

果树果实着色的分子调控机制研究进展

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摘 要:果实色泽作为果实成熟度和品质的关键指标,直接影响消费者购买意愿和果品市场价值。果实呈色主要依靠类胡萝卜素、花青素和叶绿素三类色素的动态平衡,涉及复杂的代谢调控网络及多途径互作。重点综述果实着色过程中三类色素的变化趋势,对影响果实着色的环境因素、基因调控和表观遗传层面涉及的分子机制进行归纳,旨在为改善果实外观并通过分子辅助育种技术选育高品质果树品种提供理论支持。

关键词:果实品质;类胡萝卜素;花青素;叶绿素;转录调控

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Research advances in the molecular regulatory mechanisms of fruit coloration in fruit trees

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Abstract: The color of fruit is one of the core indicators for judging fruit maturity and a necessary condition for evaluating fruit quality, which greatly promotes consumers' purchasing intention and market competitiveness. Traditional cultivation methods have disadvantages such as long cycles and limited effects on targeted trait improvement. Therefore, new gene editing techniques and multi-omics combined analysis (metabolomics, transcriptomics, and proteomics) are being widely used. Whether molecular marker-assisted breeding can be used to precisely and directionally regulate fruit color is a current research focus and a future research direction. Fruit coloring mainly relies on the dynamic balance among three types of pigments, namely carotenoids, anthocyanins, and chlorophylls, in the fruit of fruit trees, involving complex metabolic regulatory networks and multi-pathway interactions. This paper focuses on summarizing the changing trends of the three types of pigments during fruit coloring and classifying the molecular mechanisms involved in environmental factors, gene regulation, and epigenetic levels that affect fruit coloring. Carotenoids give fruits yellow, orange, red, and purple colors due to the conjugated double bonds in their polyene chain. Besides their coloring function, they also have photoprotective, antioxidant, and plant hormone precursor (ABA) synthesis functions. The key enzymes involved in their metabolic pathways mainly include PSY, PDS, ZDS, CHYB, LCYb, and LCYe. The synthesis of carotenoids is regulated by both environmental and transcription factors. Environmental factors mainly include light, temperature, and the application of exogenous plant growth regulators. For temperature, low temperature during storage can promote the synthesis of carotenoids in citrus peels (*CcPSY2*, *CcCHYB*, and *CcZEP*), but the upregulation of chlorophyll cycle genes may also mask the coloring of carotenoids, resulting in uncolored peels. However, under cultivation conditions, low temperature affects the absorption of nitrogen in the soil and activates the transcriptional activity of related synthesis

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genes. Exogenous plant growth regulators commonly used include ethylene, abscisic acid (ABA), and methyl jasmonate (MeJA), all of which significantly regulate the expression of metabolism-related genes. Transcription factors mainly involve MADS-box, NAC, MYB, and bHLH, which complete the synthesis or degradation of carotenoids through interactions with metabolic genes. In addition, transcription factors related to hormone signal transduction pathways, such as AP2/ERF, can also interact with MADS-box and other transcription factors. The molecular regulatory mechanism of anthocyanin synthesis has been well studied. Their biosynthesis is dominated by the MYB-bHLH-WD40 (MBW) complex, and the key enzymes mainly include PAL, CHS, CHI, F3H, DFR, ANS, and UFGT. The MYB family, along with bHLH and WD proteins, forms the transcriptional regulatory network that activates structural genes such as *ANS* and *UFGT*. NAC and bZIP enhance regulatory complexity through cross-pathway interactions. The interaction of light and temperature in environmental regulation and the accumulation of anthocyanin content under drought and other stresses significantly enhance the plant's resistance to stress environments. The regulatory pathways of exogenous plant growth regulators are relatively complex. On the one hand, application can directly regulate transcription factors and indirectly activate or inhibit the expression of genes related to the anthocyanin metabolic pathway. On the other hand, the application of exogenous regulators can change the interaction network between the receptors of various endogenous hormone signaling pathways and the MBW complex or other transcription factors. Under the combined action of internal and external hormones, the efficiency of pigment accumulation can be significantly improved. In epigenetics, long-chain noncoding RNAs (lncRNAs) and microRNAs (miRNAs) play a significant role in the accumulation of anthocyanins by regulating transcription factors or chromatin remodeling to influence anthocyanin metabolism. Chlorophyll plays a core role in photosynthesis, and it also has antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-cancer and anti-obesity medical and health care functions. Its metabolism is regulated by the dynamic balance of synthesis (*GluRS*, *POR*, and *CAO*) and degradation (*PAO*, *SGR*, and *PPH*) pathways to control fruit de-greening. The transcription factor regulation of chlorophyll includes gene families such as GOLDEN2-LIKE (GLK), MYB, NAC, bHLH and APRR. Among them, the GLK family (kiwifruit *AchGLK* and apple *MdGLK1*) is considered a core regulatory factor for chloroplast development and can jointly regulate chloroplast development and the gene expression of chlorophyll synthase with MYB. Transcription factors related to hormone signal transduction, such as AP2/ERF, mediate de-greening by binding to the promoters of *PPH* and *PAO*. The most important environmental factor, light conditions, can induce endogenous ethylene signals to mediate chlorophyll degradation. Different light quality regulation mechanisms also vary. In addition, the regulation of chlorophyll metabolism by environmental factors is particularly special in the case of metal ions, and the gene expression of ion transport proteins is crucial. The gene expression of grape Fe^{2+} transporter *VvIRT* and peach peel Mg^{2+} transporter *PpMGT* has been studied. DNA hypomethylation in epigenetic regulation leads to abnormal chloroplast development in pineapples, and the reduction of methylation levels in citrus and strawberries inhibits the expression of chlorophyll synthesis genes. Currently, there is a lack of systematic and in-depth analysis of the temporal sequence of chlorophyll and carotenoid accumulation during fruit ripening, the competitive synthesis of anthocyanins and carotenoids, and the synergistic or antagonistic effects among the three. Revealing the key nodes of cross-pathway metabolism, such as the common transcription factors MYB, bHLH and NAC, is beneficial for the global regulation of pigment metabolism. At present, the interaction mechanism between epigenetics and hormone signals is still unclear, and the molecular mechanism by which environmental stress (such as low temperature and drought) regulates pigment metabolism through epigenetic means also needs further

study. This is an important direction for improving the stress resistance of fruit trees. Based on the existing molecular mechanisms, the accumulation of fruit pigments can be directly regulated, and a coordinated interaction model of light quality, temperature and hormones can be established in facility cultivation to maximize the accumulation of fruit pigments. Fruit color is not only an appearance indicator but is also closely related to nutritional value, storability and stress resistance. In the future, it is necessary to explore the relationship between the fruit color regulation network and the comprehensive quality of fruit, so as to meet market demands and efficiently cultivate high-quality fruit tree varieties.

Key words: Fruit quality; Carotenoid; Anthocyanin; Chlorophyll; Transcriptional regulation

色泽是影响果实市场价值和消费者购买意愿的标准之一^[1]。果树和蔬菜等园艺作物中的类胡萝卜素、花青素和叶绿素通常是影响着色的三大色素,其呈色主要由类胡萝卜素或花青素的积累以及叶绿素降解的比例决定^[2-4]。近年来,环境因素(如光、温度、植物激素)通过调控转录因子以及表观遗传修饰对色素代谢的分子机制逐渐被揭示。然而,当前研究多聚焦于单一色素的代谢过程,对跨通路调控节点的整合分析还不充分。此外,三类色素间的竞争性合成或协同积累机制也缺乏系统性的探讨。因此,笔者在本文中围绕近年来果实着色过程中三类色素(类胡萝卜素、花青素和叶绿素)的分子调控机制研究展开综述,结合多组学以及基因编辑技术,旨在发现跨通路代谢的关键调控因子(如MYB、bHLH、NAC)。这将为使用分子标记辅助育种进一步筛选色素代谢关键基因提供理论依据。同时,定向增强色素积累也可提高果实的营养品质、贮藏性和抗逆性,对优质品种选育和果实产量提质增效具有重要意义。

1 类胡萝卜素

类胡萝卜素(Carotenoid)作为脂溶性萜类化合物,通过异戊二烯骨架构建C₄₀或C₃₀结构^[5],通常由其多烯链共轭双键赋予果实黄、橙、红、紫等色泽^[6]。除呈色功能外,类胡萝卜素还兼具光保护、抗氧化以及为植物激素(如ABA)的合成提供前体等作用^[7],同时参与光吸收过程,是果实呈色的重要化合物类型之一^[8]。高等植物体内类胡萝卜素主要通过MEP(甲基赤藓糖醇)途径合成^[9],影响类胡萝卜素合成的关键酶有八氢番茄红素合成酶(PSY)、八氢番茄红素脱饱和酶(PDS)、 ζ -胡萝卜素脱饱和酶(ZDS)、 ζ -胡萝卜素异构酶(ZISO)、胡萝卜素顺式-反式异构酶(CRTISO)、 β -羟化酶(BCH)、玉米黄质环氧化酶(ZEP)、 β -胡萝卜素羟化酶(CHYB)、 β -环

化酶(LCYb)、番茄红素 ϵ -环化酶(LCYe)、 ϵ -羟化酶(ECH)和 β -羟化酶(BCH)等^[10-12]。

1.1 环境因素

果实中类胡萝卜素的合成代谢途径是一个复杂的、多方面控制的过程。已有的研究表明,环境因素(如水、温度、矿质元素、外源植物激素等)能够通过调节代谢途径中相关酶的基因表达来控制果实中类胡萝卜素的含量。在遮光的柑橘果实中,类胡萝卜素生物合成的关键基因PSY、PDS、ZDS1、LCY2a、LCY2b和CHX的表达显著下调,但并未影响类胡萝卜素前体途径(MEP)基因(DXS、HDR1、GGPS1)以及分解代谢基因(CCD4b1)的表达^[13],这表明光照信号对类胡萝卜素代谢的调控具有路径特异性。温度则对果实中类胡萝卜素的积累具有双重调控特性:在柑橘果实生长过程中,土壤低温影响根系对氮素的吸收,氮素供应的减少会促进类胡萝卜素合成相关基因(如PSY)的表达,从而促进果实着色^[14];在5℃低温条件下贮藏柑橘时,虽然类胡萝卜素合成相关基因CcPSY2、CcCHYB和CcZEP的表达上调,但低温同样导致叶绿素循环相关基因的上调,叶绿素显著积累导致类胡萝卜素的颜色无法呈现,果皮无法着色^[15]。因此在生产和贮藏过程中,需采取针对性的控温技术以促进果树果实类胡萝卜素的积累,进而提高果实品质和市场价值。

植物激素对促进果实着色起着重要作用。近年来,外源激素应用对内源激素平衡及类胡萝卜素合成相关酶基因表达影响的研究不断深入,进一步完善了植物激素调控类胡萝卜素合成途径的理论框架。Li等^[16]研究发现外源施加乙烯(ETH)的蓝莓果实中,ETH负调控VcPSY、VcPDS、VcZ-ISO、VcZDS、VcCHYE/LUT1和VcCHYB/LUT5合成,却显著提高了类胡萝卜素裂解基因(VcCCD1)、ABA生物合成的关键基因(VcNCED1)表达量,使得ABA在蓝莓

中得到积累并促进果实成熟。而外源ABA诱导的CsERF110-CsERF53模块则促进了柑橘果皮类胡萝卜素的合成^[17],这表明乙烯和ABA之间存在复杂的交互网络来调控类胡萝卜素的代谢途径。此外,外源茉莉酸甲酯(MeJA)通过激活柑橘中的CsMPK6-CsMYC2信号模块,抑制CsMYC2激活CsCCD4b、CsPSY、CsLCYb、CsBCH等基因的启动子表达,从而抑制类胡萝卜素的积累^[18]。目前,植物激素调控类胡萝卜素合成的分子机制逐渐清晰,但外源激素与内源激素协同调控的作用机制仍需完善,未来研究应聚焦于外源激素对内源激素信号通路关键基因的

调控,阐明其如何间接激活类胡萝卜素合成酶基因的转录,从而完善激素互作的理论框架。

1.2 转录因子

转录因子对类胡萝卜素的合成调控复杂且多样,目前在果实中鉴定出MADS-box、NAC、MYB、bHLH和bZIP等参与类胡萝卜素的合成,表1列出主要转录因子类型、调控的关键基因以及具体调控路径^[19-36]。MADS转录因子通常在柑橘、桃的果皮中促进类胡萝卜素合成基因(如PSY)的表达,并且在柑橘中特异性激活CsSGR(叶绿素降解基因)启动子,稳定叶绿素和类胡萝卜素的动态平衡^[19-20]。

表 1 调控果实类胡萝卜素合成的转录因子及具体路径

Table 1 Transcription factors and specific pathways regulating carotenoid synthesis in fruits

转录因子 Transcription factor	物种 Species	名称 Name	调控路径 Regulatory pathway	参考文献 Reference
MADS-box 转录因子 MADS-box transcription factor	柑橘 <i>Citrus</i>	<i>CsMADS3</i>	促进 <i>CsPSY1</i> 、 <i>CsLCYb2</i> 、 <i>CsSGR</i> (叶绿素降解基因)表达,正调控维持二者动态平衡。 <i>CsMADS3</i> promotes the expression of <i>CsPSY1</i> , <i>CsLCYb2</i> , and <i>CsSGR</i> (chlorophyll degradation genes) and maintain their dynamic balance.	[19]
	桃 <i>Prunus persica</i>	<i>PpMADS2</i> , <i>PpMADS3</i>	二者互作增强 <i>PpPSY</i> 和 <i>PpCHYB</i> 启动子的转录活性,正调控类胡萝卜素合成。 The two interact to enhance the transcriptional activity of the <i>PpPSY</i> and <i>PpCHYB</i> promoters and positively regulate carotenoid synthesis.	[20]
	榴莲 <i>Durio zibethinus</i> L.	<i>DzAGL6-1</i>	与 CArG 元件相互作用来激活 <i>DzPSY</i> 的启动子活性,促进类胡萝卜素积累。 <i>DzAGL6-1</i> interacts with CArG elements to activate the promoter activity of <i>DzPSY</i> and promote carotenoid accumulation.	[21]
NAC 转录因子 NAC transcription factor	芒果 <i>Mangifera indica</i> L.	<i>NAC6</i>	激活 <i>PSY</i> 、 <i>PDS</i> 、 <i>ZDS</i> 、 <i>CRTISO</i> 、 <i>BCH</i> 和 <i>VDE</i> 的表达,上调类胡萝卜素含量。 <i>NAC6</i> activates of <i>PSY</i> , <i>PDS</i> , <i>ZDS</i> , <i>CRTISO</i> , <i>BCH</i> , <i>VDE</i> and up-regulated carotenoid content.	[22]
	番木瓜 <i>Carica papaya</i> L.	<i>CpNAC1</i>	<i>CpNAC1</i> 结合 <i>CpPDS2/4</i> 启动子中的 NAC 结合位点(NABS)基序,促进类胡萝卜素合成。 <i>CpNAC1</i> binds to the NAC binding site (nabs) motif in the <i>CpPDS2/4</i> promoter and promote carotenoid accumulation.	[23]
		<i>CpNAC2</i>	<i>CpNAC2</i> 与乙烯转录因子 <i>CpEIN3a</i> 互作,激活 <i>CpPDS2/4</i> 、 <i>CpLCYe</i> 、 <i>CpCHYb</i> ,正调控类胡萝卜素积累。 <i>CpNAC2</i> interacts with the ethylene transcription factor <i>CpEIN3a</i> , activating <i>CpPDS2/4</i> , <i>CpLCYe</i> , <i>CpCHYb</i> , and promote carotenoid accumulation.	[24]
	金橘 <i>Fortunella crassifolia</i> Swingle	<i>FcrNAC22</i>	红光特异性激活 <i>FcrNAC22</i> ,随后 <i>FcrLCYB1</i> 、 <i>FcrBCH2c</i> 表达上升,促进类胡萝卜素合成。 Red light specifically activates <i>FcrNAC22</i> , the expression of <i>FcrLCYB1</i> , <i>FcrBCH2c</i> increased, and promote carotenoid accumulation.	[25]
MYB 转录因子 MYB transcription factor	葡萄 <i>Vitis vinifera</i>	<i>MYB24</i>	在光照和辐射刺激色斑的情况下, <i>MYB24</i> 被激活并结合 <i>CRTISO2</i> ,正调控类胡萝卜素积累。 In the presence of light and radiation-stimulated pigmentation, <i>MYB24</i> is activated and binds to <i>CRTISO2</i> , positively regulating carotenoid accumulation.	[26]
	木瓜 <i>Papaya</i>	<i>CpMYB1</i> , <i>CpMYB2</i>	<i>CpMYB1</i> 、 <i>CpMYB2</i> 抑制类胡萝卜素合成基因的表达,负调控类胡萝卜素合成。 <i>CpMYB1</i> and <i>CpMYB2</i> inhibit the expression of carotenoid synthesis genes, and negatively regulate carotenoid synthesis.	[27]
	柑橘 <i>Citrus reticulata</i>	<i>CrMYB33</i>	<i>CrMYB33</i> 激活 <i>CrLCYb2</i> 、 <i>CrBCH2</i> 转录活性,同时抑制叶绿素降解酶 <i>CrCLH</i> ,正向调控类胡萝卜素和叶绿素合成。 <i>CrMYB33</i> activates the transcriptional activity of <i>CrLCYb2</i> and <i>CrBCH2</i> , and participating in the regulation of chlorophyll degradation.	[28]

表 1 (续) Table 1 (Continued)				
转录因子 Transcription factor	物种 Species	名称 Name	调控路径 Regulatory pathway	参考文献 Reference
bHLH 转录因子 bHLH transcription factor	柑橘 <i>Citrus</i> spp.	<i>CsTT8</i>	激活 <i>CsPDS</i> 、 <i>CsLCYE</i> 、 <i>CsZEP</i> 和 <i>CsNCED2</i> 表达,促进类胡萝卜素合成。 <i>CsTT8</i> activates <i>CsPDS</i> , <i>CsLCYE</i> , <i>CsZEP</i> and <i>CsNCED2</i> expression, and promote carotenoid accumulation.	[29]
bZIP 转录因子 bZIP transcription factor	柑橘 <i>Citrus</i> spp.	<i>CsbZIP44</i>	参与 CsHB5-CsbZIP44 转录模块,激活类胡萝卜素合成基因 <i>CsDXR</i> 、 <i>CsGGPPs</i> 、 <i>CsBCH1</i> 和 <i>CsNCED2</i> 表达,促进类胡萝卜素积累。 <i>CsbZIP44</i> participates in the CsHB5- CsbZIP44 transcription module and activate of carotenoid synthesis genes <i>CsDXR</i> , <i>CsGGPPs</i> , <i>CsBCH1</i> , <i>CsDXR</i> , <i>CsGGPPs</i> , <i>CsBCH1</i> and <i>CsNCED2</i> expression, promotes carotenoid accumulation.	[30]
WRKY 转录因子 WRKY transcription factor	桃 <i>P. persica</i>	<i>PpWRKY4</i>	抑制类胡萝卜素降解基因 <i>PpCCD4</i> 表达,正调控类胡萝卜素合成。 Inhibition of carotenoid degradation gene <i>PpCCD4</i> expression positively regulates carotenoid synthesis.	[31]
	枇杷 <i>Eriobotrya japonica</i> Lindl.	<i>EjWRKY6</i>	喷施 ABA 促进 <i>EjWRKY6</i> 表达,诱导类胡萝卜素合成相关基因 <i>EjPSY1</i> 、 <i>EjLCYB</i> 、 <i>EjBCH2</i> 转录。 ABA spraying promoted <i>EjWRKY6</i> expression and induced the transcription of carotenoid synthesis- related genes <i>EjPSY1</i> , <i>EjLCYB</i> , and <i>EjBCH2</i> .	[32]
SBP-box 转录因子 SBP-box transcription factor	枇杷 <i>Eriobotrya japonica</i> Lindl.	<i>EjSBP01</i> <i>EjSBP09</i>	黄色果肉 <i>EjSBP01</i> 、 <i>EjSBP09</i> 表达上调,正调控类胡萝卜素合成和积累。 Yellow pulp <i>EjSBP01</i> and <i>EjSBP09</i> expression was up-regulated and was regulating carotenoid synthesis and accumulation.	[33]
	苹果 <i>Malus domestica</i>	<i>MdAP2-34</i>	增强 <i>MdPSY2-1</i> 的转录活性,类胡萝卜素得到积累。 <i>MdAP2-34</i> promotes the transcriptional activity of <i>MdPSY2-1</i> and accumulate carotenoids.	[34]
AP2/ERF 转录因子 AP2/ERFtranscription factor	柑橘 <i>Citrus sinensis</i> L. Osbeck	<i>CsERF061</i>	激活 <i>PSY1</i> 、 <i>PDS</i> 、 <i>CRTISO</i> 、 <i>LCYb1</i> 、 <i>BCH</i> 、 <i>ZEP</i> 、 <i>NCED3</i> 、 <i>CCD1</i> 和 <i>CCD4</i> 的启动子,促进类胡萝卜素合成。 <i>CsERF061</i> activates the promoters of <i>PSY1</i> , <i>PDS</i> , <i>CRTISO</i> , <i>LCYb1</i> , <i>BCH</i> , <i>ZEP</i> , <i>NCED3</i> , <i>CCD1</i> and <i>CCD4</i> to promote carotenoid synthesis.	[35]
ABI 转录因子 ABI transcription factor	苹果 <i>M. domestica</i> Borkh.	<i>MdABI5</i>	MdABI5-MdMYBS1 级联调控类胡萝卜素的积累,激活 <i>MdPSY2-1</i> 、 <i>MdLCYb</i> 等合成基因的表达。 MdABI5-MdMYBS1 cascade regulates the accumulation of carotenoids, and activates the expression of synthetic genes such as <i>MdPSY2-1</i> and <i>MdLCYb</i> .	[36]

NAC 转录因子则作为芒果、番木瓜中类胡萝卜素合成的正调控因子,影响关键合成基因 *PDS* 的转录活性^[22-23]。此外 NAC 还能与乙烯转录因子 *CpEIN3a* 启动子中的 NAC 结合位点(NABS)结合协同激活番木瓜 *CpPDS2/4* 的表达^[24]。MYB、bHLH 等转录因子同样能够影响类胡萝卜素合成途径中相关酶的基因表达^[26-29],*MYB24* 则能够在葡萄果皮花青素缺乏的条件下被光照激活,并与类胡萝卜素代谢基因(*CRTISO2*)的启动子结合,调控花青素和类胡萝卜素的竞争性合成^[26]。其他转录因子如 WRKY、SBP-box 等蛋白家族的转录机制也逐渐被阐明^[31-33]。

激素信号转导途径的相关转录因子参与果实内源激素的合成以及类胡萝卜素的代谢。乙烯响应因子(AP2/ERF)是最主要的转录因子,能够直接调控合成途径基因的表达,也可与 MADS-box、MYB 等转录因子互作间接调控。在苹果和柑橘中 *MdAP2-*

34、*CsERF061* 结合 *PSY*、*LCYb*、*CRTISO* 等启动子^[34-35],也可在木瓜中 *CpMADS4* 与 *CpERF9* 相互作用抑制 *PDS* 和 *LCYb* 的表达从而减少类胡萝卜素的积累^[37]。除了 AP2/ERF 外,生长素响应因子 SIARF、油菜素内酯响应因子 *SIBZR* 等都在调控番茄果实的类胡萝卜素合成^[38-39],但对于果树果实来说其他激素信号转导的转录因子仍缺少深入研究。

1.3 表观修饰

DNA 甲基化是表观遗传中一种主要的机制,类胡萝卜素代谢相关基因的 DNA 甲基化变化趋势也为完善果实着色的分子调控网络提供新的理论支撑。甜樱桃着色期间类胡萝卜素降解相关基因的 5'UTR 区域存在 DNA 低甲基化^[40]。目前研究利用改变 DNA 甲基化的化学抑制剂揭示了 DNA 甲基化在调节类胡萝卜素生成中的作用途径^[41]。5-氮杂胞苷(5-aza)是一种 DNA 甲基化抑制剂,应用 5-aza 可

激活 *CpCCD1* 等分解基因的转录活性,诱导柑橘果实中类胡萝卜素降解^[42-43]。RNA 修饰也参与对类胡萝卜素合成的调控,miRNAs、lncRNAs 能够靶向调节类胡萝卜素生物合成的相关 TFs 和关键酶基因。黄桃果皮中 *PpMYB9* 与类胡萝卜素合成相关,mdm-miR858 则通过靶向剪切抑制 *PpMYB9* 基因的表达,为 miRNA 参与类胡萝卜素合成提供理论基础^[44]。甜瓜 lncRNAs 的靶基因则直接富集于 *NCED1*、*PSY1* 等合成基因,促进类胡萝卜素的积累^[45]。

2 花青素

花青素(Anthocyanidin),又称花色素,是属于植物类黄酮化合物中的一种水溶性糖苷,广泛存在于果实、叶片和花瓣中,赋予植物器官红色、橙色、紫色、蓝色或黑色^[46]。该色素分子具有类黄酮物质所特有的“C6-C3-C6 三环”碳骨架结构,其化学结构为 3,5,7-羟基-2-苯基苯并吡喃,在自然界中主要呈现 6 种基本形态,包括天竺葵素(Pelargonidin)、矢车菊素(Cyanidin)、芍药花素(Peonidin)、飞燕草素(Delphinidin)、矮牵牛素(Petunidin)和锦葵素(Malvidin)^[47]。在不同 pH 下花青素呈现不同颜色,当植物细胞液泡 pH<7 时呈红色,酸性越强则颜色越红,pH 在 7~8 时呈紫色,pH 在 8~11 范围时为蓝色,碱性越强则为蓝黑色^[48]。糖基化是提高花青素稳定性并改变花青素颜色的重要修饰手段,通常发生在 A 环的糖基化程度越高,花青素越偏向紫色,其中 C-5 位点糖基化使花青素颜色向红紫色偏移^[49]。在金属离子螯合作用中,Mg²⁺、Fe³⁺ 分别与飞燕草素、矢车菊素结合形成蓝色^[50],Cu²⁺、Fe²⁺ 则能够提高花青素色泽^[51]。此外花青素通过共价键与酚类、氨基酸、有机酸和生物碱等其他小分子或次生代谢产物结合有助于花青素色泽的稳定形成^[52]。作为植物应对生物与非生物胁迫的重要化合物,花青素生物合成的分子调控机制主要围绕结构基因的编码功能及转录因子的调控网络展开。核心结构基因编码花青素生物合成途径中的关键酶,如苯丙氨酸解氨酶(PAL)、查尔酮合成酶(CHS)、查尔酮异构酶(CHI)、黄酮 3-羟化酶(F3H)、二氢黄酮醇 4-还原酶(DFR)、花青素合成酶(ANS)、糖基转移酶(UFGT)等^[53]。转录调控层面则以 MYB-bHLH-WD40(MBW)复合体为代表,通过顺式作用元件与结构基因启动子互作实现多层次调控。近年来,花青素的抗氧化、抗衰老、预防心脑血管

血管疾病等医疗价值被广泛关注,因此明确花青素合成的代谢途径以及分子机制对高效合成花青素至关重要。

2.1 转录因子

研究表明,MYB、bHLH、WD 蛋白家族成员及其形成的 MYB-bHLH-WD40(MBW)复合物是花青素生物合成的核心转录调控模块^[54]。这些转录因子通过特异性识别结构基因的启动子区域并特异性结合,动态调节靶基因的转录活性,从而调控花青素的生物合成。

在果树果实中,MYB 家族的调控花青素合成的功能具有显著多样性。红肉苹果是目前遗传育种研究的热点,新疆 1 号红肉苹果中 *MYB10* 通过直接激活花青素生物合成的基因 *ANS*、*UFGT*,显著提升果实花青素的含量^[55]。而 Wang 等^[56]发现,野生红肉苹果具有较高的黄酮类化合物含量。进一步研究发现,苹果果实中的 MYB12 能够与 bHLH3/33 形成异源二聚体,并特异性结合无色花青素还原酶(*LAR*)基因启动子,促进 *LAR* 基因表达,从而驱动原花青素合成。根据苹果和拟南芥的 R2R3-MYB 蛋白序列,在梨基因组中共鉴定出 184 个 R2R3-MYB 转录因子候选基因^[57],梨果实中 *PyMYB10* 的转录水平与花青素合成的结构基因(*PyANS*、*PyDFR*)表达呈正相关^[58];蓝莓中已鉴定出 437 条具有 SANT 结构域的 MYB 序列,共 88 个 VcMYBs 在果皮中更高表达^[59]。*VcMYB1* 激活 *AtPAL*、*AtCHS* 和 *AtDFR* 等花青素结构基因的表达,从而使花青素积累^[60],而 *VmMYBYPAL1* 的敲除显著抑制 *CHS*、*DFR* 和 *ANS* 启动子的活性,果实花青素含量下降^[61-62]。

bHLH 作为碱性螺旋-环-螺旋(basic helix-loop-helix, bHLH)结构域转录因子,具有调控植物生长发育、参与植物抗逆性、次生代谢等作用^[63],在果树果实中, bHLH 通常与 MYBs 家族协同调控花青素合成途径中的关键基因。Li 等^[64]研究表明 bHLH 转录因子的 N 端存在 MYB 相互作用区(IR),能够与 R2R3-MYB 蛋白相互作用,早酥梨果皮中 *PbbHLH2* 与 *PbMYB9/10* 形成复合物,协同激活类黄酮合成途径基因的转录起始。在苹果中 *MdbHLH162* 破坏花青素激活的 MdMYB1-MdbHLH3/33 复合物的形成,并削弱 *MdDFR*、*MdUFGT* 表达,同时整合 GA 和 JA 信号,负调控花青素的生物合成^[65]。通过转录组分析, Wang 等^[66]在红心猕猴桃中发现, AcMYB123-

AcbHLH42 复合体通过激活 *AcANS* 和 *AcF3GT* 基因的表达,促进果实内果皮红色表型形成。

WD 蛋白作为 MBW 复合物的核心组分,能够增强 MBW 调控网络的稳定性。Liu 等^[67]从猕猴桃中鉴定出 AcMYBF110-AcbHLH4-AcWDR1 和 AcMYBF110-AcbHLH5-AcWDR1 两种复合体,通过调控 *AcbHLH1* 和 *AcWDR1* 的转录活性来间接影响花青素代谢。草莓 *FaMYB5* 主导的 *FaMYB5*-*FaEGL3*-*FaLWD1*-like 复合物通过直接激活 *F3'H*、*AHA10* 和 *LAR* 基因来促进花青素和原花青素的积累^[68]。无花果的 WD 蛋白 FcTTG1 与 FcMYB114、FcMYB123 和 FcbHLH42 蛋白形成互作网络,精细调控花青素的合成^[69]。

近年研究发现,除了 MBW 复合体的多层级调控外,其他转录因子家族也被逐渐发掘参与花青素合成代谢。不同于 MBW 转录因子间的互作机制,其他转录因子则更多通过与 MYB、bHLH 协同调控花青素生物合成的关键酶基因表达,从而影响花青素的积累或降解(表 2)^[70-85]。bZIP 家族成员 HY5 已被鉴定为拟南芥、苹果、血橙和番茄花青素生物合成的正调控因子,蓝莓中 *VcbZIP55* 与 *VcMYB1* 启动子上的 G-BOX 基序结合,激活 *VcMYB1* 的表达,从而促进花青素的合成^[70]。NAC 转录因子是跨通路代谢的重要节点,能够调控多种色素的合成,蓝莓 *VcNAC072* 可与 MYB 转录因子 *AtPAP1* 互作并激活花青素合成基因的表达^[76],苹果 *MdNAC52* 也能通过 *MdMYB9* 和 *MdMYB11* 协同提高 *MdDFR*、*MdANS*、*MdUFGT* 的转录活性^[77]。而葡萄的 *VvNAC17* 则能促进花青素的合成,从而提高植物的抗干旱胁迫能力^[86],为转录因子互作的多层级调控花青素的合成网络提供新思路。WRKY 基因家族除了能与 MYB、bHLH 相互作用外^[79],还能够在光照条件下与 HY5 转录因子协同促进苹果果实中花青素的合成^[73]。此外,乙烯信号途径的相关转录因子 ERF 也能与不同 MYB 转录因子互作,通过不同的作用途径对花青素合成进行正向或反向调控^[81-82]。ARF、BZR 转录因子则更多抑制花青素合成基因的表达,从而负调控花青素和积累^[83-85]。

2.2 环境因素

近年来,环境因素对果树果实花青素合成的分子调控机制研究取得了显著进展。其核心调控路径在于通过调控 MBW 复合物的动态形成从而激活花

青素代谢通路。研究表明环境信号可双向调控花青素生物合成通路的关键基因^[87],花青素的稳定性低^[88],环境因子和内源激素协同调控花青素合成-降解的动态平衡,目前已知的主要调控因子包括光、温度、糖、水分和外源植物激素等。

在光照条件下,光信号通常激活 HY5(bZIP 家族成员),通过与 MYB、bHLH 等形成复合物从而促进果实花青素的合成。光信号通路通过 *FvHY5*-*FvbHLH9* 异源二聚体来调控草莓果实的花青素合成^[89]。Xing 等^[90]在苹果中研究发现,MdMPK6 激酶介导的 *MdHY5* 蛋白磷酸化可显著提高 *MdMYB1*、*MdCHI* 和 *MdUFGT* 基因的表达水平。HY5 转录因子还能够与 B-BOX(BBX)共同在光信号传导通路中调控花青素的生物合成。苹果的 *MdBBX22* 与 *MdHY5* 相互作用并增强 *MdHY5* 与其靶基因 *MdCHS* 启动子的结合能力,从而促进 UV-B 诱导的花青素积累^[75]。在蓝光的特异性激活条件下,草莓建立 *FaCRY1*-*FaCOP1*-*FaHY5* 信号模块从而显著上调 *CHS*、*ANS* 等结构基因的表达,同时 *FaHY5* 在单独作用下必须依靠 *FaBBX22* 蛋白相互作用,协同调控花青素的生物合成^[91]。此外光照不仅可以单一影响花青素合成,在温度的作用下,二者可以协同调控花青素的积累,Huang 等^[92]在血橙中发现的 *CsRuby1* 基因启动子区域,同时包含光响应 G-box 元件、LTRE(低温响应元件)和 MYC 结合位点,在光照和低温的同时诱导下,血橙中的 *CsRuby1* 基因被显著激活,提高花青素的积累效率。低温也能通过影响 MYB、bHLH 等复合物从而促进花青素的合成。海棠果实在低温胁迫下 ABA 显著在果皮积累,诱导 MpMYB11-MpbHLH79 复合物的形成,激活花青素合成关键基因 *MpCHS* 的表达^[93]。黄酮、类黄酮化合物的积累被证实可以改善植物对干旱胁迫的适应性^[94],ABA 信号通路、MYB/bHLH 转录因子的信号级联调控发挥着重要作用。对蓝莓在干旱胁迫下的代谢组和转录组分析发现,黄酮类代谢物显著积累,ABA 信号通路中的 ABF、MYBs、bHLHs 和黄酮生物合成基因的调控网络能够调节干旱诱导的蓝莓叶片中黄酮代谢物的积累^[95]。

喷施外源植物激素作为调控花青素代谢的关键技术方法,在果树栽培中能够显著促进花青素的积累。各种内源激素的信号通路受体与 MBW 复合物之间的互作网络是目前研究的热点,外源激素如何

表 2 其他调控花青素合成的转录因子及作用机制

Table 2 Other transcription factors regulating anthocyanin synthesis and mechanisms of action

转录因子 Transcription factor	物种 Species	名称 Name	调控路径 Regulatory pathway	参考文献 Reference
bZIP 转录因子 bZIP transcription factor	蓝莓 <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	<i>VcbZIP55</i>	激活 <i>VcMYB1</i> 的表达, 正调控花青素的合成。 <i>VcbZIP55</i> activates the expression of <i>VcMYB1</i> and promote the synthesis of anthocyanins.	[70]
	甜樱桃 <i>Vitis vinifera</i> L.	<i>PavbZIP6</i>	增强 <i>DFR</i> 、 <i>ANS</i> 、 <i>UFGT</i> 等合成基因的表达, 正调控花青素合成。 <i>PavbZIP6</i> enhances the expression of synthetic genes such as <i>DFR</i> , <i>ANS</i> , and <i>UFGT</i> and positively regulates anthocyanin synthesis.	[71]
	李子 <i>Prunus salicina</i>	<i>PsbZIP1</i> <i>PsbZIP10</i>	二者与 <i>PsUFGT</i> 启动子结合, 正调控花青素积累。 Both bind to the <i>PsUFGT</i> promoter to promote anthocyanin accumulation.	[72]
HY5 转录因子 HY5 transcription factor	桃 <i>P. persica</i>	<i>PpHY5</i>	激活花青素合成的结构基因 <i>PpCHS1</i> 、 <i>PpCHS2</i> 、 <i>PpDFR1</i> 以及 <i>PpMYB10.1</i> 的表达, 正调控花青素合成。 The structural genes <i>PpCHS1</i> , <i>PpCHS2</i> , <i>PpDFR1</i> , and <i>PpMYB10.1</i> , which activate anthocyanin synthesis, are regulating anthocyanin synthesis.	[73]
	砂梨 <i>Pyrus pyrifolia</i>	<i>PyHY5</i>	参与 <i>PyMYB10</i> 和 <i>PyWD40</i> 共同调控的花青素合成途径, 激活 <i>CHS</i> 、 <i>ANS</i> 、 <i>UFGT</i> 表达, 促进花青素积累。 <i>PyHY5</i> participates in the anthocyanin synthesis pathway co-regulated by <i>PyMYB10</i> and <i>PyWD40</i> , activations of <i>CHS</i> , <i>ANS</i> , and <i>UFGT</i> expression for anthocyanin accumulation.	[74]
	苹果 <i>M. domestica</i>	<i>MdHY5</i>	与 <i>MdBBX22</i> 蛋白协同激活 <i>MdMYB10</i> 和 <i>MdCHS</i> , 促进花青素的生物合成。 <i>MdHY5</i> interacts with <i>MdBBX22</i> protein to activate <i>MdMYB10</i> and <i>MdCHS</i> to promote anthocyanin biosynthesis.	[75]
NAC 转录因子 NAC transcription factor	蓝莓 <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	<i>VcNAC072</i>	与 MYB 转录因子 <i>AtPAP1</i> 互作并激活花青素合成基因的表达。 <i>VcNAC072</i> with MYB transcription factor <i>AtPAP1</i> and activation of anthocyanin synthesis gene expression.	[76]
	苹果 <i>M. domestica</i>	<i>MdNAC52</i>	通过 <i>MdMYB9</i> 和 <i>MdMYB11</i> 协同激活花青素合成的结构基因 <i>LAR</i> 、 <i>ANR</i> 的表达, 正调控花青素合成。 <i>MdNAC52</i> interacts with <i>MdMYB9</i> and <i>MdMYB11</i> and activate structural genes <i>LAR</i> , <i>ANR</i> and positive regulation of anthocyanin synthesis.	[77]
	苹果 <i>M. domestica</i> Borkh.	<i>MdNAC1</i>	与 <i>MdbZIP23</i> 互作并激活 <i>MdMYB10</i> 、 <i>MdUFGT</i> 基因的表达, 促进花青素积累。 <i>MdNAC1</i> interacts with <i>MdbZIP23</i> and activates the expression of <i>MdMYB10</i> , <i>MdUFGT</i> genes to promote anthocyanin accumulation.	[78]
WRKY 转录因子 WRKY transcription factor	红梨 <i>Pyrus</i> L.	<i>PyWRKY26</i>	与 <i>PybHLH3</i> 、 <i>PyMYB114</i> 互作并激活花青素合成基因 <i>PyDFR</i> 、 <i>PyANS</i> 和 <i>PyUFGT</i> 的表达, 正调控花青素合成。 <i>PyWRKY26</i> interacts with <i>PybHLH3</i> 、 <i>PyMYB114</i> and activates the expression of anthocyanin synthesis genes <i>PyDFR</i> , <i>PyANS</i> and <i>PyUFGT</i> , which positively regulate anthocyanin synthesis	[79]
	苹果 <i>M. domestica</i> Borkh.	<i>MdWRKY72</i>	光照诱导下, 与 <i>MdHY5</i> 、 <i>MdMYB1</i> 共同激活 <i>MdANS</i> 、 <i>MdDFR</i> 、 <i>MdUFGT</i> 的表达, 正调控花青素积累。 Light-induced co-activation of <i>MdANS</i> , <i>MdDFR</i> , and <i>MdUFGT</i> expression with <i>MdHY5</i> and <i>MdMYB1</i> positively regulated anthocyanin accumulation	[80]
ERF 转录因子 ERF transcription factor	桑葚 <i>Morus alba</i> L.	<i>ERF5</i>	与 <i>MYBA</i> 和 <i>F3H</i> 基因互作促进花青素合成。 <i>ERF5</i> interacts with <i>MYBA</i> and <i>F3H</i> genes promotes anthocyanin synthesis.	[81]
	梨 <i>Pyrus</i> spp.	<i>PpERF105</i>	与 <i>PpMYB140</i> 互作并抑制花青素合成基因的表达, 负调控花青素合成。 <i>PpERF105</i> interacts with <i>PpMYB140</i> and inhibit of anthocyanin synthesis gene expression, and negative regulation of anthocyanin synthesis.	[82]
ARF 转录因子 ARF transcription factor	苹果 <i>M. domestica</i>	<i>MdARF2</i>	抑制花青素合成的相关结构基因 <i>MdDFR</i> 、 <i>MdCHS</i> 和 <i>MdUFGT</i> 表达, 抑制花青素积累。 <i>MdARF2</i> inhibitions of anthocyanin accumulation by suppressing the expression of structural genes related to anthocyanin synthesis, <i>MdDFR</i> , <i>MdCHS</i> and <i>MdUFGT</i> .	[83]
	草莓 <i>Fragaria</i> × <i>ananassa</i>	<i>FveARF2</i>	抑制花青素合成的相关结构基因 <i>FaCHS</i> 等的表达, 负调控花青素合成。 <i>FveARF2</i> inhibitions of the expression of structural genes related to anthocyanin synthesis, such as <i>FaCHS</i> , negatively regulates anthocyanin synthesis	[84]
BZR 转录因子 BZR transcription factor	苹果 <i>M. domestica</i>	<i>MdBEH2.2</i>	通过 <i>MdBEH2.2</i> - <i>MdMYB60</i> 复合物抑制 <i>ANS</i> 、 <i>ANR</i> 、 <i>FLS</i> 和 <i>ANR</i> 的转录, 负调控花青素积累。 <i>MdBEH2.2</i> negatively regulates anthocyanin accumulation by repressing the transcription of <i>ANS</i> , <i>ANR</i> , <i>FLS</i> , <i>ANR</i> through the <i>MdBEH2.2</i> - <i>MdMYB60</i> complex.	[85]

影响或改变调控网络的形成仍是未来的研究方向,主要包括ETH、ABA、IAA和JA等植物激素。转录因子互作网络中MYB基因家族能够整合多激素信号。ABA通过MdABI5-MdMYB1-MdbHLH3三元复合体激活靶基因*MdDFR*、*MdUF3GT*的表达^[96]。在蓝莓中首次鉴定出6个SnRK2家族成员(*VcSnRK2.1~6*),其中*VcSnRK2.3*的表达与果实成熟和ABA信号通路呈正相关,ABA诱导的*VcSnRK2.3*(蔗糖非发酵-1-相关蛋白激酶2)能与*VcMYB1*相互作用,促进花青素的生物合成^[97]。内源JA信号通路蛋白MdJAZ1抑制MdTRB1-MdMYB9途径对花青素的合成,负向调节MeJA诱导的花青素和PA的积累^[98]。此外外源NAA处理后MdIAA121-His蛋白的迅速降解可释放与之结合的*MdARF13*,随后*MdARF13*与*MdMYB10*形成复合体协同抑制靶基因的表达,负调控花青素的生物合成^[99]。乙烯信号通路响应因子AP2/ERFs也在不同激素处理条件下调控花青素的合成:梨果实中ETH通过*PpERF9*(ERF转录因子)构建双重抑制机制,一方面*PpERF9*与*PpMYB114*的启动子结合直接抑制其表达,另一方面形成一个*PpERF9*-*PpRAP2.4*-*PpMYB114*的调控回路,从而抑制梨中花青素的生物合成^[100];Li等^[101]发现同时用ETH和NAA处理苹果果实后,*MdARF5-1*抑制正调控因子*MdERF3*的表达来负向调控花青素合成,而*MdIAA29*可通过竞争结合减弱抑制作用。

2.3 表观修饰

DNA甲基化水平的下降能有效促进果实中花青素的合成。苹果的*MdROS1*通过降低花青素相关基因*CHS*、*CHI*、*F3'H*、*ANS*、*UFGT*和*MYB10*的启动子甲基化水平从而促进花青素的积累^[102]。桃果实16℃低温贮藏下,*PpF3H*、*PpANS*等基因的甲基化水平显著降低,同时用5-aza处理桃果肉,显著诱导花青素积累^[103]。长链非编码RNA(lncRNA)作为表观遗传的调控网络的核心部分,在果实花青素积累中发挥着重要作用,Ma等^[104]在苹果中构建了一个MdWRKY1-MdLNC499-MdERF109的转录级联,光信号转录因子*MdWRKY1*通过激活*lncRNA MdLNC499*的转录活性,进而诱导*MdERF109*表达,最终MdERF109蛋白诱导苹果着色前期花青素相关基因的表达。而在草莓果实中的lncRNA FRILAIR作为一种非规范的靶模拟物,能够结合*miR397*分子并且促进一种漆酶-11样蛋白LAC11a的转录,进而

使花青素在果实成熟过程中沉淀着色^[105]。近年来研究发现,miRNAs-MYB协同调控花青素的生物合成^[106],Zhang等^[107]在梨果实中发现一个PyPIF5-PymiR156a-PySPL9-PyMYB114/10模块,光照下调光敏色素因子*PIF5*并释放*miR156a*,随后PySPL9被*miR156a*切割降解,进而抑制PySPL9-PyMYB114/10异源聚体的形成,重新激活花青素的生物合成^[108]。此外,组蛋白修饰作用在果实中同样调控花青素的合成。苹果中*MdSnRK1.1*与*MdJAZ18*相互作用并磷酸化,以促进其26S蛋白酶体介导的降解并释放*MdbHLH3*,*MdbHLH3*与*MdMYB1/9*、*MdTTG1*形成MBW复合物,从而激活*MdDFR*、*MdANS*、*MdANR*和*MdUF3GT*的表达,并促进花青素和原花青素(PA)的生物合成^[109]。同时苹果的MdBT2通过泛素化-蛋白酶体途径调控*MdTCP46*的稳定性,形成动态的“MdBT2-MdTCP46-MdMYB1”调控模块,在高光强刺激下MdBT2表达受抑制,增强*MdTCP46*与*MdMYB1*的协同作用并激活花青素合成基因,促进果实着色^[110]。

3 叶绿素

叶绿素(Chlorophylls, CHIs)是一种广泛存在于植物、藻类和某些细菌中的四吡咯化合物^[111-112],CHIs经过修饰后主要有5种类型,分别为叶绿素a、叶绿素b、叶绿素c(c1、c2、c3)、叶绿素d和叶绿素f^[113]。叶绿素在光合作用过程中起核心作用,吸收光能并驱动电子传递链最终产生ATP、NADPH等化学能^[113],同时叶绿素的抗氧化活性、抗炎症、抗癌以及抗肥胖等医疗保健作用也逐渐被关注^[114]。值得注意的是,叶绿素代谢网络与类胡萝卜素、花青素等代谢途径存在复杂的交互作用,三类色素共同调控果实色泽的形成^[115-116],因此更需进一步探究和完善叶绿素代谢途径涉及的分子调控机制。现阶段,针对果实叶绿素代谢的分子调控研究,更多集中于叶绿素合成或降解途径关键基因的转录活性。合成途径关键酶包括谷氨酰-tRNA合成酶(GluRS)、原叶绿素酸酯氧化还原酶(POR)、脱植基叶绿素a加氧酶(CAO)和叶绿素合酶(CHLG),降解途径则由脱镁叶绿素a加氧酶(PAO)、脱镁螯合酶(SGR)、脱镁叶绿素脱镁叶绿素水解酶(PPH)、红色叶绿素分解产物还原酶(RCCR)、叶绿素b还原酶(NYC、NOL)等协同调控^[117-118]。

3.1 转录因子

果实叶绿素代谢的分子机制离不开转录因子的精细调控,已有较多的转录因子被发现能够在植物中影响叶绿素的代谢过程。但对于果树果实来说,已经验证并具有明确调控叶绿素代谢功能的调控因子仍然较少,目前研究的主要核心包括 GOLDEN2-LIKE (GLK)、MYB、NAC、bHLH 和 APRR 等转录因子家族(表3)^[28,115,119-134]。

GLK 被认为是叶绿素生物合成的主调控因子^[135],猕猴桃的 *AchGLK* 在番茄中异源表达使叶绿素得到积累,过表达 *AchGLK* 的果实叶绿体大小和类囊体颗粒堆叠厚度都显著增加^[119]。桃果实中利用 VIGS 病毒沉默 *PpGLK1* 的表达,其靶基因 *PpPO-RA*、*PpCHLH* 等转录水平下降^[120]。An 等^[121]发现异位表达 *MdGLK1* 则能恢复拟南芥 *glk1glk2* 双突变体的叶绿体缺陷表型,如叶绿体发育不良和叶片黄化等,并提高 *HEMA1*、*GUN4*、*CHLH* 和 *CAO* 的表达水平,促进叶绿素的合成。Frangedakis 等^[135]发现在拟南芥 *glk* 突变体中仍有叶绿素残留,并寻找到 MYB 转录因子与 GLK 共同调控叶绿体发育和叶绿素合成酶基因表达的证据。在果树果实中,尽管研究已发现较多 MYB 参与叶绿素代谢,但其与 GLK 协同作用的调控路径仍需深入研究。猕猴桃的 *AdMYB7* 促进 *SGR1* 表达上调并降解叶绿素^[123],香蕉 *MaMYB60* 在高温胁迫下被 MaBAH1 E3 连接酶介导的泛素化修饰并降解,减弱 *MaMYB60* 对叶绿素降解代谢基因的激活,这也为环境因子通过翻译后修饰 MYB-TFs 提供了新证据^[124]。NAC 在调控果实成熟过程中发挥着关键作用,在果树果实中 NAC 的研究较多集中于类胡萝卜素和花青素合成代谢^[136],对叶绿素的代谢调控有待进一步探讨。但欧李果实在干旱胁迫时过表达 *ChNAC1* 能促进叶绿素积累并提高抗逆性,帮助果实在胁迫环境下更好成熟^[125]。荔枝中的 *LcNAC002* 显著激活 *LcSGR* 和 *LcMYB-1* 的表达,降解叶绿素并提高花青素含量,促进荔枝果实的着色^[126]。bHLH 转录因子在柑橘果皮中的呈色机制表现出多重作用,通过与叶绿素降解相关基因(*CcNYC*、*CcPAO*、*CcRCCR* 和 *CcSGR*)以及类胡萝卜素合成关键基因(*CcPSY1*、*CcBCH2*、*CcNCED5*)的结合激活^[127-128],形成两类色素的代谢平衡。此外 bHLH 的功能也在白梨等中得到验证^[129]。不同于通过转录组分析方式挖掘果实中与叶绿素代谢有关的

转录因子,Oren 等^[130]利用双亲/多亲群体设计和深度测序,发现甜瓜的多等位基因 *CmAPRR2* 是叶绿素合成的正调控因子,这为研究叶绿素代谢途径中的分子作用机制提供了新思路。

激素信号转导相关转录因子通过调控叶绿素代谢相关基因的表达,在叶绿素代谢中同样重要,从而影响果实的着色和成熟。乙烯响应因子(AP2/ERFs)帮助果实去绿和软化,*MdERF17* 基因编码区丝氨酸(Ser)重复数量影响 ERF17 蛋白的转录活性以及与叶绿素降解基因(*MdPPH*)的结合能力,是影响苹果果皮退绿的重要遗传因素^[131]。同时葡萄、柑橘中也存在相应的 ERFs 激活叶绿素降解基因如 *PPH*、*PAO* 和 *RCCR* 等,完成果实在成熟和采后中的脱绿过程^[132-133]。内源 ABA 通常在叶绿素降解开始迅速增加,三种 ABA 响应因子(ABF1/2/3)是荔枝着色的重要转录调控因子,其识别 *LcPAO* 和 *LcSGR* 启动子区域的 ABA 响应元件并激活 *LcMYB1*,从而促进叶绿素降解和花青素合成^[115]。IAA 响应因子(ARFs)也在果实的叶绿素代谢中有所报道,Chen 等^[134]通过分析香蕉中 *MaIAA17-like* 在正常和低温储藏时的转录水平,发现冷害会抑制 *MaIAA17-like* 的表达,间接影响 *MaIAA17-like* 对 *MaNOL* 和 *MaSGR1* 的激活表达,这也表明冷储会延缓香蕉果实的脱绿和成熟。转录组分析揭示香蕉成熟过程中乙烯、ABA 和 IAA 激素信号响应因子的表达趋势,发现在香蕉脱绿时 *MaERFs* 和 *MaARF19-like* 表达上调,相应促进叶绿素降解相关基因 *MaSGR1*、*MaPPH1* 的表达,但 *MaABI5-like* 却显著下调^[137]。细胞分裂素氧化酶(CKX)则抑制 *MaSGR1* 的表达,延缓叶绿素的分解^[138]。乙烯和 ABA 信号通路的相关转录因子能够在果实脱绿过程中靶向激活叶绿素降解的关键基因(*SGR*、*PAO*),从而促进叶绿素的降解,而 IAA、CK 则拮抗乙烯和 ABA 的协同作用,抑制降解基因的表达从而延缓果实的脱绿。

3.2 环境因素

果树果实的叶绿素代谢离不开栽培环境的改良和完善,但目前只有较少的研究以分子机制为落点探究环境因素对叶绿素代谢的影响,现有的研究主要聚焦光环境、金属离子元素和外源植物激素等。

光照是植物进行光合作用不可或缺的外界条件,不同光质影响果实颜色转变的途径存在差异。采后柑橘经蓝光 LED 处理可激活内源乙烯合成通路的关键基因(*CitACS1*、*CitACO*)以及信号转导元

表3 调控叶绿素合成的主要转录因子及作用机制

Table 3 Main transcription factors and mechanisms regulating chlorophyll synthesis

转录因子 Transcription factor	物种 Species	名称 Name	调控路径 Regulatory pathway	参考文献 Reference
GLK 转录因子 GLK transcription factor	猕猴桃 <i>A. chinensis</i>	<i>AchGLK</i>	调节果实中叶绿体的发育,增加果实中叶绿素浓度。 <i>AchGLK</i> regulates the development of chloroplasts in the fruit and increases the concentration of chlorophyll in the fruit	[119]
	桃 <i>P. persica</i>	<i>PpGLK1</i>	增加果实中叶绿体的数量和大小,正调控叶绿素合成。 <i>PpGLK1</i> increases the number and size of chloroplasts in the fruit and is regulating chlorophyll synthesis	[120]
	苹果 <i>M. domestica</i>	<i>MdGLK1</i>	恢复果实叶绿体发育不良和叶片黄化等 <i>glk</i> 突变体的叶绿体缺陷表型。 <i>MdGLK1</i> restores the chloroplast defect phenotype of <i>glk</i> mutants such as fruit chloroplast dysplasia and leaf yellowing.	[121]
	柑橘 <i>Citrus</i>	<i>CcGLK12</i> <i>CcGLK15</i>	促进叶绿素合成的相关基因 <i>CHLb</i> 的表达,促进叶绿素合成。 They promote the expression of <i>CHLb</i> , a gene related to chlorophyll synthesis, and promote chlorophyll synthesis	[122]
MYB 转录因子 MYB transcription factor	猕猴桃 <i>Actinidia delicos</i>	<i>AdMYB7</i>	促进 <i>SGR1</i> 表达上调降解叶绿素,负调控叶绿素合成。 <i>AdMYB7</i> promotes up-regulation of <i>SGR1</i> expression to degrade chlorophyll and negatively regulates chlorophyll synthesis	[123]
	香蕉 <i>Musa acuminata</i>	<i>MaMYB60</i>	激活叶绿素分解代谢基因(<i>CCG</i>)表达,促进叶绿素的降解。 <i>MaMYB60</i> activates the expression of the chlorophyll catabolic gene (<i>CCG</i>) and promotes chlorophyll degradation.	[124]
	柑橘 <i>Citrus reticulata</i>	<i>CrMYB33</i>	抑制叶绿素酶(<i>CrCLH</i>)的转录,正调控叶绿素的合成。 <i>CrMYB33</i> inhibits the transcription of chlorophyllase (<i>CrCLH</i>) and positively regulates chlorophyll synthesis.	[28]
NAC 转录因子 NAC transcription factor	欧李 <i>Cerasus humilis</i>	<i>ChNAC1</i>	提高叶绿素含量并增强果实抗逆性。 <i>ChNAC1</i> increases chlorophyll content and enhances fruit stress resistance.	[125]
	荔枝 <i>Litchi chinensis</i> Sonn.	<i>LcNAC002</i>	激活 <i>LcSGR</i> 和 <i>LcMYB-1</i> 的表达,降解叶绿素并提高花青素含量。 <i>LcNAC002</i> activates the expression of <i>LcSGR</i> and <i>LcMYB-1</i> , degrades chlorophyll and increases anthocyanin content.	[126]
bHLH 转录因子 bHLH transcription factor	柑橘 <i>Citrus</i>	<i>CcbHLH66</i> <i>CcbHLH35</i>	激活叶绿素降解相关基因 <i>CcNYC</i> 、 <i>CcPAO</i> 、 <i>CcRCCR</i> 、 <i>CcSGR</i> 的表达,加速叶绿素降解。 Activate the expression of chlorophyll degradation-related genes <i>CcNYC</i> , <i>CcPAO</i> , <i>CcRCCR</i> , and <i>CcSGR</i> to accelerate chlorophyll degradation.	[127-128]
	白梨 <i>Pyrus bretschneideri</i>	<i>PbrbHLHs</i>	表达升高促进叶绿素的合成,提高果实抗干旱和寒冷胁迫。 <i>PbrbHLHs</i> elevates expression promotes chlorophyll synthesis and improves fruit resistance to drought and cold stresses.	[129]
APRR2 转录因子 APRR2 transcription factor	甜瓜 <i>Cucumis melo</i> L.	<i>CmAPRR2</i>	<i>CmAPRR2</i> 表达升高使瓜皮出现深绿条纹,是叶绿素合成的正调控因子。 Elevated expression of <i>CmAPRR2</i> gives dark green stripes to melon skin and is a positive regulator of chlorophyll synthesis.	[130]
ERF 转录因子 ERF transcription factor	苹果 <i>M. domestica</i>	<i>MdERF17</i>	结合叶绿素降解基因 <i>PPH</i> 、 <i>NYC</i> 的启动子,促进叶绿素降解。 <i>MdERF17</i> binds to the promoters of the chlorophyll degradation genes <i>PPH</i> and <i>NYC</i> to promote chlorophyll degradation.	[131]
	柑橘 <i>Citrus</i>	<i>CitERF6</i>	激活 <i>CitNYC</i> 、 <i>CitCLH</i> 、 <i>CitPPH</i> 等叶绿素降解基因表达,负调控叶绿素合成。 <i>CitERF6</i> activates the expression of chlorophyll-degrading genes such as <i>CiNYC</i> , <i>Cit-CLH</i> , and <i>CitPPH</i> to negatively regulate chlorophyll synthesis.	[132]
ABF 转录因子 ABF transcription factor	葡萄 <i>Vitis vinifera</i>	<i>VvERF17</i>	诱导叶绿素降解基因 <i>NOL</i> 、 <i>PPH</i> 、 <i>PAO</i> 和 <i>RCCR</i> 的表达,抑制叶绿素积累。 <i>VvERF17</i> induces the expression of chlorophyll degrading genes <i>NOL</i> , <i>PPH</i> , <i>PAO</i> and <i>RCCR</i> and inhibits chlorophyll accumulation.	[133]
Aux/IAA 转录因子 Aux/IAA transcription factor	荔枝 <i>L. chinensis</i> Sonn.	<i>LcABF1/2/3</i>	结合叶绿素降解基因 <i>PAO</i> 、 <i>SGR</i> 的启动子元件,激活其表达,负调控叶绿素积累。 They can bind to the promoter elements of the chlorophyll-degrading genes <i>PAO</i> and <i>SGR</i> , activates their expression, and negatively regulates chlorophyll accumulation.	[115]
	香蕉 <i>Musa acuminata</i>	<i>MaIAA17-like</i>	冷胁迫抑制 <i>MaIAA17-like</i> 表达,间接抑制叶绿素降解基因 <i>NOL</i> 、 <i>SGR</i> 的表达,正调控叶绿素合成。 Cold stress inhibits <i>MaIAA17-like</i> expression and indirectly inhibits the expression of chlorophyll degradation genes <i>NOL</i> and <i>SGR</i> , which positively regulate chlorophyll synthesis	[134]

件(*CitETR1*、*CitEIN2*、*CitEIL1*和*CitERF2*)等基因的表达间接促进叶绿素降解^[139],而LED白光处理贮藏早酥梨则表现出*CAO*酶基因的高表达,抑制果实内

乙烯生成和叶绿素降解^[140]。除了光质,光信号转录因子的调控对叶绿素代谢也尤为重要,在番茄、马铃薯等园艺作物上HY5、PIFs等光响应因子的作用机

制逐渐清晰^[141-142],但果树果实中光信号转导与叶绿素代谢的分子互作网络仍需探究。

叶绿素合成的核心途径之一为原卟啉IX(proto-porphyrin IX, Proto IX)的合成,镁、铁螯合酶将镁、铁离子送入Proto IX中推动叶绿素的合成^[143],金属离子的稳态调控对叶绿素代谢同样重要。Song等^[144]研究了缺铁条件时葡萄Fe²⁺转运蛋白*VvIRT*的基因表达趋势,发现*IRT1*缺失突变体的叶绿素含量显著低于野生型。而桃树喷施MgCl₂可诱导Mg²⁺转运蛋白*PpMGT*家族基因表达上调,加快植物体对外源Mg²⁺的吸收利用,进而影响叶绿素的生物合成^[145]。这些研究表明了离子转运蛋白在叶绿素代谢途径中发挥的关键作用。

外源激素处理通过调控转录因子网络进而动态平衡叶绿素的合成或降解,同时帮助果实更快地着色和成熟。乙烯是促进果实褪绿和成熟过程中使用较为广泛的外源激素,不但直接影响着叶绿素降解基因的表达,还对ERFs和某些转录因子起调控作用。早熟柑橘往往有果皮和果肉无法同时成熟的特性^[146],因此外源乙烯处理使柑橘果皮褪绿和着色十分必要。已有研究证实*CcbHLH35*、*CitERF13*都被显著诱导并结合叶绿素降解基因*NYC1*、*PAO*、*RCCR*和*PPH*,协同介导乙烯诱导的叶绿素降解^[128,147]。此外,柠檬、苹果等果实经乙烯处理后促进*PPH*、*NYC*等基因表达,加速叶绿素的降解^[148-149]。除了乙烯,ABA同样是促进果实成熟的主要外源激素,单独施用ABA能促进叶绿素的降解^[150]。利用ABA作为对照,外源NAA虽能降低叶绿素的含量,但其对叶绿素降解基因的转录激活水平低于ABA^[151]。而外源细胞分裂素(CPPU)对比ABA则表现出直接对*SGR*表达的抑制作用,从而缓解叶绿素的降解^[152]。此外,其他激素如GA、MeJA等也参与叶绿素代谢相关基因的表达^[153-154],形成复杂的激素互作网络。

3.3 表观遗传

叶绿素代谢的表观遗传调控机制研究近年来取得重要突破,特别是DNA甲基化方面,DNA甲基化修饰与基因表达之间的相互作用是动态且复杂的,调控效果取决于具体的基因和表观遗传的环境。在菠萝组织培养过程中,低DNA甲基化水平导致叶绿素降解途径相关基因高度表达同时引起叶绿体的发育异常^[155],柑橘和草莓低水平的DNA甲基化也会引起叶绿素合成基因的表达下降,导致无法着

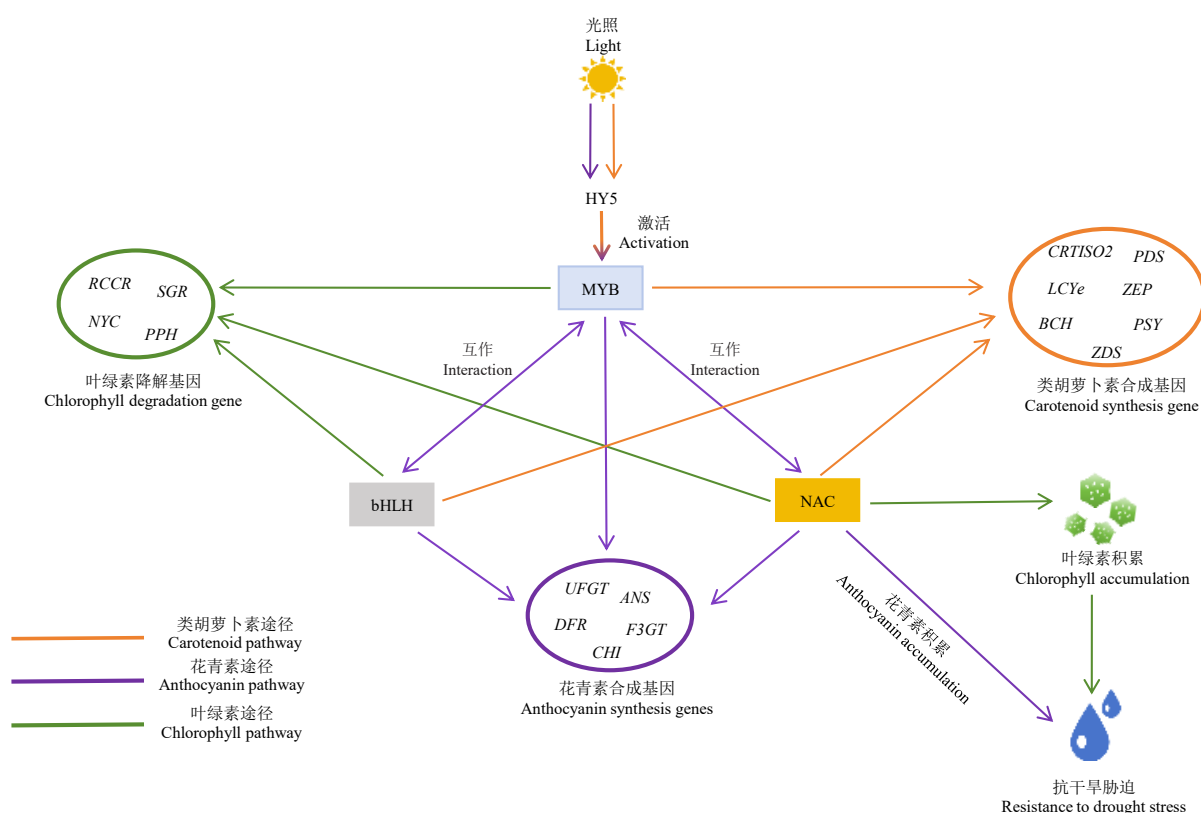
色^[43,156]。长链非编码RNA在果实成熟过程中是重要的调节因子。蓝莓miR156a-SPL12模块能动态调控叶绿素代谢相关基因(*CAB*、*CLH2*、*NYC1*)的表达^[157]。桃果实在UV-B的处理下*miR171c*表达显著下调,解除其对*SCL*的抑制,从而间接促进叶绿素的合成^[158]。组蛋白修饰的泛素化作用能够调控叶绿素的生物合成:高温诱导香蕉中MaNIP1蛋白表达从而泛素化降解MaNYC1,抑制香蕉的褪绿过程^[159];乙烯则促进苹果E3泛素连接酶MdPUB24表达上调,后者泛素化MdBEL7并解除其对叶绿素降解基因(*MdCLH*、*MdPPH2*和*MdRCCR2*)的抑制^[160]。

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类胡萝卜素、花青素与叶绿素代谢的动态平衡受环境、激素与转录网络协同调控。目前对于叶绿素与类胡萝卜素在果实成熟过程中积累的时序性、花青素和类胡萝卜素的竞争性合成以及三者间的协同或拮抗效应仍缺乏系统和深入的解析。当前研究焦点逐渐从单一的色素代谢转向三类色素的协同或拮抗机制,并逐渐发掘更多调控三类色素代谢的关键基因节点(如MYB、bHLH、NAC)。多组学联合分析(如代谢组、转录组、蛋白质组)在揭示三类色素代谢的分子调控途径中至关重要。转录组分析筛选三类色素代谢途径的关键基因及其表达水平,鉴定核心转录因子并明确其在跨通路中的整合功能,代谢组动态分析色素代谢物(如类黄酮代谢物、叶绿素a/b以及β-胡萝卜素)的积累趋势,将代谢物水平与核心转录因子进行关联分析,明确关键基因的具体调控功能。而蛋白质组学则聚焦翻译后修饰对酶活性的动态调控,在蛋白层面明确核心转录因子的修饰对色素代谢的调控模式。核心转录因子通过完善的基因编辑手段(如CRISPR/Cas9),进行敲除或过表达,定向调节目标色素的积累或降解,协调三类色素的代谢平衡(图1)。

目前,表观遗传的研究方向也逐渐与环境胁迫和激素信号进行关联。但表观遗传与激素信号的互作机制尚不完善,例如表观遗传如何通过激活激素信号传导途径的相关转录因子从而影响果实呈色仍需进一步研究。此外,环境胁迫(如低温、干旱)如何通过表观遗传手段调控色素代谢的分子机制,是提高果树果实抗逆性的重要方向。

本文整合了三类色素代谢的分子调控框架,提



图中箭头表示促进作用。该图根据梁敏华等^[22]、Zhang 等^[26]、Sun 等^[29]、An 等^[65]、Sun 等^[77]、Jin 等^[86]、Xing 等^[90]、Wei 等^[124]、Wang 等^[125]、Zou 等^[126]、Wang 等^[127]的研究绘制。

The arrows in the figure indicate facilitation. The figure is drawn according to the results of Liang Minhua et al.^[22], Zhang et al.^[26], Sun et al.^[29], An et al.^[65], Sun et al.^[77], Jin et al.^[86], Xing et al.^[90], Wei et al.^[124], Wang et al.^[125], Zou et al.^[126], and Wang et al.^[127].

图1 跨通路代谢关键转录因子调控网络

Fig. 1 Cross pathway metabolic key transcription factor regulatory network

出了跨通路色素代谢的关键节点,通过系统梳理环境-基因-色素代谢的调控途径,为设施栽培定向调控果实色素积累提供理论依据。在设施栽培中建立光质、温度与激素协同交互模式,最大程度实现果实色素积累,提高市场竞争力和经济收益。同时整合表观遗传修饰涉及的分子调控机制,合理利用外源激素或小分子抑制剂(如甲基化抑制剂5-AZ),实现对果实着色的精准控制。

果实的色泽不仅是外观指标,也与营养性(如三类色素的抗氧化性等医用价值)、贮藏性(叶绿素降解与果实软化)以及抗性(花青素响应胁迫)密切相关。果实着色的分子调控正从单一途径向多维度的调控网络迈进,未来需探索果实色泽调控网络与果实综合品质的关联,通过深化理论研究并整合新型技术手段,实现果实色泽的精准设计,为顺应市场需求高效化、高品质培育优良果树品种。

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