process of mulberry fruits, and then affected the change of the organic acid content, and the change of the organic acid content ultimately affected the taste difference of the fruits. 【Conclusion】 The *NINV*, *HK*, *CS*, *ACO*, *MDH* and *ICDH* would play important regulatory roles in the synthesis and metabolism of the soluble sugars and organic acids during mulberry maturation, which initially revealed the biological basis of mulberry taste change. The rich metabolites and differential genes identified will not only provide a lot of information for high-quality genetic improvement of mulberry, but also provide valuable reference for other mulberry crops.

Key words: Mulberry; Metabolome; Transcriptome; Soluble sugars; Organic acids

桑树是桑科(Moraceae)桑属(*Morus*)多年生木本植物,广泛分布在亚洲亚热带区域(包括韩国、日本、中国和印度)、北美和非洲,中国是世界桑树种类最多的国家^[1-2]。桑葚为桑树的果实,其具有较高的营养价值,部分桑葚品种被用作传统的中草药。桑葚中富含黄酮、有机酸、酚酸、糖醇、氨基酸和多羟基生物碱等多种生物活性化合物,与沙棘、悬钩子一起被誉为“第三代水果”^[3-4]。近年来国内外广泛关注基于桑葚代谢组学的相关研究,桑葚中含有大量的营养物质,包括可溶性糖、氨基酸、有机酸含量等理化指标,且这些理化指标对桑葚的代谢途径产生重要影响,进而影响桑葚的生长发育全过程^[5]。而目前关于桑葚可溶性糖和有机酸代谢分子机制的研究却少有报道。

甜度是水果感官质量评估中的一个重要特征,由果实的代谢物组成决定,例如糖和有机酸^[6]。在大多数水果中,蔗糖是决定果实品质的主要成分^[7-8]。在甜瓜果实研究中发现,蔗糖积累是甜瓜果实中一个受发育调控的过程,经历了果实生长早期到蔗糖积累阶段的代谢转变,其中涉及十几种酶促反应^[9]。此外,糖与有机酸的比例对果实品质有显著影响^[10]。一般来说,果实中有机酸的代谢是一个复杂的生理过程,有机酸的含量是由酸合成与降解的平衡决定的^[11]。迄今为止,利用转录组测序、基因组和功能分析对水果中蔗糖和有机酸积累进行了大量研究,其中大多数研究只关注少数酶的活性^[12-14]。因此,对糖和有机酸的代谢和分子机制的系统研究将很好地揭示果实口感形成的机制。

近年来,基于功能“组学”方法的综合分析为识别生命系统中的基因网络及其调控机制提供了一种有效手段^[15-16]。特别是转录组和代谢组的结合分析已被广泛用于确定植物果实中糖和有机酸积累的信号通路和机制。如利用转录组分析结合靶向代谢组

学研究了两个杧果品种的差异糖积累机制,发现蔗糖和D-葡萄糖的合成伴随着淀粉的降解,直接导致了果实的高糖积累^[17]。然而,对桑葚果实中糖和有机酸调控的关键基因网络的全面研究还很缺乏。因此,为深入研究桑葚果实中糖和有机酸关键调控基因网络,笔者在本研究中以白色桑葚为研究对象,通过整合转录组学和代谢组学分析,挖掘桑葚成熟过程中调控可溶性糖和有机酸合成与代谢的关键差异基因,进而探明代谢网络,阐明果实发育对可溶性糖和有机酸代谢的影响。

1 材料和方法

1.1 试验材料

选择河北省承德市承德医学院蚕业研究所桑园为试验区,选取大小、生长势基本一致,气候条件和栽培管理基本相同的7年生稳定结果的白色果实的珍珠白品种为试验材料,依据果实发育的颜色进行取样,对不同果实分别在授粉后(DAP)10 d(青果期)、30 d(转色期)、50 d(成熟期)3个时期进行取样,取样均在桑树外围进行,选5株树进行取样,每株树每时期各取10个整果,3次重复,样品名分别为W1(W11, W12, W13); W2(W21, W22, W23); W3(W31, W32, W33),用液氮冷冻后放入-80℃超低温冰箱备用。

1.2 可溶性糖及有机酸含量检测及分析

将样品真空冷冻干燥后,利用研磨仪研磨(30 Hz, 1.5 min)至粉末状;称取20 mg的样品粉末,加入500 μL 提取液($V_{\text{甲醇}}:V_{\text{异丙醇}}:V_{\text{水}}=3:3:2$),涡旋3 min,冰水中超声30 min。4℃, 14 000 $\text{r}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$ 离心3 min,吸取50 μL 上清液,加入20 μL 质量浓度为100 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{mL}^{-1}$ 的核糖醇内标溶液,氮吹并冻干机冻干。加入100 μL 甲氧铵盐吡啶(15 $\text{mg}\cdot\text{mL}^{-1}$), 37℃孵育2 h,随后加入BSTFA 100 μL , 37℃孵育30 min,得到衍生化溶

液。取 50 μL 的衍生化溶液,用正己烷稀释至 1 mL,保存于棕色进样瓶中,用于气相色谱串联质谱(GC-MS)分析^[18-19]。VIP>1 且 $p<0.05$ 的代谢物被认为是差异代谢物。

1.3 RNA 提取及转录组测序

使用 TRIzol(Invitrogen, CA, USA)法对样品的总 RNA 进行分离和纯化。使用 Bioanalyzer 2100(Agilent, CA, USA)对 RNA 的完整性进行检测,选择 RNA 完整性数(RIN) ≥ 7 的样品进行后续分析。使用 oligo(dT)磁珠[Dynabeads Oligo(dT), 货号 25-61005, Thermo Fisher, USA]通过两轮的纯化对其中带有 PolyA(多聚腺苷酸)的 mRNA 进行特异性捕获。将捕获到的 mRNA 在高温条件下利用镁离子打断试剂盒(NEBNext[®] Magnesium RNA Fragmentation Module, 货号 E6150S, USA)进行片段化, 94 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 5~7 min。将片段化的 RNA 在逆转录酶(Invitrogen SuperScript[™] II Reverse Transcriptase, 货号 1896649, CA, USA)的作用下合成 cDNA。然后使用 *E. coli* DNA polymerase I (NEB, 货号 m0209, USA)与 RNase H(NEB, 货号 m0297, USA)进行二链合成,将这些 DNA 与 RNA 的复合双链转化成 DNA 双链,同时在二链中掺入 dUTP Solution(Thermo Fisher, 货号 R0133, CA, USA),将双链 DNA 的末端补齐为平末端。再在其两端各加上一个 A 碱基,使其能够与末端带有 T 碱基的接头进行连接,再利用磁珠对其片段大小进行筛选和纯化。以 UDG 酶(NEB, 货号 m0280, MA, US)消化二链,再通过 PCR 预变性 95 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 保持 3 min, 98 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 变性总计 8 个循环每次 15 s, 退火到 60 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 保持 15 s, 72 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 下延伸 30 s, 延伸 72 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 保留 5 min, 使其形成片段大小为 (300 \pm 50) bp 的文库。最后,使用 Illumina Novaseq[™] 6000 (LC Bio Technology CO., Ltd. Hangzhou, China), 按

照标准操作对其进行双端测序,测序模式为 PE150。原始读取首先使用 Trimmomatic 进行质量控制处理,以获得干净的读取。使用 HISAT2 将干净的 reads 比对到桑树基因组^[20]。基因表达水平由每千碱基每转录本每百万映射读数(FPKM)的片段数反映。使用 Cufflinks 计算每个基因的 FPKM 值,使用 HTSeqcount 计算每个基因的读取计数。使用 R 包 DESeq2^[21]对样本之间进行差异显著性分析,采用 $p<0.05$ 、 $|\log_2\text{FC}|\geq 1$ 的阈值确定差异表达基因,并对其进行 GO 和 KEGG (Kyoto encyclopedia of genes and genomes)富集分析。

1.4 糖合成相关基因 qRT-PCR 分析

使用大连宝生物工程有限公司生产的 TaKaRa MiniBEST Universal RNA Extraction Kit 试剂盒提取桑树 10、30、50 DAP 果实总 RNA,反转录使用大连宝生物工程有限公司生产的 PrimeScript[™] RT reagent Kit 试剂盒合成 cDNA, qRT-PCR 使用大连宝生物工程有限公司生产的 SYBR Premix Ex Taq[™] II。以桑树 Ribosomal protein L15 为内参基因(表 1)。qRT-PCR 反应体系组成: SYBR Premix Ex Taq[™] II 5 μL , cDNA 0.5 μL , 正向引物 0.4 μL , 反向引物 0.4 μL , 加水至 10 μL 。反应程序: 95 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 预变性 30 s; 95 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 变性 5 s, 60 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 退火 20 s, 72 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 延伸 40 s, 共 40 个循环。PCR 扩增反应在 CF \times 96 TM Real-Time PCR Detection System (Applied Biosystems, Forter City, CA, 美国)仪器上进行,每样品 3 次生物学重复, 3 次技术重复,反应结束后应用 $2^{-\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}}$ 算法进行分析。

1.5 数据分析

使用 SPSS 27.0 软件进行统计分析,使用单因素方差分析计算样品之间的差异显著性,在 0.05 水平进行 Duncan's 检验 ($p\leq 0.05$),数据表示为平均值 \pm

表 1 基因的 qRT-PCR 引物

Table 1 qRT-PCR primer sequences used for genes

基因名称(ID) Gene number (ID)	正向引物(5'-3') Forward primer (5'-3')	反向引物(5'-3') Reverse primer (5'-3')
<i>NINP</i> (LOC21401851)	TTGCAAAAGACCATTGGCCG	GCTCGTAATCCTCGTCCCAG
<i>HXK</i> (LOC21408947)	TGGCCTCCTACCTAAATCTG	TGTTACCAGGGTTTAGACT
<i>CS</i> (LOC21399865)	CGAACATGGAAAGGTTCACT	GCTGGTAATACCTTTTGGCA
<i>ACO</i> (LOC21409265)	AGTTCCGACGAAACAAAGAG	AATCTGTCCAACGACACTG
<i>MDH</i> (LOC21399030)	TGACCGTCAGGATTCAAAC	AACATTCGTAACGTCAGCA
<i>ICDH</i> (LOC21391200)	AAAGTTACCGTTGAGAGTGC	GAACACGGTTCATTCAAGA
Ribosomal protein L15 (LOC21390050)	GGCTATGTGATTTACCGTGTT	TTGGTCCAGTATGAGTTGAGAA

SD(标准差),每个样本3个独立重复。相关性分析采用皮尔逊方法,用SPSS 27.0软件进行。

2 结果与分析

2.1 代谢物分析与代谢物差异积累

为了解桑葚发育过程中糖和有机酸成分含量的变化,采用GC-MS方法检测3个发育期代谢物成分含量的变化。研究共检测到64种代谢物,其中有机酸52种、可溶性糖12种(表2)。通过差异代谢物质分析发现,在W2 vs W1、W3 vs W2和W3 vs W1中,差异代谢物上调和下调的数量分别为9和4个、12和9个、15和13个(图1-A)。Venn图显示,所有组有6种相同的差异代谢物,W2 vs W1仅有1个特有的差异代谢物,为肉桂酸(图1-B),W3 vs W2没有发现特有的差异代谢物,W3 vs W1中检测到莽草酸、3,4-

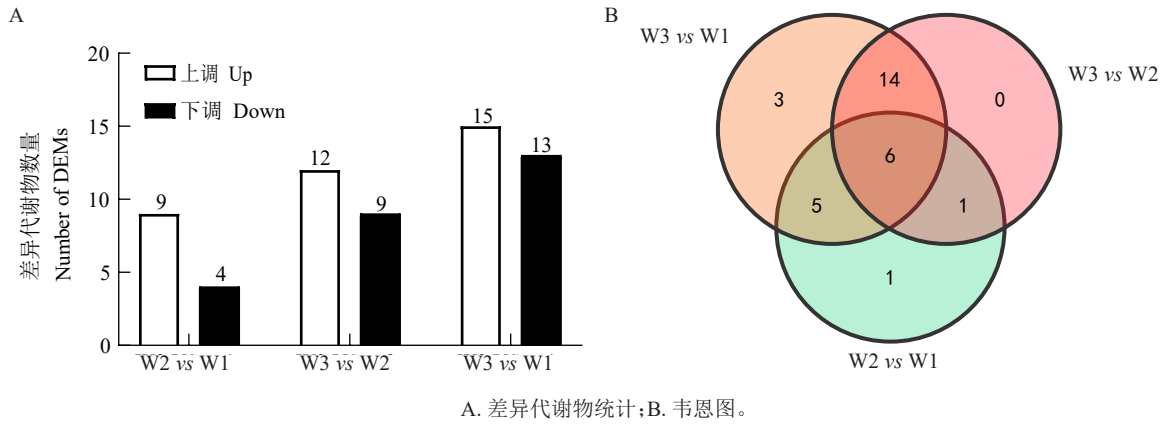
二羟基苯乙酸、5-羟基吲哚-3-乙酸。通过数据分析发现,蔗糖、葡萄糖和D-果糖为桑葚中主要可溶性糖类物质,其含量在桑葚发育过程中持续增加,并在W3达到峰值。苹果酸、柠檬酸和琥珀酸为桑葚中主要有机酸类物质,苹果酸和琥珀酸的含量在桑葚果实成熟过程中呈先上升后下降的趋势,而柠檬酸的积累呈现持续上升趋势,说明这3种可溶性糖和有机酸为影响桑葚口感的主要糖和酸类物质(表2)。

2.2 转录组测序

不同处理发育时期桑葚样品转录组测序数据的组装分析见表3,共获得58.65 Gb有效数据。各样本有效读数在39 037 544~48 942 774之间,Q20均为99.99%;Q30在97.79%~98.39%之间。分别将各样品有效度数与桑树参考基因比对,比对效率为

表2 主要差异代谢物及含量
Table 2 List of differential metabolites and content (ng·g⁻¹)

物质 Compounds	样品 Sample		
	W1	W2	W3
2-羟基-2-甲基丁酸 2-hydroxy-2-methylbutyric acid	241.18±7.01	296.83±16.55	915.55±32.12
3-羟基苯乙酸 3-hydroxyphenylacetic acid	2 213.03±76.72	2 206.07±127.24	904.74±6.65
4-氨基丁酸 4-aminobutyric acid	21 960.29±505.30	5 894.80±161.96	6 789.42±105.32
咖啡酸 Caffeic acid	112.97±11.70	289.41±19.55	332.62±6.82
肉桂酸 Cinnamic acid	5.39±0.22	11.26±0.49	10.52±0.79
莽草酸 Shikimic acid	6 356.14±153.02	5 331.60±128.97	3 082.37±135.91
氯氨酮 Kynurenine	0.00	20.91±2.33	1.64±0.18
水杨酸 Salicylic acid	61.33±0.70	11.06±0.65	0.00
3,4-二羟基苯乙酸 3,4-dihydroxyphenylacetic acid	3 507.19±266.37	1 785.94±558.15	1 254.65±220.74
高香草酸 Homovanillic acid	125.00±9.47	41.14±5.65	34.26±3.63
苯乙酰甘氨酸 Phenaceturic acid	1.95±0.25	2.54±0.29	0.50±0.03
3-吲哚乙酸 Indolelactic acid	0.00	0.00	6.93±0.32
癸二酸 Sebacic Acid	101.95±6.94	0.00	105.64±3.36
没食子酸 Gallic Acid	0.00	0.00	3.70±0.22
马来酸 Maleic Acid	0.00	0.00	5 789.30±121.33
3-D-羟基丁酸 3-D-hydroxybutyric acid	7.02±0.24	4.85±0.17	33.33±3.7
3-羟基异戊酸 3-hydroxyisovaleric acid	1 968.53±35.93	1 857.95±24.86	752.35±12.19
3-苯基乳酸 3-phenyllactic acid	5.66±0.86	6.34±1.11	13.03±1.98
邻氨基苯甲酸 Aminobenzoic acid	2.31±0.24	10.99±0.17	14.16±0.54
壬二酸 Azelaic acid	43.79±12.76	160.94±2.98	952.26±18.49
顺式-乌头酸 Cis-aconitic acid	31 556.99±275.92	55 620.42±1 574.06	122 203.12±3 332.09
马尿酸 Hippuric acid	48.26±7.28	41.01±6.09	12.26±3.58
吲哚-3-乙酸 Indole-3-acetic acid	67.89±0.87	101.56±1.57	7.38±0.12
犬尿氨酸 Kynurenic acid	103.54±1.41	162.63±4.68	20.2±0.77
辛二酸 Suberic acid	2 175.86±92.09	1 507.66±26.32	511.43±23.16
蔗糖 Sucrose	21.79±0.78	116.98±6.48	194.12±5.17
D-果糖 D-Fructose	32.59±2.09	102.19±1.10	218.5±5.28
葡萄糖 Glucose	25.80±1.40	93.33±1.41	189.60±4.35



A. Differential metabolite statistics; B. Venn diagram.

图1 桑葚不同发育阶段代谢物含量及差异分析

Fig. 1 Analysis of metabolite content and difference in different development stages of mulberry

表3 质控数据统计及比对分析

Table 3 Statistics and comparative analysis of quality control data

样品 Sample	原始数据 Raw data		有效数据 Valid data		有效值 Valid Ratio (reads)	Q20/%	Q30/%	GC 含量 GC content/%
	度数 Read	碱基 Base/G	读数 Read	碱基 Base				
W11	50463866	7.57	48942774	7.34	96.99	99.99	98.19	49.50
W12	40683908	6.10	39037544	5.86	95.95	99.99	98.39	47.00
W13	42127110	6.32	40741442	6.11	96.71	99.99	98.26	50.00
W21	49455076	7.42	47534554	7.13	96.12	99.99	98.36	48.00
W22	42173118	6.33	40379380	6.06	95.75	99.99	98.24	46.00
W23	45257808	6.79	43717484	6.56	96.60	99.99	98.28	48.00
W31	42065974	6.31	40773182	6.12	96.93	99.99	97.79	46.00
W32	45436780	6.82	44025708	6.60	96.89	99.99	98.07	46.00
W33	47520682	7.13	45818614	6.87	96.42	99.99	97.89	47.00

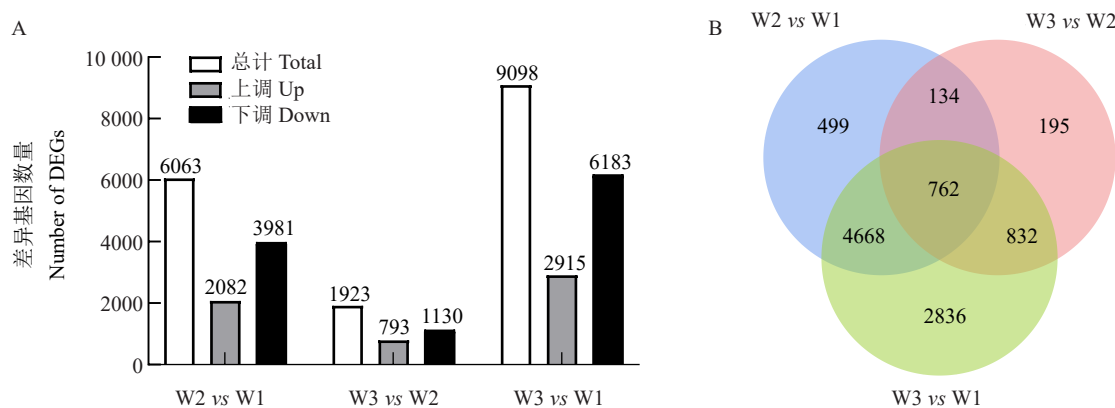
95.95%~96.99%,表明测序获得数据可靠,可用于后续分析。

2.3 基因差异表达分析

对不同发育阶段基因表达以 $p < 0.05$ 、 $|\log_2FC| \geq 1$ 作为筛选标准进行差异基因分析,在 W2 vs W1、W3 vs W2 和 W3 vs W1 的比较中,分别鉴定出 6063 个差异基因,其中 2082 个上调,3981 个下调;1923 个差异基因,其中 793 个上调,1130 个下调;9098 个差异基因,其中 2915 个上调,6183 个下调(图 2-A)。对 3 个比较组合差异基因绘制韦恩图,其中共有的表达基因有 762 个,而特有差异基因 W3 vs W1 组最多,为 2836 个;其次 W2 vs W1 组,为 499 个;最少的是 W3 vs W2 组,为 195 个(图 2-B)。由此可以推断,在果实发育初期(S2)大量的基因转录和翻译可能被激活,而在成熟期基因的转录和翻译可能被抑制。

2.4 差异基因 KEGG 富集分析

为进一步分析差异表达基因在桑葚发育过程中的作用,分别对 3 个比较组中的差异基因进行 KEGG 通路富集分析,在 W2 vs W1 和 W3 vs W2 组中差异基因富集到与糖酸代谢相关的通路,主要为淀粉和蔗糖代谢(starch and sucrose metabolism)和柠檬酸循环(TCA cycle)(图 3)。其中,在 W2 vs W1 组中有 52 个上调的差异基因富集到淀粉和蔗糖代谢,27 个上调的差异基因富集到柠檬酸循环,在 W3 vs W2 组中有 27 个上调的差异基因富集到淀粉和蔗糖代谢。此外,在 W2 vs W1 组和 W3 vs W1 中,差异基因数量富集较多的代谢通路还包括核糖体(ribosome)、激素信号转导(plant hormone signal transduction)、MAPK 信号通路-植物(MAPK signaling pathway-plant)(图 3-A、B)。在 W3 vs W2 组中,差异基因富集数量较多的代谢通路主要有黄



A. 差异基因表达统计; B. 韦恩图。

A. Differential metabolite statistics; B. Venn diagram.

图2 不同发育过程阶段桑葚差异表达基因分析

Fig. 2 Differential expression genes in mulberry fruit during different development stages

酮类生物化合物的合成(flavonoid biosynthesis)31个,半乳糖代谢(galactose metabolism)28个、植物昼夜节律(circadian rhythm-plant)25个(图3-C),由此可以推断桑葚在S2阶段大量基因表达被激活,合成桑葚成熟的代谢物质。

2.5 代谢物与差异表达基因关联分析

采用 Pearson's 计算淀粉和蔗糖代谢及柠檬酸循环中差异表达基因与糖酸主要代谢物之间的相关性。在糖代谢物与差异基因相关性分析中共确定43个与蔗糖、葡萄糖、果糖成正相关的差异表达基因,基因与代谢物均随果实发育表达呈现不断积累的模式(图4-A)。在有机酸代谢与合成中共鉴定到24个与苹果酸、柠檬酸、琥珀酸显著相关的差异表达基因,其中负相关基因有8个,正相关的有16个基因(图4-B)。上述关键代谢物和差异表达基因可能是桑葚成熟过程中主要的物质和基因。

2.6 桑葚中可溶性糖和有机酸合成途径分析

结合差异基因鉴定、相关性分析,表明与可溶性糖和有机酸代谢相关的一些候选基因在桑葚中表达存在显著差异(图5)。*NINV*和*SUSY*可将蔗糖转化为果糖和葡萄糖,检测到4个差异表达的*SUSY*基因(*LOC21391172*, *LOC21407811*, *LOC21386815*, *LOC21402491*),其中2个(*LOC21386815*, *LOC21402491*)在果实发育初期表达水平很高,而随着果实发育表达水平呈现大幅度下降的趋势;检测到3个差异表达的*NINV*基因(*LOC21386769*, *LOC21401851*, *LOC21401285*),其

中2个(*LOC21401851*, *LOC21401285*)随着果实的发育表达呈现上升的趋势。葡萄糖和果糖可被*HK*和*FRK*磷酸化为葡萄糖-6磷酸(G6P)和果糖-6-磷酸(F6P)。鉴定到2个差异表达的*FRK*(*LOC21409854*, *LOC21406385*)在果实发育初期高表达;鉴定到1个差异表达的*HK*(*LOC21408947*)基因,其表达随着果实发育表达逐渐升高(图5)。三羧酸(TCA)循环中草酰乙酸经*CS*催化直接合成柠檬酸,柠檬酸被*ACO*降解为异柠檬酸,异柠檬酸被*ICDH*转运生成2-戊羟二酸。*CS*(*LOC21399865*)和*ICDH*(*LOC21407110*, *LOC21391200*, *LOC21390016*)基因在果实发育过程中表达量大幅升高,说明桑葚中柠檬酸代谢增强并受这些基因调控。*MDH*与果实中苹果酸的生物合成和降解有关。2个*MDH*基因(*LOC21399030*, *LOC21401654*)在果实成熟过程中表达量增加,而且*MDH*的表达与苹果酸含量显著相关。以上结果表明,这些基因在桑葚成熟过程中发挥着显著的调控作用。

2.7 差异基因qRT-PCR表达分析

对筛选获得的可溶性糖和有机酸代谢中关键调控基因*NINV*(*LOC21401851*)、*HK*(*LOC21408947*)、*CS*(*LOC21399865*)、*ACO*(*LOC21409265*)、*MDH*(*LOC21399030*)和*ICDH*(*LOC21391200*)进行qRT-PCR表达,并与各基因在不同发育时期的转录本表达比较。6个基因的表达水平与转录组数据一致(图6),表明6个基因在桑葚成熟过程中发挥关键调控作用。

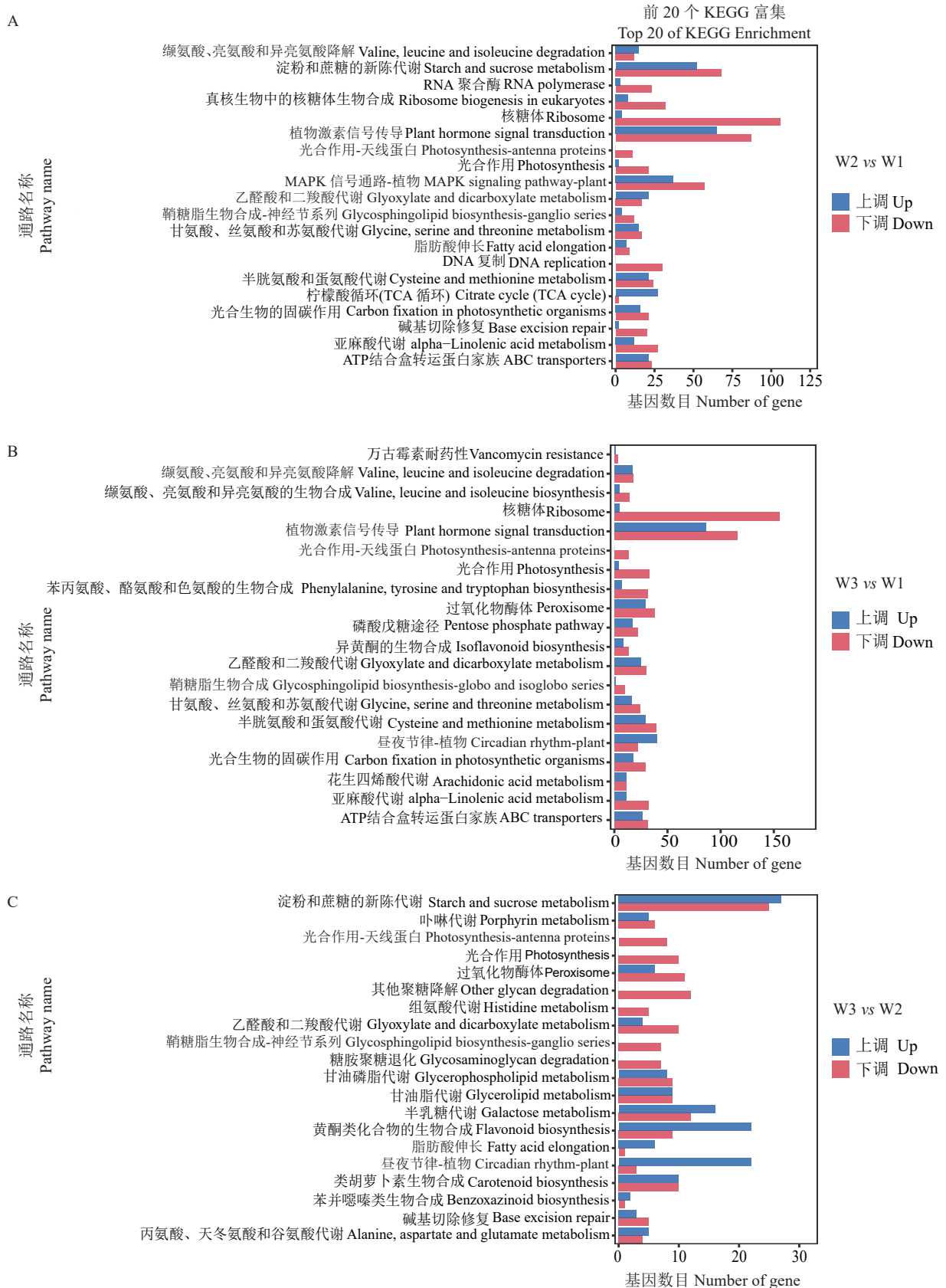
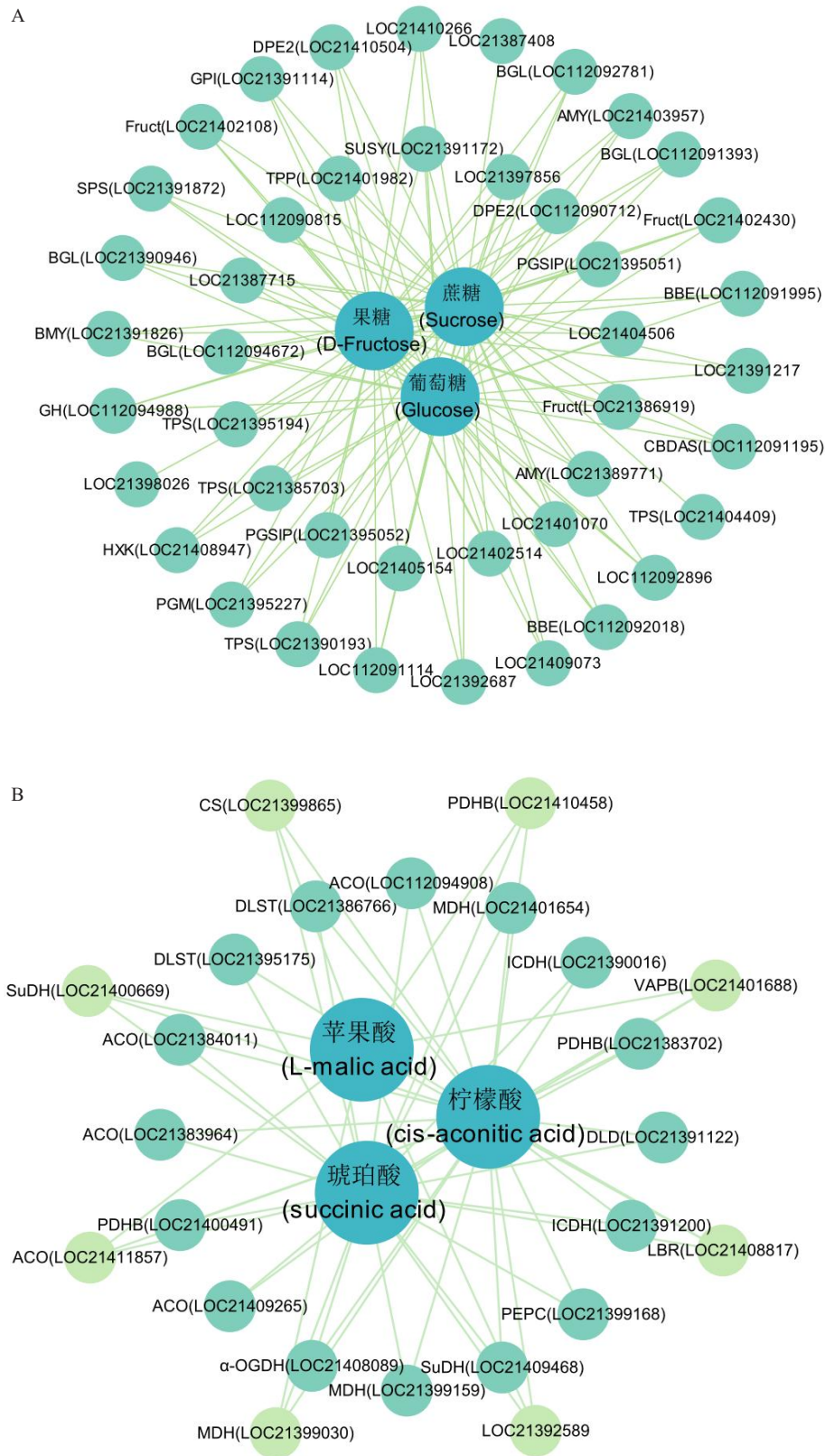


图 3 桑葚不同发育阶段差异基因 KEGG 富集分析

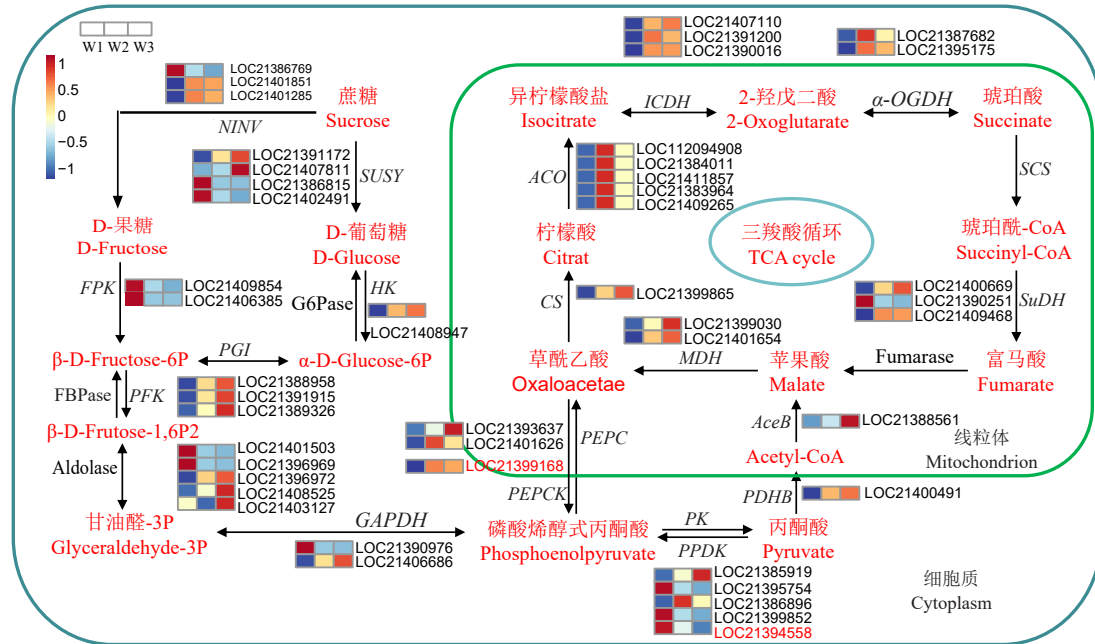
Fig. 3 KEGG enrichment analysis of different genes in mulberry fruit during different development stages



A. 糖与差异基因网络图;B. 酸与差异基因网络图。Pearson 相关系数 > 0.5 或 < -0.5 (p 值 < 0.05)。
 A. Sugar versus differential gene network; B. Acid versus differential gene network. Pearson's correlation coefficient > 0.5 or < -0.5 (p value < 0.05).

图 4 糖和有机酸代谢中差异基因和差异代谢物的相关网络

Fig. 4 Correlation network of differentially expressed genes and metabolites involved in sugar and organic acid metabolism



NINV. 中性转化酶; *FRK*. 果糖激酶; *PFK*. 磷酸果糖激酶; *SUSY*. 蔗糖合酶; *HK*. 己糖激酶; *PGI*. 磷酸葡萄糖异构酶; *GAPDH*. 甘油醛-3-磷酸脱氢酶; *PK*. 丙酮酸激酶; *PPDK*. 丙酮酸磷酸二激酶; *PEPC*. 磷酸烯醇式丙酮酸羧化酶; *PEPCK*. 磷酸烯醇丙酮酸羧化激酶; *PDHB*. 丙酮酸脱氢酶 β 亚基; *AceB*. 苹果酸合酶; *MDH*. 苹果酸脱氢酶; *CS*. 柠檬酸合酶; *ACO*. 乌头酸水合酶; *ICDH*. 异柠檬酸脱氢酶; *α -OGDH*. α -氧戊二酸脱氢酶; *SCS*. 琥珀酰-可合酶; *SuDH*. 琥珀酸脱氢酶。

NINV. Neutral invertase; *FRK*. Fructokinase; *PFK*. Phosphofructokinase; *SUSY*. Sucrose synthase; *HK*. Hexokinase; *PGI*. Phosphoglucosomerase; *GAPDH*. Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase; *PK*. Pyruvate kinase; *PPDK*. Pyruvatephosphate dikinase; *PEPC*. Phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase; *PEPCK*. Phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase; *PDHB*. Pyruvate dehydrogenase beta subunit; *AceB*. Malate synthase; *MDH*. Malate dehydrogenase; *CS*. Citrate synthase; *ACO*. Aconitate hydratase; *ICDH*. Isocitrate dehydrogenase; *α -OGDH*. α -oxoglutarate dehydrogenase; *SCS*. Succinyl-coa synthase; *SuDH*. Succinate dehydrogenase.

图5 桑葚中可溶性糖和有机酸合成途径

Fig. 5 The soluble sugar and organic acid biosynthetic pathways in mulberry fruit

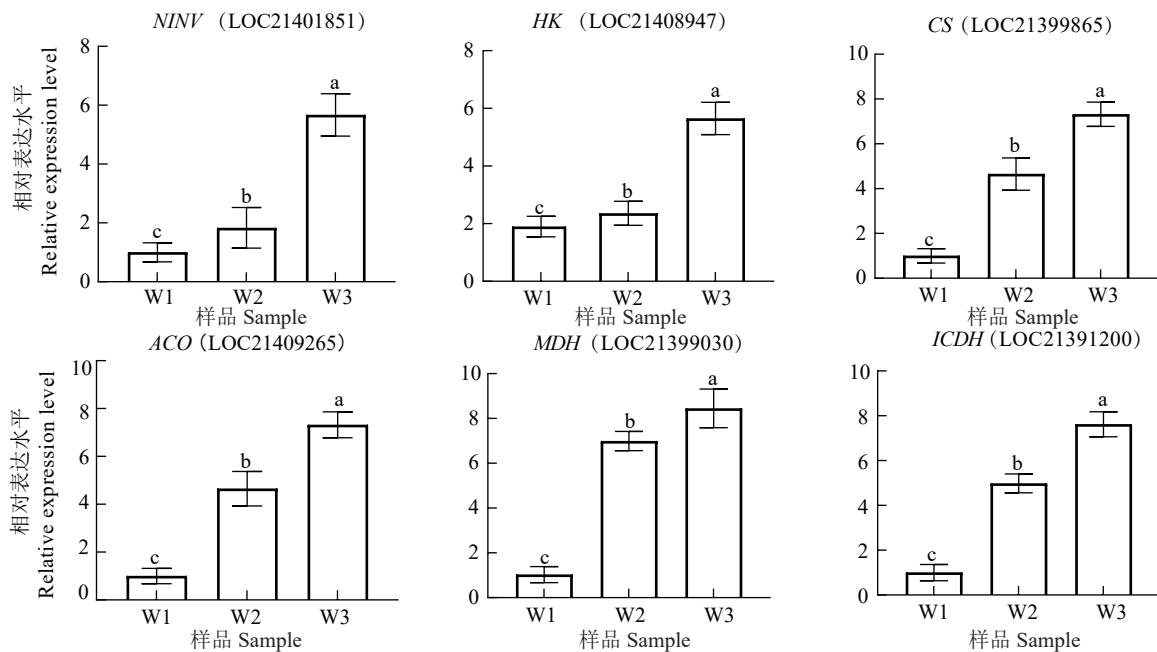


图6 qRT-PCR 验证桑葚中与可溶性糖和有机酸代谢相关的差异表达基因

Fig. 6 qRT-PCR validation of differentially expressed genes related to soluble sugar and organic acid metabolism

3 讨 论

可溶性糖和有机酸含量是衡量果实品质和口感的重要指标。因此,揭示桑葚果实可溶性糖积累和有机酸代谢的分子机制具有重要意义。不同组学技术的结合深入地解析了枇杷、西瓜、芒果等成熟果实中糖积累和有机酸代谢的机制^[11,17,22]。蔗糖几乎是低糖和高糖积累植物中总糖含量变化的全部因子^[23]。笔者在本研究中共测定12种可溶性糖,通过分析仅发现蔗糖、葡萄糖和D-果糖含量差异显著,在桑葚发育过程中含量明显增加,并在W3达到峰值。在果实成熟的中后期,这3种糖的快速积累可能决定了桑葚的甜度。同样,在其他果实的研究中也观察到了类似的糖积累模式^[24,14]。有机酸在水果营养中起着至关重要的作用,其含量取决于酸合成和降解之间的平衡^[14]。中等浓度的有机酸可以增强水果的味道,但高酸含量往往会降低水果的品质。柠檬酸和苹果酸是甜瓜果实中的主要有机酸^[25]。在桑葚中检测到丰富的苹果酸、柠檬酸和琥珀酸,苹果酸和琥珀酸的含量在桑葚果实成熟过程中呈先上升后下降的趋势,而柠檬酸的积累呈现持续上升趋势。这说明苹果酸、柠檬酸和琥珀酸为桑葚的主要酸,苹果酸和琥珀酸合成和降解之间的平衡影响着果实的口感。在笔者课题组的研究中4-氨基丁酸和莽草酸等有机酸随着果实的发育积累量呈现降低的趋势,马来酸在果实成熟前期未检测到积累,而在成熟时检测到其大量的积累。综上所述,丰富多样的糖和有机酸是随着桑葚的成熟呈现不同程度的积累与降解,这些变化影响着果实最终的口味。

蔗糖由叶片(源组织)的光合作用产生,随后转运到果实(汇组织)并储存在果实中^[26]。蔗糖的这种远距离转运是由蔗糖转运蛋白和SWEET外排蛋白控制的,而SWEET在功能上具有底物偏好蔗糖、葡萄糖或果糖^[27-28]的特点。蔗糖进入到水果细胞可以通过NINV转化为果糖和葡萄糖,SUSY也可以催化蔗糖转化为果糖和D-葡萄糖^[29]。检测到2个SUSY(*LOC21386815*,*LOC21402491*)在果实发育初期中表达水平很高,而随着果实发育表达水平呈现大幅度下降;NINV基因则随着果实的发育表达呈现上升的趋势。结果表明桑葚中蔗糖转化为葡萄糖和果糖主要受NINV基因调控。葡萄

糖和果糖被HK和FRK磷酸化为葡萄糖-6磷酸(G6P)和果糖-6-磷酸(F6P)^[30]。笔者在本研究发现,所鉴定到差异表达的2个FRK在果实发育初期高表达;而仅鉴定到1个差异表达的HK基因,且其表达随着果实发育逐渐升高,这表明桑葚中通过促进HK基因的表达,将葡萄糖转化为糖酵解等下游过程的中间化合物(图4)。在对甜瓜的研究中发现高甜度和低甜度的两个品种中,高甜度品种中抑制糖转化为中间化合物的基因HK和FK的表达^[22]。

TCA循环在能量代谢、糖异生、脂肪生成和氨基酸合成中发挥重要作用。草酰乙酸经CS催化直接合成柠檬酸,然后柠檬酸被ACO降解为异柠檬酸,然后异柠檬酸被ICDH转运生成2-戊羟二酸^[11]。本研究发现,CS和ICDH基因在果实发育过程中表达量大幅升高,说明桑葚中柠檬酸代谢增强并受这些基因调控。MDH与果实中苹果酸的生物合成和降解有关^[30]。本研究中发现两个MDH基因在果实成熟过程中表达量增加,而且MDH的表达量与苹果酸含量显著相关,表明它们是苹果酸代谢的关键参与者。综上所述,桑葚果实在成熟过程中TCA循环得到了促进,影响了有机酸含量,最终影响了果实的口感差异。

4 结 论

研究共检测到64种代谢物,其中有机酸52种、可溶性糖12种。数据分析发现,蔗糖、葡萄糖和D-果糖为桑葚中主要可溶性糖类物质,苹果酸、柠檬酸和琥珀酸为桑葚中主要有机酸类物质。转录组分析共获得58.65 Gb Clean Data,W3 vs W1组获得的差异基因数量最多,高达9098个。KEGG富集分析表明,W2 vs W1和W3 vs W2组中差异基因富集到与糖酸相关代谢通路,主要为淀粉和蔗糖代谢和三羧酸循环通路,在W2 vs W1组中有52个上调的差异基因富集到淀粉和蔗糖代谢,27个上调的差异基因富集到柠檬酸循环,在W3 vs W2组中有27个上调的差异基因富集到淀粉和蔗糖代谢。代谢组和转录组关联分析表明,NINV、HK、CS、ACO、MDH和ICDH是桑葚糖酸积累的关键调控基因。笔者在本研究中鉴定出的丰富代谢物和差异基因不仅为桑葚的优质遗传改良提供大量信息,而且也为其浆果类作物的有关研究提供有价值的参考。

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