

## *DAM-like* 基因在蔷薇科落叶果树芽休眠中的研究进展<sup>1</sup>

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**摘要:** 休眠是植物长期演化过程中而获得的一种对季节性变化相适应的生物学特性, 对果树安全越冬和设施果树栽培模式的探索具有重要意义。在全球气候急剧变化的大背景下, 对多年生落叶果树芽休眠进行研究, 进一步加深对休眠过程调控机制的理解。本研究对当前调控芽休眠进程中的 *DAM-like* 基因鉴定及其功能、*DAM* 基因与激素的关系、表观遗传调控对 *DAM-like* 基因的影响进行梳理和综述, 以期为果树芽休眠调控机制解析及休眠相关分子育种奠定基础。

**关键词:** 落叶果树; 芽休眠; *DAM-like* 基因; 植物激素; 表观遗传

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## Research progress of *DAM-like* genes in bud dormancy of deciduous fruit trees in Rosaceae

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**Abstract:** Dormancy is a biological characteristic that adapts to seasonal changes during the long-term evolution of plants, which is of great significance for the safe overwintering of fruit trees and the exploration of the cultivation mode of facility fruit trees. Under the background of the rapid change of global climate, the study of bud dormancy of perennial deciduous fruit trees was carried out to further deepen the understanding of the regulation mechanism of dormancy process. Dormancy is highly dependent on external environment, and seasonal variations in bud break and flowering time have been reported in the context of global warming. Notably, advances in bud break and blooming dates in spring have been observed for tree species, such as *Malus domestica* and *Prunus mume*. In the northern hemisphere, thus increasing the risk of late frost damages, while insufficient cold accumulation during winter may lead to incomplete dormancy release led to bud break delay and low bud break rate, phenological changes response to climate warming (ST, expressed in days advance of leaf unfolding per °C warming) has significantly decreased beyond 30 years in all monitored tree species, these phenological changes can directly affect the production of fruit crops, leading to large potential economic losses.

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Consequently, it becomes urgent to acquire a better understanding of bud responses to temperature stimuli for tackling fruit losses and anticipate future production changes. Several bud dormancy-related transcription factors have been proposed, among which the *SHORT VEGETATIVE PHASE/AGAMOUS LIKE 24 (SVP/AGL24)*-clade MADS-box genes in diverse woody perennials have been widely studied. These include *DORMANCY-ASSOCIATED MADS-box (DAM)* in *Rosaceae* fruit trees and *SVP-like (SVL)* in *Populus*. Recently, the peach [*P. persica* (L.) Batsch] evergrowing (evg) mutant is found and with a dormancy impaired genotype identified in Mexico, which can still growth when exposed to shortened days and low temperatures, six arranged in tandem dormancy-associated MADS-box (*DAM*) genes were identified. Transgenic poplar and apple suggesting the growth inhibitory functions of *DAM6*. The expression profile of these genes during the dormancy period indicated that *DAMs* serve as dose-dependent inhibitors of bud break. *DAM-like* genes have been studied in many perennial species in relation to bud dormancy, including Japanese apricot, apple, plum, cherry, peach, and pear, which suggests that *DAMs* control bud dormancy of perennial plants in a similar manner. *DAM-likes* were up-regulated during dormancy set and down-regulated when dormancy release in *Rosaceae* deciduous fruit trees. Under controlled environmental conditions, the expressions of *PpDAM5/6* were up-regulated in autumn under the influence of environmental low temperature, while they were down-regulated in winter under the influence of long-term low temperature, their expression levels were negatively correlated with germination rate. Early germination of lateral buds was induced with the *PpDAM5/6* down-regulated expressions, which indicates that they may regulate CR by inhibiting lateral bud growth. The homologous dimers of PpTCP20 (Teosinte branched1 Cycloidea/Proliferating cell factors) negatively regulates *PpDAM5* and *PpDAM6* expression, and the dimers can interact with PpABF2 (ABRE-Binding FACTOR2) to regulate the dormancy of peach buds. In polar, *SVL* can directly regulate the expression of *FT1*, *NCED3* and *TCP18*, while *TCP18* can inhibit the growth of axillary buds. However, we can't prove that whether the direct involvement of *DAMs* in bud dormancy through its growth inhibitory effects. Furthermore, *DAM-likes* directly regulate ABA biosynthesis (forming a *DAM-like*-ABA feedforward loop) and up-regulate the expression of *GIBBERELLIN 2-OXIDASE (GA2ox; GA catabolism)* during dormancy. After an exposure to low temperatures, the inhibition of the *DAM-like*-ABA feedforward loop leads to the up-regulated expression of *EARLY BUD BREAK3 (EBB3)*, which encodes an AP2/ERF transcription factor that subsequently activates *CYCLIN D3.1* expression and cell division, ultimately leading to bud break. *DAM* gene can modulate abscisic acid accumulation in apple dormant buds, the content of ABA increased first at initial dormancy stage and then decreased when the dormancy release. ABA can inhibit cell proliferation and shoot growth, and that dormancy can be induced by ABA biosynthesis, catabolism, signaling promotion of terminal bud set, and induction of dormancy. The content of GA must be restricted during initial activation of the dormant bud meristem, but after that, the level of GA increased to enhance primordia regrowth in grape. In addition, lipid accumulation can resistance to low temperature, the

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changes of lipid accumulation in different metabolic processes create conditions for bud break under optimal condition. Several studies have indicated the specific role of  $\alpha$ -linolenic and linoleic acids in dormancy regulation.  $\alpha$ -linolenic acid, a precursor of JA, synthesis along with *DAM* genes also has a crucial role in pear bud dormancy phase transitions. Differentially expressed genes (DEGs) and metabolites work during various dormancy stage, involving sugars, phytohormone, fatty acids, protein kinases, and dehydrins. KEGG analysis revealed that secondary metabolites biosynthesis and phytohormone signaling was found most enriched in the grape dormancy bud; redox activity process was abundant in GO biological process category. GA and ABA pathways were found to be the most enriched. *GID1* family transcripts (GA pathway) were up-regulated while *DELLA* family transcripts were down-regulated during different dormancy stages. Accordingly, histone methylation levels in *DAM* genes have been intensively studied. Most of the relevant research indicated H3K4me3 and H3K27me3 levels are respectively positively and negatively correlated with down-regulated *DAM* expression during dormancy release. PpBPCs interacts with two GA-repeat motifs present in the H3K27me3-enriched region in peach *DAM6*, which further supported that down-regulation of *DAM* expression could be regulated by H3K27me3 marks. However, not all studies supported the correlation between the accumulation of H3K27me3 at *DAM* loci and an exposure to low temperatures. Increases in the H3K27me3 level at *DAM* loci were revealed to be linked with an exposure to cold stress, but not in the study completed, suggestive of a difference in the mechanisms controlling the transcription of *Arabidopsis FLC* and *Rosaceae DAM* genes. Therefore, the deposition of H3K27me3 at peach *DAM* loci may be controlled in a cultivar-dependent manner and/or considerably influenced by environmental conditions. The significance of the direct effect of H3K27me3 on the down-regulation of *DAM* transcription during chilling-induced bud dormancy release will need to be verified. In contrast to *Rosaceae DAM* genes, down-regulated *SVPa* and *SVPb* expression levels are reportedly not associated with histone methylations. In kiwifruit, the down-regulated gene *SVP2*, which encodes a bud break repressor, contains H3K4me3 modification, but lacks H3K27me3. Similarly, poplar *SVL* also lacks H3K27me3 marks. In this study, the identification and function of *DAM-like* gene in the regulation of bud dormancy process, the relationship between *DAM-like* gene and hormones, the influence of epigenetic regulation on *DAM-like* gene, and the relationship between pollen color change and dormancy process were reviewed, in order to lay the foundation for the analysis of bud dormancy regulation mechanism and dormancy-related molecular breeding in fruit trees.

**Key words:** Deciduous fruit trees; Bud dormancy; *DAM-like* genes; phytohormone; Epigenetic regulation

休眠是植物在进化过程中形成的一种对季节性气候变化相适应的生物学特性，被称为“隐蔽的生命现象”。芽的休眠使其在冬季低温条件下得以生存，对物种繁衍具有重要意义。休眠是落叶果树在秋季停止分生组织活动的一种现象，其间对促生信号不敏感，通常所说的休眠是指内休眠。休眠大致分为类休眠（para-dormancy）、内休眠（endo-dormancy）和生态

休眠 (eco-dormancy) 三种类型 (图 1), 休眠解除则植株进行生长和组织分化, 是对周围环境和季节性气候变化的适应性现象<sup>[1]</sup>。类休眠是由植物自身因素所导致, 如顶端优势, 内源激素变化等, 若除去相关器官的限制, 则可以恢复生长; 内休眠是多年生植物都必需经历的阶段, 需要一定时间的低温积累才能使休眠解除; 生态休眠是由环境条件变化所致, 其限制因素一般为营养缺乏, 光照或氧气不足, 温度及水分胁迫等引起的休眠, 一旦限制因素解除即恢复生长。芽休眠不是一个单一的固定状态, 而是个体在活动-休眠 (activity-dormancy) 周期过程中, 可以变化的一系列状态<sup>[2]</sup>。芽休眠需要一种动态平衡机制调控, 而这种机制在很大程度上是未知的。科研人员早期通过建立需冷量 (Chilling Requirement, CR) 预测模型, 以及到后来的 *DAM-like* 基因, 植物激素 (如 ABA 和 GA 等) 以及表观遗传调控等方面对休眠调控进行研究<sup>[3-5]</sup>。CR 作为打破休眠最重要的因素, 若 CR 不能得到满足, 则会导致花期延长, 落花落果严重, 甚至影响果实的商品属性。*DAM-like* 作为蔷薇科果树休眠控制的明星基因, 其不仅通过自身表达水平影响休眠进程, 同时还介导不同的信号通路调控休眠, 为果树休眠期控制及相关分子育种提供重要基因资源。在全球气候急剧变化的背景下, 对蔷薇科落叶果树芽休眠进行梳理, 以期为果树芽休眠调控机制解析及相关分子育种提供参考。

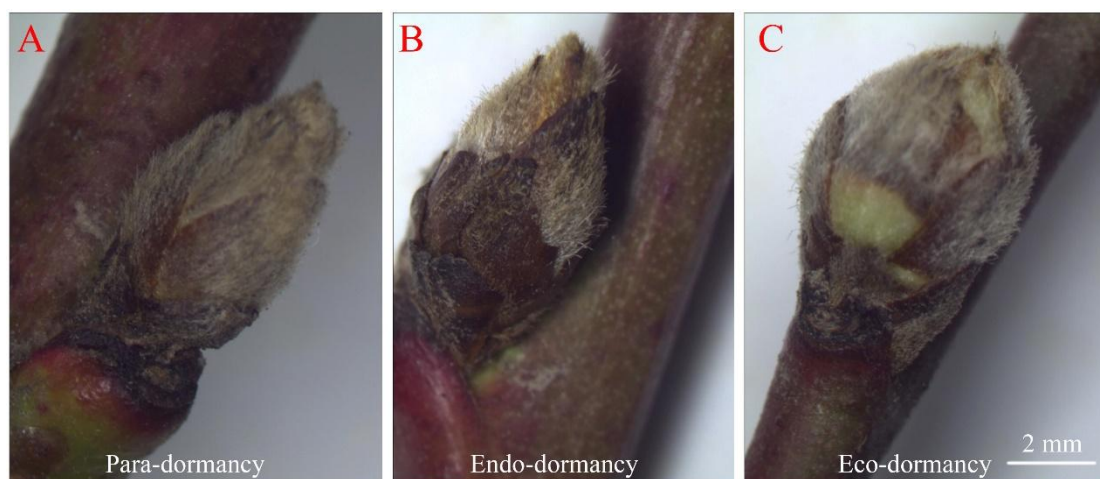


图 1: 桃树休眠过程中不同物候期变化。(A): 类休眠; (B): 内休眠建立; (C): 生态休眠; 比例尺=2 mm;

## 1. *DAM* 基因鉴定及在休眠调控中的作用

1994 年, 在墨西哥发现的桃非休眠突变体 *evergrowing* (*Evg*), 在休眠诱导条件下, 该 *Evg* 不能形成顶芽和进入休眠状态, 研究表明该表型由一个隐性等位基因控制 (Rodriguez *et al.*, 1994)。Bielenberg 等 (2008) 在 *Evg* 中鉴定到 6 个串联排列的 MADS-box 转录因子, 位于一号染色体的末端, 且在 *Evg* 中不表达, 将其命名为与休眠相关的 DAM (DORMANCY ASSOCIATED MADS-box) 基因 (*DAM1~6*)<sup>[6]</sup>, 属于 MIKCC 转录因子家族, 能够调节花器官和分生组织的发育及从营养生长到生殖生长的转化 (Cai *et al.*, 2021)。Fan 等 (2010) 发现了一个与 CR 和开花时间强烈相关的 QTL 位点, 该位点与 *EVG* 共定位, 重叠区域包括 *PpDAM5* 和 *PpDAM6*<sup>[7]</sup>。在桃、扁桃和杏中, 开花和 CR 相关的 QTL 位点与 *DAM* 基因共定位于 1 号染色体末端。Yamane 等 (2019) 鉴定到了在休眠花芽中优先表达的 MADS-box 基因, 序列分析其和 *SHORT VEGETATIVE PHASE* (*SVP*) 及拟南芥 *AGAMOUS-LIKE 24*

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(*AGL24*)同源<sup>[8]</sup>,后两者是编码多年生植物花芽休眠和萌发的关键作用因子。此外,鄢馨卉(2019)在‘砀山酥梨’基因组中共鉴定了5个*DAM*基因,将其命名为*PpyMADS28-31*和*PpyMADS71*;运用 PacBio 和 Hi-C 技术组装的脆冠梨基因组,同样鉴定到了受选择的*DAM*基因<sup>[9]</sup>。我们团队基于345个不同CR桃自然群体的重测序数据,GWAS定位并验证了控制桃CR控制的关键基因*PpDAM6*<sup>[5]</sup>。

在休眠进程中,*DAM-like*表达模式受光周期和低温信号的影响,同时受到破眠剂单氰胺的调控。位于桃*EVG*位点的6个*DAM*的表达具有周期性,能够响应光周期的变化<sup>[10]</sup>。*DAM1/2/4/5/6*对光周期的减少有响应,而*DAM3*则可能受到低温调节。在侧芽休眠状态下,*DAM5/6*的表达量最高,而在休眠解除时,其表达量降至最低<sup>[11,12]</sup>;Li等(2009)在桃中证实了三个*DAM*基因(*DAM1*、*DAM2*和*DAM4*)的表达与生长停止和芽的形成有关,而其它三个基因(*DAM3*、*DAM5*和*DAM6*)表现出与休眠进程相关的表达模式<sup>[10]</sup>。Zhu等(2020)则认为低温对桃花芽休眠中*DAM1*和*DAM3-6*的表达具有明显的下调作用,而*DAM4*的表达量最高<sup>[3]</sup>。在休眠进程中,*DAM*基因表现为高CR品种高表达,低CR品种低表达的特性;休眠解除时,其表达水平降至最低值<sup>[9]</sup>。*DAM*在营养芽和花芽中均有表达,表达量随CR的增加而逐渐降低,表现出不同品种对CR的需求差异<sup>[10,13,14]</sup>。用单氰胺处理内休眠和生态休眠的花芽,诱导花芽早萌发,同时*PpDAM5~6*的表达下调,表明*DAM*可能通过抑制芽生长来调节低温需求<sup>[12]</sup>。

在桃中,*PpDAM3*和*PpDAM5*能够调控ABA信号途径响应基因*ABI5*的表达<sup>[15]</sup>。*PpTCP20*(Teosinte branched1/Cycloidea/Proliferating cell factors)能够形成同源二聚体与*PpDAM5*和*PpDAM6*基因的启动子GCCCR(R=A or G)元件结合,负调控*PpDAM5*和*PpDAM6*的表达;*PpTCP20*并与*PpABF2*(ABRE-binding factor 2)相互作用来间接调控*DAM*基因表达<sup>[16]</sup>;BASIC PENTACYSSTEINE PROTEINs(PpBPCs)通过结合在*PpDAM6*启动子的GA-repeat元件,正调控*PpDAM6*的表达<sup>[17]</sup>。*PpDAM6*基因在上游通过参与ABA信号通路基因的诱导,促进花芽中胼胝质的生物合成,进而调控休眠的进程<sup>[5]</sup>(图2)。在梅中,*PmuDAM6*和*PmuSOC1*(suppressor of overexpression of *co1*)发生互作<sup>[18]</sup>;甜樱桃中也有相关报道<sup>[19]</sup>。在梅中,*PmuDAM1*、*PmuDAM5*和*PmuDAM6*之间能够形成蛋白复合物共同调控休眠<sup>[20]</sup>。在梨(*Pyrus pyrifolia*)上,Niu等(2016)发现秋季短期低温激活冷响应基因C-repeat binding factors(CBFs)的表达并积累,继而诱导*DAM*基因表达;随后*DAM*抑制*FT*(*FLOWERING LOCUS T*)表达,诱导休眠发生;miR6390靶向降解*DAM*基因,使休眠解除<sup>[21]</sup>。持续低温使*DAMs*的表达水平降低,从而解除对*FT*的抑制,促使生长通路重新打开,进而休眠解除和花芽萌发;而在日本梨中则没有出现类似*DAM*和*FT*的互作现象<sup>[22]</sup>,表明不同物种间*DAM-like*基因通过参与不同的调控途径而影响休眠进程。梨休眠花芽中*PpyABF3*与*PpyDAM3*表达正相关,进一步实验表明*PpyABF3*直接与*PpyDAM3*启动子中的第二个ABRE元件结合,激活其表达;同时ABA响应基因*PpyABF2*与*PpyABF3*发生互作,

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阻断了 *PpyABF3* 对 *PpyDAM3* 的激活,使得 *DAM* 的表达受到精确控制<sup>[23]</sup>。在另一项研究中,*PpABF2* 抑制 *PpDAM1* 的表达,后者可激活 *PpNCED3* (9-cis-epoxycarotenoid dioxygenase, ABA 生物合成酶基因) 的表达,揭示 ABA 信号途径和 *DAM* 基因表达之间存在负反馈调控机制<sup>[24]</sup>,表明 *DAM-like* 基因介导 ABA 信号通路调控休眠进程。

## 2. 休眠进程中 *DAM-like* 基因与激素的关系

ABA 含量在芽休眠时升高,休眠解除时降低,外源 ABA 的施用延缓了休眠进程和芽破裂时间<sup>[5,25]</sup>。ABA 在植物体内的稳态是植物正常生长发育所必需的,芽既是 ABA 作用的靶点,也是 ABA 新陈代谢的主要部位。ABA 对芽的抑制作用随着休眠程度的加深而减弱,休眠解除后抑制作用消失。*NCEDs* 在休眠建立时上调表达,在休眠解除时下调表达,这在桃、梨和葡萄(*Vitis vinifera*)中都得到了证实<sup>[23,26,27]</sup>。和 *DAMs* 表达特性相似,在不同植物物种休眠期间,不同的 *NCEDs* 遵循不同的表达模式。例如,桃中的 *NCED1* 在营养芽中表达水平高于花芽,而 *NCED2* 在花芽中表达量较高<sup>[26]</sup>;梨中的 *NCED2* 和 *NCED3* 在休眠开始时上调表达,而 *NCED1* 则在休眠结束时达到峰值<sup>[25]</sup>;而葡萄中只有 *NCED1* 在休眠期间被检测到<sup>[28]</sup>,表明 ABA 生物合成存在一个复杂的调控网络,不同的 *NCEDs* 可能受到相对独立的调控,并以器官特异性的表达方式呈现。对休眠芽进行转录组测序分析发现,一个过程的变化往往伴随着另一个过程的相反变化,两个过程密切协同控制。例如,*VvNCEDs* 在葡萄芽休眠早期的表达量较高,而 *VvCYC707A4* 的表达量很低;相反,在休眠后期,随着 *VvCYC707A4* 的快速增加,*VvNCEDs* 的表达开始下降<sup>[28]</sup>。

在植物中,细胞间物质运输依赖于相邻细胞间的被称为胞间连丝特殊通道的通透性。细胞间的分子移动受到胞间连丝中胼胝质 ( $\beta$ -1,3-葡聚糖聚合物) 的沉积和降解控制,其合成由胼胝质合成酶和葡聚糖酶共同催化完成<sup>[29]</sup>。胼胝质沉积引起的共质体闭合是植物抵御病原菌入侵的主要机制,事实上这也是建立休眠的关键步骤,由短光周期 (Short day, SD) 事件触发,表明胞间连丝的通透性降低是植物进行防御和休眠控制的共同表征<sup>[30]</sup>。*DAM-like* 基因介导下游 Callose synthase (*CALS*) 的表达,使胼胝质在细胞膜之间的胞间连丝中沉积,导致细胞间通讯受阻,进而控制休眠进程<sup>[5,31]</sup>,表明 ABA 可间接作用于细胞间通讯 (图 2)。

GA 对休眠解除发挥重要作用。首先,GA 通过调节细胞间分子或物质运输控制休眠进程。在李子中,*PpDAM6* 通过下调赤霉素生物合成通路基因 *ENT-kaurenoic acid oxidase 2-like* (*KAO2-like*), *ENT-copalyl diphosphate synthase 1-like* (*CPS1-like*) 和 *GA20-oxidase 2-like* (*GA20OX2-like*) 的表达,同时上调赤霉素代谢基因 *GA2-oxidase 8-like* (*GA2OX8-like*) 的表达来控制赤霉素的含量<sup>[17]</sup>。Singh 等 (2019) 提出了一个 GA 与 ABA 共同介导胞间连丝闭合而控制休眠的模型,在缺乏 ABA 时,*PKL* 抑制 *SVL* 的表达,后者正调控 *CALS1* 和 *GA2ox* (GA 分解代谢基因) 的表达;而 ABA 水平升高抑制 *PKL* 的表达,后者负调节 *SVL* 的表达,导致 GA 分解和胼胝质积累<sup>[31]</sup>。表明 *SVL* 可作为中枢基因,通过连接 ABA 和 GA 以及低温感知途径来决定休眠建立和解除<sup>[32]</sup>。GA 可增加活性氧 (ROS) 的产生,葡萄破芽率与 ROS

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的快速积累密切相关，快速积累亚致死水平的 ROS 诱导细胞壁松动和芽萌发<sup>[33]</sup>。最后，GA 作用于糖代谢途径导致休眠解除。在梅中，GA<sub>4</sub> 处理导致糖代谢途径的增强，可溶性糖被认为是休眠解除过程中维持芽缓慢生长的重要能量来源，其作为一种潜在的信号物质，间接增强与细胞分裂和细胞周期等相关基因的表达<sup>[34]</sup>。

值得一提的是，其他植物激素（如细胞分裂素、乙烯和生长素等）也参与了休眠周期的调节<sup>[2, 35-37]</sup>，但目前针对这些激素的研究较少，且都未与 *DAM-like* 相互联系起来。如细胞分裂素在调节细胞分裂中起着核心作用，但在活动-休眠（activity-dormancy）周期方面还未得到广泛研究。最新研究表明，梨早期落叶可引发生长素重新分布，降低芽内生生长素含量，促进顶芽和侧芽类休眠解除，这一过程不受顶端优势中顶端组织来源的生长素影响，而受叶片作用<sup>[35]</sup>，该模型的提出有助于深入理解多年生木本植物周期性生长的调控机制，并为抑制早期落叶引起的侧芽反季节萌发提供理论依据。

### 3. 表观遗传参与 *DAM-like* 基因的调控

植物长期暴露在低温下，*DAM-like* 基因发生的染色质修饰和 *FLC* 在春化作用中的修饰类似，表明春化和休眠过程之间可能存在机制上的相似性<sup>[38]</sup>。像春化一样，休眠是通过长期暴露在低温环境中解除的，低温可以恢复生长潜力，但不能促进生长。*DAM-like* 受到表观遗传调控最先在乳浆草休眠芽中得到研究，*DAMI* 在不同花芽休眠阶段表现出 H3K27me3 和 H3K4me3 沉积水平的变化，伴随着 *DAMI* 的表达下调和由内休眠向生态休眠的转换<sup>[39]</sup>。

在拟南芥中，H3K4me3 和 H3K27me3 在开花抑制基因 *FLC* 处沉积以应对低温胁迫<sup>[40]</sup>，它们分别与基因表达的促进和抑制显著相关。和拟南芥相似，在桃休眠花芽中 *DAMs* 的表达也与 H3K4me3 和 H3K27me3 的修饰有关，同时也伴随着在该基因转录起始位点区域 H3ac 的降低<sup>[11]</sup>，表明染色质修饰通过调节 *DAM-like* 表达变化进而影响花芽休眠状态。PpBPCs 和存在于 *PpDAM6* 上游 H3K27me3 富集区域的两个 GA-repeat 基序互作，进一步支持了 *DAM* 的表达可通过 H3K27me3 标记进行调控<sup>[7]</sup>。休眠解除时，组蛋白乙酰化修饰水平下降以及 H3K27me3 显著富集，这些变化参与了 *DAM-like* 基因在休眠期间的差异转录<sup>[41]</sup>。Leida 等（2012）和 zhu 等（2020）分别发现在 *DAMI-4-6* 基因区域发现 H3K27me3 水平升高和 H3K4me3 水平的降低<sup>[3, 11]</sup>，然而另一项研究在桃休眠花芽中的 *DAM-like* 基因区域则没有发现 H3K27me3 修饰的存在<sup>[42]</sup>。而在甜樱桃和桃的非休眠芽中，也发现了 H3K27me3 修饰的存在<sup>[3, 43]</sup>，表明 H3K27me3 在 *DAM-like* 位点的沉积可能存在物种或品种依赖性以及环境条件的差异。

相比 H3K27me3，在苹果休眠花芽中 H3K4me3 对基因表达谱的影响更广泛<sup>[44]</sup>。在秋季，*DAM* 基因的高表达与高的 H3K4me3 水平显著相关，导致休眠建立；在冬季，*DAM-like* 和 GA 代谢基因的低表达和 H3K4me3 修饰水平有关，导致花芽休眠解除<sup>[44]</sup>。在梨中，ABA 响应的 bZIP 类型转录因子 PpyABF3 通过与 COMPASS-like 复合体共同作用，招募 H3K4me3 添加到 *PpyDAM4* 和 *GA2ox* 中，激活它们的表达，从而控制休眠；*PpyABF3* 和 *PpyWDR5a*

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互动，这两者都能够抑制梨愈伤组织的生长，且过表达 *PpyWDR5a* 后增强了在 *DAM4* 位点的 H3K4me3 水平；ChIP-qPCR 分析表明，*GA2OX1* 在 *PpyABF3* 的下游发挥作用<sup>[45]</sup>。在桃中，仅在 *PpDAM4* 和 *PpDAM5* 位点中发现 H3K4me3 修饰水平的变化<sup>[42]</sup>。对苹果中 H3K4me3 和 H3K27me3 标记基因的基序进行分析，发现了可能介导组蛋白甲基化的转录因子。具体来说，在 H3K4me3 标记基因的 2-kb 启动子区域中有较多的 GAGA (trithorax-group protein)、TCP 和 DAM-like 转录调控因子的结合位点，而 FUS3 (ABI3/VP1 B3-type 转录因子家族成员) 和 AP2/ERF 的结合位点在 H3K27me3 标记基因中富集<sup>[44]</sup>。因此，*DAM-like* 基因是组蛋白修饰的目标，但编码的蛋白质也可能与 SVP 结合形成有助于组蛋白修饰的复合物(如与 *PpyABF3*)。因此，H3K4me3 对于调节休眠芽中 ABA 诱导的 GA 代谢至关重要 (图 2)。

组蛋白修饰沉积在与休眠相关的代谢途径基因上。在桃中，蔗糖和山梨醇含量增加，山梨醇-6-磷酸脱氢酶生物合成基因在休眠期间大量表达，它们分别与高的 H3K4me3 和低的 H3K27me3 修饰水平相关<sup>[46]</sup>。在苹果的休眠营养芽中，脂质体在休眠期间积累，而 *LIP2A* (一种甘油分解代谢相关基因) 的下调表达与染色质可及性有关，这表明染色质修饰会影响休眠期间的脂质积累<sup>[47]</sup>。事实上，梅中的 *DAM6* 通过抑制脂质体分解代谢基因表达促进休眠营养分生组织的脂质积累<sup>[48]</sup>。Chen 等 (2022) 发现影响脂质分解代谢的 *GDSL LIPASE* 的表达下降伴随着 H3K4me3 水平的降低<sup>[44]</sup>。这些结果表明组蛋白修饰不仅影响植物激素代谢水平，还可以通过影响脂质代谢来控制休眠进程。

除了组蛋白修饰以外，同样也存在 DNA 甲基化以及小分子 RNA (microRNA, miRNA)，长度通常为 21~24 nt，参与基因表达调控。在拟南芥中，长链非翻译 RNA 参与抑制开花基因 *FLC* 以应对低温的胁迫<sup>[40]</sup>。在整个 *DAM* 基因区域，CG 甲基化水平在低温期间保持相对恒定，但在转向暖温后下降<sup>[3]</sup>。在沙梨中，*miR6390* 靶向 *PpyDAM*，与 *PpCBF* 和 *PpFT2* 一起参与休眠调控<sup>[21]</sup>。*DAM1* 和 *DAM5* 的表达受到 H3K27me3 的影响，而 *DAM3* 和 *DAM4* 则分别受到 21-nt sRNA 和 ncRNA 调控。研究还发现这 6 个 *DAM* 基因被高度甲基化，这与 24-nt 的 sRNAs 的产生有关<sup>[3]</sup>。因此，不同表观遗传修饰及相互作用可能决定了 *DAM* 基因的表达丰度和下调模式。在低温后的暖温条件下，5 个 *DAM* 基因的表达保持不变或持续下调，这种调控状态与 sRNA 的增加相关，尤其是 *DAM4*<sup>[3]</sup>，这种降低 *DAM* 基因表达的表观遗传变化，可能与花发育密切相关。这对了解低温需求和休眠解除的调控机制具有重要意义。然而，当满足甜樱桃 CR 时，*PavMADS1* 启动子中 DNA 甲基化水平和 siRNAs (small interference RNAs) 的丰度增加有关；而对 *PavMADS2* 表达调控只取决于 CG 位点 DNA 甲基化<sup>[49]</sup>，表明 DNA 甲基化参与了甜樱桃低温积累和休眠解除过程中 *PavMADS* 基因的沉默。



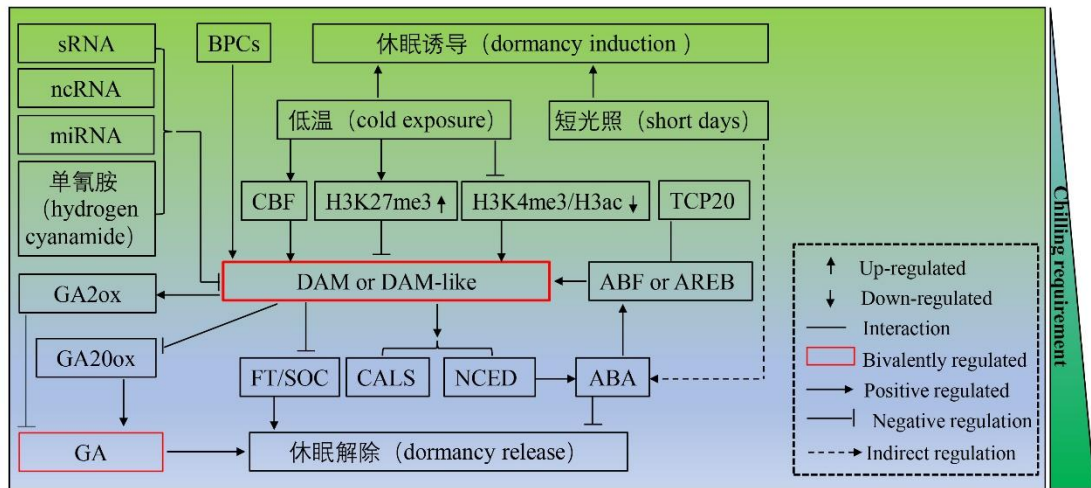


图2 落叶果树中 *DAM-like* 基因参与的休眠调控模式图

#### 4. 总结和展望

CR 与休眠的诱导、维持和解除密切相关，影响果树的萌芽开花(王力荣 *et al.*, 1996)，因此准确地评价 CR 积累对休眠进程预测是非常重要的。基于此，多种 CR 预测模型被开发出来。Weinberger 等（1950）提出了 $\sim 7.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ 模型，该模型已经使用多年，对桃芽休眠打破是有效的<sup>[50]</sup>，但不同果树品种可能有自己特定的最低温度，因此其应用范围受到了限制。Richardson 等（1974）提出了 Uath 模型，该模型常应用于动态温度范围变化条件下（小于 $1.4^{\circ}\text{C}$ 赋值为 0 CU， $1.4\text{-}2.5$  赋值为 0.5 CU， $2.5\text{-}9.2$  赋值为 1.0 CU， $9.2\text{-}12.4$  赋值为 0.5 CU， $12.4\text{-}16$  赋值为 0 CU， $16\text{-}18$  赋值为 $-0.5$  CU，大于 $18^{\circ}\text{C}$ 赋值为 $-1$  CU）<sup>[51]</sup>。受气候和其他环境因素的影响，CR 在不同年份间差别很大。比如利用 Uath 模型预测的‘翠冠梨’休眠解除的 CR 单位为 113 CU（Chilling Units）低于之前预测的 300 CU<sup>[52]</sup>。Uath 模型多适用于果树等园艺作物，但计算较为繁琐，在实际应用中可能需要考虑气候类型和植物种类的影响。在这两种模型的基础上又衍生出了 $0\sim 7.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ 模型、 $0\sim 14^{\circ}\text{C}$ 模型以及低温模型等，以适用特殊地理位置的气候特征<sup>[53]</sup>。如通过不同 CR 模型对郑州地区桃品种进行评价分析发现，以 $0\sim 7.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ 累积低温值作为 CR 的评价标准比较适宜<sup>[54]</sup>；在此模型的基础上，将桃芽的萌动标准划分为了五个级别和七个不同的生态型 CR 品种群<sup>[55]</sup>。而根据这些模型预测休眠的进程固然有一定的依据，但从实际操作来看，这些判定方法都依赖视觉观察来评估芽的休眠状态，如花芽的发育程度和萌芽率达到 50%的时间作为休眠解除的临界点等，这类观察方法有较大的局限性，因为不同地区的环境温度差别很大，而且细胞分裂和新叶原体的形成可能发生在没有任何可见的芽生长活动或芽形态变化的情况下<sup>[2]</sup>。依据上述观点，这些模型并不能准确预测休眠的精确起始和结束时间，因此有必要从分子水平等加以探索。

休眠在杨树叶芽中的研究较为深入。在 *DAM-like* 参与的休眠调控机制方面，ABA 促进休眠并激活 *SVL* 的表达，*SVL* 正调控 *NCED3* 和 *TCPI8/BRC1* 的表达，该作用方式促进 ABA 的积累；此外 *SVL* 负调控 *FTI*，同时抑制 Gibberellin (GA) 的产生，多条途径共同作用于

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休眠进程<sup>[56, 57]</sup>，在休眠周期中，这一反馈调节通路解释了叶芽中 ABA 含量变化的原因；在 *DAM-like* 介导的激素途径方面，创制的 *DAM-like* 沉默株系中 GA 生物合成基因上调表达，表明 GA 信号通路基因作为 *DAM-like* 的下游靶点，使芽破裂时间提前<sup>[56]</sup>。在 *DAM-like* 组蛋白表观修饰方面，在杨树休眠叶芽中的 *DAM-like* 基因区域则没有发现 H3K27me3 修饰的存在<sup>[56]</sup>。综上，作者认为今后在蔷薇科果树上的研究可参考以下方面：

1. 梨和桃上的 *DAMs* 基因启动子区域的变异和需冷量高低密切相关，而在桃上围绕 *PpDAM6* 基因启动子区域的 30-bp InDel 开发出了需冷量标记<sup>[5, 23]</sup>；考虑到不同需冷量模型受到较大的区域限制，建议将 *DAM-like* 分子标记或表达水平和需冷量模型结合起来，从生理和分子水平共同预测休眠进程。
2. 休眠的诱导、维持和解除受到光周期和低温的共同作用，但自然条件下导致落叶果树生长停止和芽休眠诱导的机制尚不明确。*DAM-like* 作为一个与需冷量和休眠联系起来的明星基因，其感知光周期变化和低温积累的机制仍需深入探究。
3. 虽然部分果树中的 *DAM-like* 已被证明参与休眠维持和解除，但仍需更多的遗传证据来证实它们在其他物种芽休眠控制中的作用。如在梨中 *PpyDAM* 蛋白能够抑制 *FT2* 的表达<sup>[21]</sup>，而在桃中则未发现 *PpDAM6* 能够介导 *FT* 基因的表达（未发表数据）。此外，*DAM-like* 充当生长抑制剂的作用机制仍不清楚，未来可通过其介导的靶基因功能进行阐明。
4. 表观遗传调控参与休眠周期的转换，但这些表观修饰（如组蛋白修饰、DNA 甲基化等）在休眠过程中是如何丰富或逆转的仍不清楚。表观遗传标记是如何通过低温积累被招募到特定基因的（*DAM* 和 *SVP*）？冬小麦或拟南芥的春化响应机制为我们提供了借鉴依据。

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