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ABA 调控种子发育的研究进展

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摘 要: 种子发育是一个复杂的生物学过程,受各种遗传和外界因素的调节,显著影响农作物特别是禾谷类作物的种子活力和产量与质量。脱落酸(ABA)是调控种子发育和萌发最重要的植物激素之一,其活性水平、信号转导及其 LAFL 网络在种子发育包括胚胎发生和成熟过程的调控中起关键作用。该文主要综述了近年来 ABA 调控种子发育的研究取得的重要进展,包括 ABA 代谢和信号转导对种子发育的调控,ABA 与种子成熟转录因子(AFL-B3、FUS3、ABI3、LEC2 等)的作用,以及 ABA 在种子发育中的作用机制,并提出了需要进一步研究的科学问题,为深入理解种子发育的分子机制提供参考,从而提高种子的活力、产量和质量。

关键词: ABA 代谢, 脱落酸, 转录因子网络, 种子发育, 信号转导

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Research progress on seed development regulated by ABA

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Abstract: Seed development is a complex biological process that is controlled by various genetic and external factors, and significantly affects the seed vigor, yield and quality of crops, especially cereal plant crops. Absciscic acid (ABA) is one of the most important phytohormones that regulate seed development and germination, and plays a key role in regulation of seed development through its activity level, signaling, and LAFL network, including embryogenesis and maturation process. In recent years, important progresses have been acquired in the research of seed development regulated by ABA. In the present paper, we have mainly reviewed the research achievements in this field, including the regulation of ABA metabolism and signaling on seed development, the action between ABA and transcription factors of seed maturation (AFL-B3, FUS3, ABI3, LEC2, etc.), and the action mechanism of ABA in seed development. In addition, we also propose some scientific questions that need to be further investigated in this field to provide some

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information for deeply understanding the molecular mechanism of seed development, so as to improve seed vigor and increasing yield and quality.

Key words: abscisic acid (ABA) metabolism, abscisic acid, network of transcription factor, seed development, signaling

在大多数被子植物中,种子是双受精(double fertilization)过程的产物,其中一个精核与卵细胞融合产生二倍体的合子,另一个精核与双核中央细胞融合形成三倍体的初生胚乳核(Baroux & Grossniklaus, 2019)。随后,单细胞合子经过细胞分裂和分化发育成为胚(Verma et al., 2021);而初生胚乳核通过一系列有丝分裂发育成为多核细胞后,细胞化成为胚乳(Li & Berger, 2012; Batista et al., 2019)。种皮由胚珠的珠被发育而成,外珠被形成外种皮,内珠被形成内种皮。种子发育(seed development)过程可分为胚胎发生(embryogenesis)和成熟(maturation)两个主要阶段(Ali et al., 2022; Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022)。胚胎发生包括胚、胚乳和种皮(母体来源)的形成与结构发育,其特征是高度协调的细胞分裂与分化(Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022)。种子成熟从胚胎发生结束时开始,当种子在生理上独立于亲本植物时结束(Ali et al., 2022)。种子成熟显著地影响农作物特别是禾谷类作物种子的活力和产量与质量。

种子发育是一个复杂的生物学过程,包括储藏物(如碳水化合物、蛋白和脂类)的积累、耐脱水性(desiccation tolerance)的获得、生长停滞和进入休眠(dormancy)(Bewley et al., 2013; Jo et al., 2019)。研究表明,种子发育受各种遗传和外界因素的调节,其中植物激素在种子发育调控中起关键作用(Shu et al., 2016; Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022)。在胚胎发生早期,生长素(auxin)通过影响顶端-基底端极性(apical-basal polarity)的形成和维管发育在拟胚体(embryonic body)建立中起重要作用。细胞分裂素(cytokinin)与生长素一起通过细胞分裂、发育和分化促进生长。油菜素内酯(brassinosteroid)调节胚珠的数量、种子的大小和形状,拮抗ABA的抑制作用也参与种子的萌发(Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022)。脱落酸(abscisic acid, ABA)和赤霉素(gibberellin, GA)被认为是拮抗调节种子发育的主要激素(Shu et al., 2016; Sano & Marion-Poll, 2021)。研究表明,GA在种子的正常发育中起重要作用。豌豆(*Pisum sativum*)

GA缺陷突变体不能产生正常的种子(Swain et al., 1997)。豌豆GA 2-氧化酶(GA 2-oxidase, GA2ox)基因在拟南芥(*Arabidopsis thaliana*)种子中的过表达引起种子败育(seed abortion)(Singh et al., 2010)。番茄(*Solanum lycopersicu*)果实中GA2ox的过表达导致果实重量、种子数量和萌发率降低(Chen et al., 2016)。核心GA信号转导途径主要由GA受体GID1(GA INSENSITIVE DWARF1)、DELLA(Asp-Glu-Leu-Leu-Ala)蛋白、F-box蛋白和DELLA调控的靶因子组成(Nelson & Steber, 2016)。当GA缺乏时,DELLA蛋白比较稳定,可抑制GA的反应;当GA存在时,GID1与GA的结合促进GID1-GA-DELLA复合物的形成,从而促进其与SLY1(SLEEPY 1)/GID2 F-box蛋白结合和多泛素化DELLA,并通过26S蛋白酶体靶向降解DELLA。这样就解除了GA反应的DELLA抑制(Nelson & Steber, 2016; 宋松泉等, 2020; Sohn et al., 2021)。在拟南芥DELLA因子中,RGL2(REPRESSOR OF GA-LIKE2)在抑制种子萌发中起主要作用(Sohn et al., 2021)。

近年来,植物激素ABA在调控种子发育中的研究取得了重要进展(Sano & Marion-Poll, 2021; Smolikova et al., 2021; Ali et al., 2022; Verma et al., 2022)。本文主要综述了本领域的研究成果,包括ABA代谢和信号转导对种子发育的调控,ABA与种子成熟转录因子的作用,以及ABA在种子发育中的作用机制,并提出了在本领域需要进一步研究的科学问题,为深入理解种子发育的分子机制提供参考,从而提高种子活力和增加产量与质量。

1 ABA代谢与信号转导对种子发育的调控

1.1 种子发育过程中ABA水平的变化

在拟南芥种子发育过程中,整个果实(长角果)和种子中的ABA水平在发育中期(约开花后9 d)达到峰值,随后下降;但果实中的ABA水平在

开花后 12 d 又开始增加直到发育后期(约开花后 21 d) (Kanno et al., 2010; Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022)。然而,当合子组织缺乏 ABA 时,母体组织中合成的 ABA 会被转移到合子组织的胚中 (Kanno et al., 2010)。合子组织中合成的 ABA 的主要作用是诱导和/或维持种子休眠;母体来源的 ABA 影响拟南芥成熟种子吸胀时释放的黏液层厚度 (Kanno et al., 2010)。

在小麦 (*Triticum aestivum*) 种子发育过程中,ABA 的水平有 2 个峰值,其中发育后期(授粉后 35~40 d)合成的 ABA 与种子的休眠水平相关 (Tuan et al., 2018)。水稻 (*Oryza sativa*) 和小黑麦 (*tritcale*) 种子发育过程中的 ABA 水平只有一个峰值。在水稻种子中,与休眠诱导有关的 ABA 积累发生在种子发育的早期和中期(授粉后 10~20 d),比小麦种子早 (Gu et al., 2011; Liu et al., 2014)。在小黑麦种子中,ABA 积累的峰值约为授粉后 35 d,在种子水分大量丧失之前 (Fidler et al., 2016)。

1.2 ABA 代谢对种子发育的调控

活性 ABA 通过一条间接的途径从叶黄素 (xanthophyll) [例如玉米黄质 (zeaxanthin)、紫黄质 (violaxanthin) 和新黄质 (neoxanthin)] 合成 (Marion-Poll & Leung, 2006)。3 个关键酶负责 ABA 生物合成的连续步骤,如玉米黄质环氧化酶 (zeaxanthin epoxidase, ZEP)、9-顺式-环氧类胡萝卜素双加氧酶 (9-*cis*-epoxycarotenoid dioxygenase, NCED) 和脱落醛氧化酶 (abscisic aldehyde oxidase, ABAO) (Dejonghe et al., 2018)。

ZEP 基因最初在拟南芥和皱叶烟草 (*Nicotiana glauca*) 中被鉴定出来。其 ABA 缺陷突变体 (*aba1/aba2*) 在玉米黄质氧化为环氧玉米黄质 (antheraxanthin) 和紫黄质中受损,这被认为是 ABA 生物合成的初始步骤 (Sano & Marion-Poll, 2021)。在水稻中,在 ABA 合成过程中玉米黄质的氧化存在缺陷,发现了一个具有胎萌的突变体 *Tos17* (Ali et al., 2022)。通过遗传筛选在玉米 (*Zea mays*) 中鉴定的其他 ABA 营养缺陷型突变体 (*vp2*、*vp5*、*vp7* 和 *vp9*) 存在 ZEP 活性缺陷,阻碍了类胡萝卜素生物合成的早期步骤 (Ali et al., 2022)。综上所述,玉米黄质氧化是植物中 ABA 合成的一个重要且保守的阶段。目前,从全反式紫黄质 (all-*trans*-violaxanthin) 和全反式新黄质 (all-*trans*-neoxanthin) 到 9-顺式紫黄质 (9-*cis*-

violaxanthin) 和 9-顺式新黄质 (9-*cis*-neoxanthin) 的转化还不清楚。然而, North 等 (2007) 发现 ABA4 负责从全反式紫黄质转化为全反式新黄质,为这些转化的研究提供了一些线索。

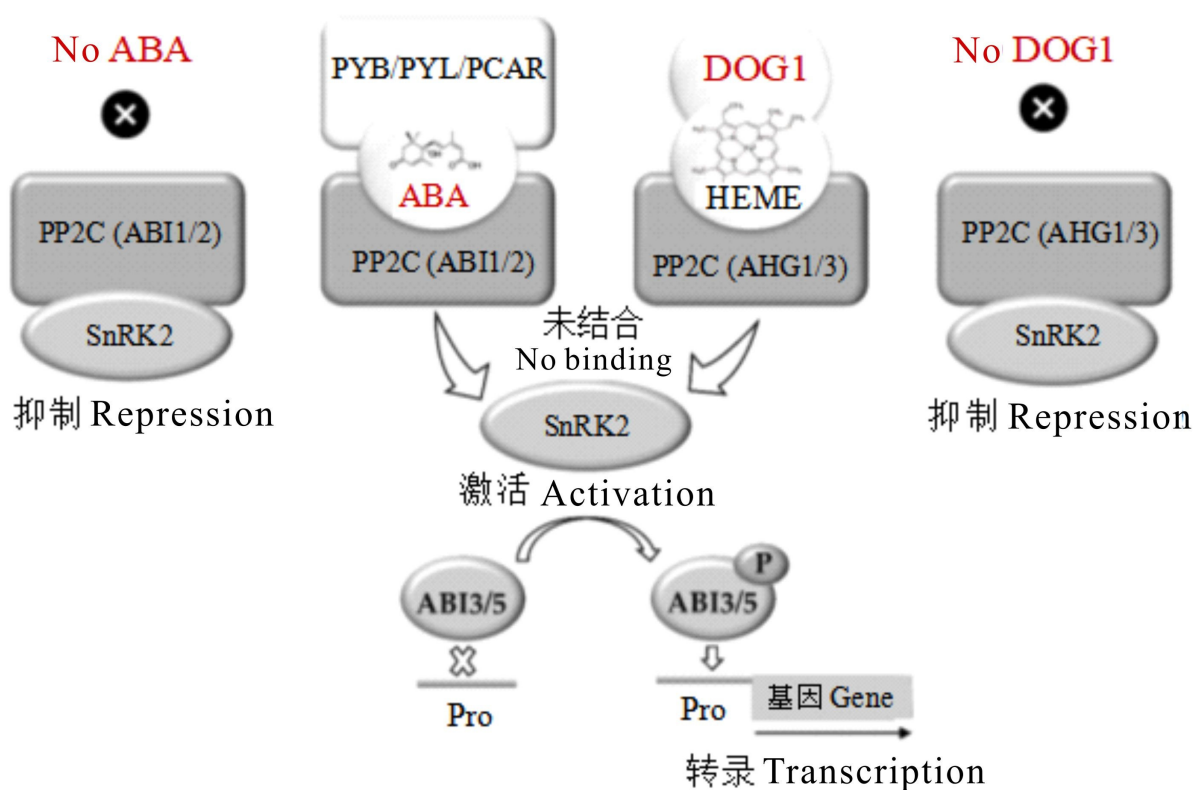
ABA 生物合成的第二个关键基因 *NCED* 最初在玉米胎生突变体 *vp14* (*viviparous 14*) 中被克隆。*vp14* 突变体在 ABA 生物合成的步骤中存在 9-顺式-环氧类胡萝卜素的氧化缺陷,并在干种子中表现出 ABA 含量降低 (Tan et al., 1997)。在拟南芥中, *NCED2*、*NCED3*、*NCED5*、*NCED6* 和 *NCED9* 被认为是 *VP14* 的同源基因,参与 ABA 生物合成的限速步骤 (Nambara & Marion-Poll, 2005)。此外,分别从大豆 (*Glycine max*)、番茄和二穗短柄草 (*Brachypodium distachyon*) 中鉴定出的 *PvNCED1*、*LeNCED1* 和 *BdNCED1* 也在 ABA 生物合成和种子发育过程中具有重要作用 (Barrero et al., 2012)。综上所述,叶黄素的氧化裂解是 ABA 生物合成的主要步骤,可调节种子的发育。

脱落醛 (abscisic aldehyde) 的氧化是 ABA 生物合成的最后步骤,其中脱落醛被氧化成为 ABA (Dejonghe et al., 2018)。在番茄中鉴定的脱落醛氧化为 ABA 的缺陷突变体是 *flacca* 和 *sitiens* (Taylor et al., 1988)。在拟南芥中鉴定的脱落醛氧化酶 3 (abscisic aldehyde oxidase 3, AA03), 在种子中的 ABA 生物合成的最后两个步骤中起作用,其表达也在种子成熟中后期的胚维管组织中被观察到 (Seo et al., 2004)。

1.3 ABA 信号转导对种子发育的调控

核心 ABA 信号转导组分包括 ABA 受体 PYR/PYL/RCAR (pyrabactin resistance 1/pyrabactin resistance 1-like/regulatory components of ABA receptor) 家族、A 组 2C 型蛋白磷酸酶 (Group A Type 2C protein phosphatase, PP2C) 和蔗糖非发酵-1-相关的蛋白激酶 2 (sucrose non-fermenting-1-related protein kinase 2, SnRK2) (Nonogaki, 2019a, b; Lim et al., 2022) (图 1)。

在拟南芥中, PYR/PYL/RCAR 蛋白家族的 14 个成员被证明在种子中具有重要作用,例如 *pyr1/prl1/prl2/prl4* 四重突变体和 *pyl* 十二重突变体表现出种子休眠变弱,对 ABA 不敏感 (Ma et al., 2009; Zhao et al., 2018)。此外,水稻中 *ospyl* 七重突变体在种子萌发过程中对 ABA 不敏感 (Miao et al., 2018)。



PP2C 由 *ABI1* 和 *ABI2* 基因编码。萌发延迟 1 (DOG1) 信号转导的关键组分是血红素分子和由 *AHG1* 和 *AHG3* 基因编码的 PP2C。PCAR-ABA-PP2C 和/或 DOG1-HEME-PP2C 的三重复合物阻断 PP2C 与 SnRK2 的结合。活化的 SnRK2 磷酸化与 ABA 控制基因的启动子 (Pro) 结合的 ABI3 和 ABI5。在种子中, 平行的 ABA 和 DOG1 信号转导途径激活棉子糖家族寡糖的合成、*LEA* 和 *HSP* 基因的表达, 从而调控耐脱水性的开始和向休眠过渡。

PP2C is encoded by *ABI1* and *ABI2* genes. The key elements of delay of germination 1 (DOG1) signaling are heme molecule and PP2C encoded by *AHG1* and *AHG3* genes. Triplex complexes of PCAR-ABA-PP2C and/or DOG1-HEME-PP2C block the binding of PP2C to SnRK2. The active SnRK2 phosphorylates ABI3 and ABI5 which bind to the promoters (Pro) of ABA-controlled genes. In seeds, the parallel ABA and DOG1 signaling pathways activate synthesis of raffinose family oligosaccharide, expression of *LEA* and *HSP* genes, thus regulating the onset of desiccation tolerance and transit to dormancy.

图 1 种子中的脱落酸 (ABA) 和萌发延迟 1 (DOG1) 信号转导途径

Fig. 1 Abscisic acid (ABA) and delay of germination 1 (DOG1) signaling pathways in seeds (Smolikova et al., 2021)

在 ABA 缺乏时, PYL 蛋白释放 PP2C, 并激活其磷酸酶功能 (Ma et al., 2009)。PP2C 蛋白包括 ABA 不敏感 1/2 (ABA-INSENSITIVE 1/2, *ABI1/2*) 和 ABA 过敏感萌发 1/3 (ABA-HYPERSENSITIVE GERMINATION 1/3, *AHG1/3*), 通过蛋白磷酸化抑制下游 ABA 信号转导蛋白的活性, 从而阻断下游 ABA 信号转导网络的功能 (Park et al., 2009)。因此, PP2C 在 ABA 信号转导系统中起负调控因子的作用, 而在敲除突变体时则表现出对 ABA 过敏感和种子休眠减弱 (Yoshida et al., 2006)。研究表明, *EAR1* (ENHANCER OF ABA CO-RECEPTOR 1) 能与 PP2C 蛋白 (即 *ABI1/2*、

HAB1/2 (Hypersensitive to ABA 1/2) 和 *AHG1/3*) 一起作用来增加 PP2C 的活性 (Wang et al., 2018)。与 *EAR1* 一样, *PR5K2* (PR5 receptor-like kinase 2) 通过增加 *ABI1/2* 的磷酸化来抑制 ABA 信号转导 (Baek et al., 2019)。此外, *DOG1* (DELAY OF GERMINATION 1) 与血红素结合, 并与 *AHG1* 相互作用以阻止其磷酸酶功能, 并增加种子休眠程度 (Nishimura et al., 2018)。综上所述, PP2C 能够被 PYL 受体或被其他蛋白调节, 但在种子发育过程中 PP2C、PYL 与其他调控因子 (*DOG1*、*PR5K2* 和 *EAR1*) 之间的相互关系尚不清楚。

在 ABA 存在时, PYR/PYL/RCAR 蛋白与 ABA 和 PP2C 蛋白结合, 以抑制 PP2C 的磷酸酶活性, 从而释放 SnRK2 并使其发挥功能。研究表明, 拟南芥 PYL 蛋白家族的所有成员都能与 PP2C 家族成员相互作用, 并在 ABA 介导的反应中起作用 (Zhao et al., 2013)。在拟南芥中, 总共 3 种 SnRK2 (SnRK2.2、SnRK2.3 和 SnRK2.6) 被发现作为 ABA 信号转导网络的正调控因子参与种子发育的许多过程, 如脱绿 (de-greening)、种子储藏产物的积累、耐脱水性的获得和萌发 (Finkelstein et al., 2008)。ABA 信号转导终止子 (ABA signaling terminator, ABT) 是一种 WD40 蛋白, 能够有效地阻断 ABA 信号转导, 在种子萌发和幼苗建立中起重要作用。ABT 以 PYR1/PYL/RCAR-PP2C 依赖的方式被 ABA 诱导, 并与 PYR1/PYL/RCAR 和 PP2C 蛋白相互作用, 干扰 PYR1/4 和 ABI1/2 之间的相互作用, 从而阻断 ABA 信号转导 (Wang et al., 2020)。

此外, SnRK2 的主要靶点是 ABF [ABRE (ABA RESPONSIVE ELEMENT) binding factor]。ABF 家族由 9 个成员组成, 包括 *ABF1*、*ABF2*、*AREB1* (*ABRE BINDING PROTEIN 1*)、*ABF3*、*ABF4*、*AREB2*、*AREB3*、*ABI5*、*bZIP15*、*bZIP67* 和 *bZIP* 亚家族 *EEL*, 主要参与 ABA 介导的转录调控 (Nakashima et al., 2009)。*ABI5* 的转录能够被 SnRK2 通过与 *ABI5* 启动子中的 *ABRE* 顺式元件专一地结合来激活, 进而在拟南芥种子成熟后期和吸胀的种子中激活 ABA 介导的转录活性。此外, 另一个关键因子 *ABI3* 与 *ABI5* 转录因子相互作用, 并与 *ABI5* 共同作用以促进下游 ABA 反应基因的转录, 这两个基因均能被 *RAV1* (*RELATED TO ABI3/VP1*) 通过与其启动子结合进行调控 (Ali et al., 2022)。有趣的是, *ABI5* 也通过与 *PYL11* 和 *PYL12* 的启动子结合来调节 ABA 的反应, 从而直接调控萌发过程中的转录。当 *ABI5* 突变时, 由 *PYL11* 和 *PYL12* 过表达所引起的 ABA 过敏反应被完全或部分受损 (Zhao et al., 2020)。

2 ABA 与种子成熟转录因子

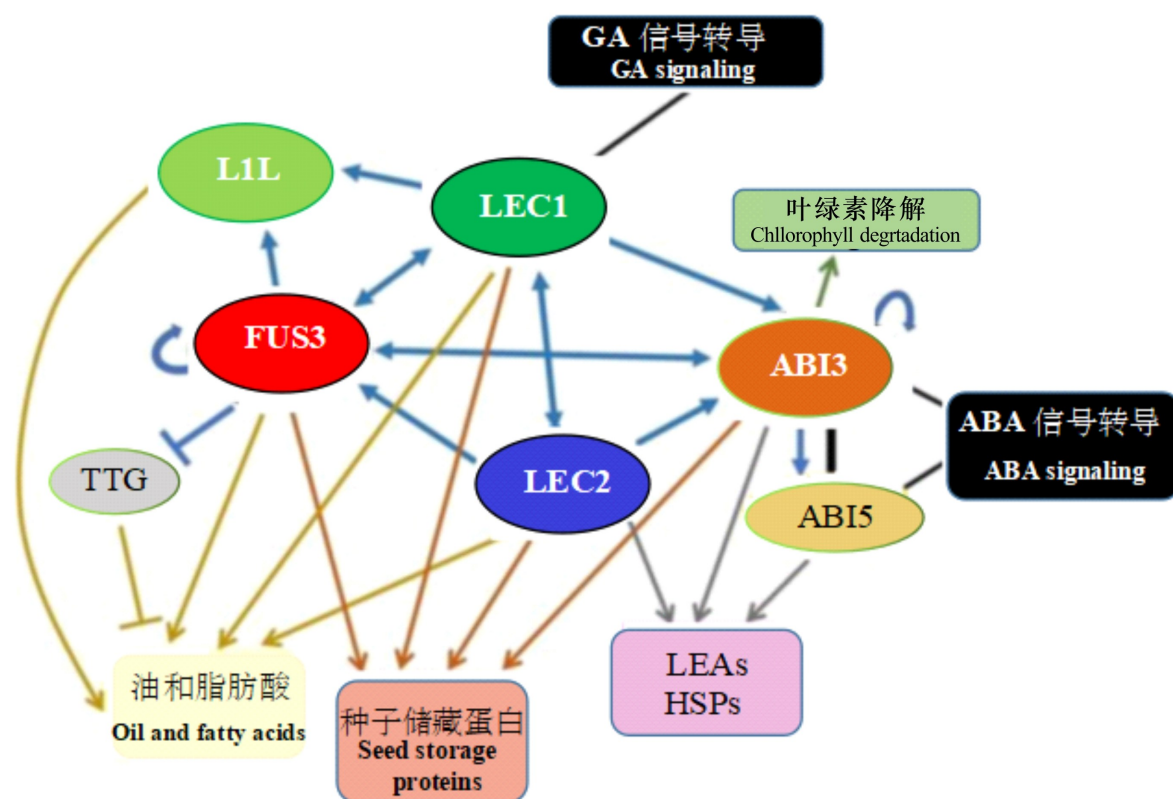
通过遗传筛选发现, *LAFL* 基因在 ABA 介导的种子发育中起重要作用。*LAFL* 基因包括 *AFL-B3* (AFL clade of B3 domain plant-specific transcription

factor)、*FUS3* (*FUSCA3*)、*ABI3*、*LEC2* (*LEAFY COTYLEDON 2*), 以及 *CBF* (*CCAAT-binding transcription factor*) 或 *NF-Y* (*nuclear factor Y*) 的 *HAP3* 亚基、*LEC1* 和 *L1L* (*LEC1-LIKE*) (Smolikova et al., 2021; Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022) (图 2)。*LAFL* 基因的突变影响种子发育的许多方面, 如种子成熟时储藏物含量下降, 耐脱水性和 ABA 水平降低以及休眠变弱 (Holdsworth et al., 2008; Jia et al., 2014)。除种子发育外, *LAFL* 网络还调控一些与植物发育有关的基因, 如锌指因子 (zinc finger factor) *PEI1*、*AP2* (*APETALA2*) 家族因子 *BBM* (*BABY BOOM*)、*NAC* 因子 *CUC1* (*CUP-SHAPED COTYLEDON 1*) 和 *MADS box* 因子 *FLC* (*FLOWERING LOCUS C*) 的基因 (Jia et al., 2014)。

AFL 因子通过 *RY* 顺式元件 (*RY cis-element*) 激活靶基因, *RY* 顺式元件被 B3-DNA 结合结构域识别 (Braybrook et al., 2006)。*LEC1* 和 *L1L* 作为 *NF-Y* 复合物的一个亚基, 与 *CCAAT* DNA 基序结合 (Miller, 2016)。对拟南芥和大豆靶基因上游区域 *LEC1* 结合位点的全基因组分析表明, *LEC1* 除了调控 *CCAAT* 基序外, 还在种子成熟过程中调控基因的启动子中富含 *G-box*、*ABRE-like*、*RY* 和 *BPC1* 顺式元件, 表明 *LEC1* 通过与一些其他种类的转录因子相互作用来调节靶基因 (Jo et al., 2019)。

遗传分析表明, 在 *LAFL* 基因之间的相互作用比较复杂 (图 2)。*LEC1* 能够激活 *ABI3*、*FUS3* 和 *LEC2* 的表达, 而 *LEC2* 的异位表达能够上调 *LEC1*、*ABI3* 和 *FUS3* (To et al., 2006; Stone et al., 2008)。*ABI3* 和 *FUS3* 相互正向调控, 并调控自身的表达 (To et al., 2006; Mönke et al., 2012)。此外, *L1L* 被 *FUS3* 调控 (Yamamoto et al., 2010)。ChIP (chromatin immunoprecipitation) 分析表明, *LEC1* 调控 *L1L* (Junker et al., 2012), 而 *FUS3* 调控 *LEC1*、*FUS3* 和 *ABI3* (Wang & Perry, 2013)。

除了 *LAFL* 基因外, *ABI5* 及其相关的 *bZIP* 转录因子也与 *ABRE* 结合, 参与种子成熟的调控。*ABI5* 是 ABA 信号转导的关键参与者 (Collin et al., 2021)。种子成熟过程中一组 *LAFL* 调控的重要基因包括胚胎发生晚期丰富 (*LATE EMBRYOGENESIS ABUNDANT*, *LEA*) 基因, 其启动子中具有 *RY* 和 *ABRE* 基序, 并被 *ABI3* 和 *ABI5* 相



箭头和钝线分别表示激活和抑制。ABI3 和 ABI5 之间的黑线表示这两个蛋白的相互作用。LEC1、LEC2 和 FUS3 (由粗黑线包围) 参与耐脱水性的获得, 所有 LAFL 蛋白都参与休眠的调控。LEC1 与 GA 信号转导有关, ABI3 和 ABI5 与 ABA 信号转导有关。Arrows and blunted lines indicates activation and repression, respectively. Black line between ABI3 and ABI5 indicates the interaction of these two proteins. LEC1, LEC2, and FUS3 (surrounded by the thick black line) are involved in acquisition of desiccation tolerance and all LAFL proteins are involved in the regulation of dormancy. LEC1 is related to GA signaling, and ABI3 and ABI5 are related to ABA signaling.

图 2 LAFL 网络调控种子发育

Fig. 2 LAFL network regulates seed development (Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022)

关的 bZIP 转录因子的组合调控 (Alonso et al., 2009)。因此, ABA 信号转导被 ABI5 及其相关的 bZIP 因子通过与 ABI3 的 N-端 COAR (co-activator/co-represso) 结构域物理相互作用整合到 LAFL 网络中 (Alonso et al., 2009)。在其他 LAFL 因子的靶基因启动子中也发现了 ABRE, 表明 LAFL 的其他组分可能被 ABA 共同调控 (Junker et al., 2012; Wang & Perry, 2013)。

在拟南芥中, 外源 ABA 增加 *FUS3* 的表达 (Kagaya et al., 2005), 以及 *FUS3* 诱导 ABA 的增加 (Gazzarrini et al., 2004)。因此, *FUS3* 和 ABA 是相互的正调控因子 (Braybrook & Harada, 2008)。此外, *FUS3* 的表达也能够被生长素正向调控 (Gazzarrini et al., 2004)。

3 ABA 在种子发育中的功能

3.1 储藏物的积累

在种子成熟过程中, 储藏化合物如种子储藏蛋白 (seed storage protein, SSP)、脂质和碳水化合物的积累与 ABA 的水平 and 信号转导密切相关 (Finkelstein, 2013) (表 1)。ABA 信号转导组分如 *PYL* 和 *SnRK2* 的突变通常表现为种子储藏物减少 (Nakashima et al., 2009; Zheng et al., 2010; Zhao et al., 2018)。 *SnRK2.6* 失活导致种子的含油量降低, 而 *SnRK2.6* 过表达则增加整个种子的重量 (Zheng et al., 2010)。 *SnRK2* 三重突变体 (*snrk2.2/3/6*) 和 *pyl* 十二重突变体通常表现出种

子储藏物减少,如 12S 球蛋白(Nakashima et al., 2009; Zhao et al., 2018)。玉米和水稻中的淀粉生物合成受蔗糖和 ABA 的协同调控(Huang et al., 2016; Chen et al., 2019)。

LAFL 基因参与储藏物积累的调控。*LEC1* 和 *FUS3* 在成熟过程中以 ABA 依赖的方式控制 *ABI3* 的积累,并相互作用调控储藏蛋白[包括拟南芥储藏蛋白 3 (*At2S3*) 和菜籽蛋白 C (*cruciferin C*, *CRC*)]的积累、花青素的合成以及叶绿素和脂质的积累(Mu et al., 2008; Zhang et al., 2016)。*LEC1* 通过与 *bZIP67* 的直接相互作用激活 *CRC* (Yamamoto et al., 2010)。

FUS3 负调控 *TTG1* (*TRANSPARENT TESTA GLABRA1*) 的表达,*TTG1* 编码一种抑制拟南芥中 SSP 和油积累的转录因子(Chen et al., 2015)。*ttg1* 突变体的特征是储藏物显著增加,如 SSP 和油(Baud et al., 2008)。*FUS3* 可能通过抑制 *TTG1* 导致储藏物的积累(Chen et al., 2015)。*FUS3* 与 *LEC2* 结合也诱导 *WRI1* (*WRINKLED 1*) 的表达;*WRI1* 编码 AP2 转录因子,并通过增加脂肪酸合成和糖降解基因的表达来调控种子中的含糖量和含油量(Yamamoto et al., 2010)。*FUS3* 与抑制 *TTG1* 表达和增加 *WRI1* 表达一起促进储藏油的积累。这种储藏油的积累通过激活 *WRI1* 被 *LEC1* 和 *AFL* 基因调控(Mu et al., 2008)。此外,*LEC2* 通过激活编码油体蛋白(oleosin)的基因 *OLE1* 和编码 2S 和 12S 储藏蛋白的基因表达来调控油和蛋白的积累(Braybrook et al., 2006)。

在种子成熟过程中,除了 *LAFL* 基因外,其他因子也参与储藏物的积累。*bZIP67* 与 *L1L* 和 *NF-YC2* (*NUCLEAR FACTOR-YC2*) 一起调控 *FAD3* (*FATTY ACID DESATURASE 3*),该酶在种子成熟期间对 ω -3 脂肪酸的储藏具有一定作用(Mendes et al., 2013)。*DOGL4* (*DOG1-LIKE4*) 基因的表达被 ABA 诱导,在种子成熟过程中调控一些种子储藏蛋白的表达,包括 *CRC*、白蛋白和油体蛋白(Sall et al., 2019)。

3.2 耐脱水性的获得

种子的耐脱水性是植物在长期进化过程中保证物种生存和繁衍的适应性机制,在农作物种子保存和植物种质资源长期保存中起关键作用(Smolikova et al., 2021; 宋松泉等, 2022)。种子的耐脱水性机制在种子成熟后期被激活,以及

与 *LEA* 蛋白、小分子量热休克蛋白(small heat shock protein, sHSP)、非还原性寡糖和不同化学性质的抗氧化物的积累有关(Smolikova et al., 2021; 宋松泉等, 2022)。成熟和耐脱水性的主要调控因子是 ABA 和 *DOG1* 蛋白,它们控制转录因子网络,包括 *LEC1*、*LEC2*、*FUS3*、*ABI3*、*ABI5*、*AGL67*、*PLATZ1*、*PLATZ2* (Smolikova et al., 2021) (图 2)。

LEA 基因的表达被 *ABI3* 和 *ABI5* 调控(Bies-Ethève et al., 2008)。*ABI3* 也调控种子专一的热休克因子(heat shock factor) *HSFA9* 的表达(Kotak et al., 2007)。*LEA* 和 *HSP* 基因的表达被 *DOG1* 通过 *ABI5*/*ABI3* 增加;以及它们的表达增加种子中含 N 化合物的储藏,从而促进种子休眠和提高种子生活力(Dekkers et al., 2016)。研究表明,在种子成熟过程中 *DOG1* 的表达分别被 *bZIP67* 和 *ERF12* (*ETHYLENE RESPONSE FACTOR 12*) 负调控或正调控(Bryant et al., 2019; Li et al., 2019)。在蒺藜苜蓿(*Medicago truncatula*)和豌豆中,*ABI3*、*ABI4* 和 *ABI5* 被认为是调控种子耐脱水性获得的主要中枢,以调控与棉子糖家族寡糖(raffinose family oligosaccharide, RFO)代谢和 *LEA* 蛋白合成有关的基因(Zinsmeister et al., 2016) (表 1)。

LEC1、*ABI3* 或 *FUS3* 的突变显著地影响种子的耐脱水性,表明激活种子的耐脱水性都需要这 3 种转录因子的(Roscoe et al., 2015)。*LEC2* 通过诱导 *EEL* (*ENHANCED EM LEVEL*) *bZIP* 转录因子的基因表达来影响 *LEA*、*EM1* (*THE EARLY METHIONINE 1*) 和 *EM6* 基因的表达,从而参与耐脱水性的建立(Bentsink et al., 2006)。*EEL bZIP* 转录因子是拟南芥中 EM 蛋白的负调控因子(Braybrook et al., 2006)。

3.3 种子初生休眠的诱导与维持

休眠是一种暂时的静止状态,是野生植物种子在不利环境条件下避免萌发和确保下一代繁衍的重要特征;而对于栽培作物,具有迅速和整齐萌发的种子被选择以获得作物高产与优质。此外,种子休眠特别是收获休眠(harvest dormancy)的缺乏是不理想的农艺性状,因为它可能导致收获前萌发(preharvest sprouting, PHS),这是禾谷类作物栽培中所面临的严重问题,以及非休眠突变体可能降低种子的寿命(Finkelstein et al., 2008; Tuan

表 1 ABA 生物合成、信号转导及其种子成熟转录因子在种子发育中的功能

Table 1 Functions of ABA biosynthesis, signaling and transcription factors involved in maturation in seed development

基因/转录因子 Gene/transcription factor	功能描述 Function description	参考文献 Reference
储藏物积累 Accumulation of storage product		
<i>SnRK2.6</i>	活性失活导致种子含油量降低,过表达增加整个种子的重量 Inactivation of <i>SnRK2.6</i> results in reduction of seed oil content, while overexpression of <i>SnRK2.6</i> increases overall seed products	Zheng et al., 2010
<i>PYL, SnRK2</i>	基因突变通常表现出种子储藏物减少,如 12S 球蛋白 Mutations in <i>PYL</i> and <i>SnRK2</i> often exhibit a reduced seed storage products, such as 12S globulin	Zheng et al., 2010; Zhao et al., 2018
<i>LEC1</i>	通过与 <i>bZIP67</i> 直接相互作用激活菜籽蛋白 <i>C</i> 基因 <i>LEC1</i> activates <i>Cruciferin C</i> via a direct interaction with <i>bZIP67</i>	Yamamoto et al., 2010
<i>LEC2</i>	通过激活编码油体蛋白的基因 <i>OLE1</i> 和编码 2S 和 12S 储藏蛋白的基因的表达来调控油和蛋白的积累 <i>LEC2</i> regulates oil and protein accumulation by activating the expressions of <i>OLE1</i> , oleosin and genes encoding 2S and 12S storage proteins	Braybrook et al., 2006
<i>FUS3</i>	负调控 <i>TTG1</i> 的表达,正调控 <i>WRI1</i> 的表达 The expressions of <i>TTG1</i> and <i>WRI1</i> are regulated by <i>FUS3</i> negatively and positively, respectively	Muet al., 2008; Chen et al., 2015
<i>LEC1, FUS3</i>	以 ABA 依赖的方式控制 <i>ABI3</i> 的积累,并相互作用调控储藏蛋白的积累、花青素的合成以及叶绿素和脂质的积累 <i>LEC1</i> and <i>FUS3</i> control the accumulation of <i>ABI3</i> and function with each other to regulate the accumulation of storage proteins, anthocyanin synthesis, and accumulation of chlorophyll and lipid in an ABA-dependent manner	Mu et al., 2008; Zhang et al., 2016
<i>LEC2, FUS3</i>	<i>FUS3</i> 与 <i>LEC2</i> 结合来诱导 <i>WRI1</i> 的表达; <i>WRI1</i> 编码 AP2 转录因子,并通过增加脂肪酸合成和糖降解基因的表达来调控含糖量和含油量 <i>FUS3</i> , in combination with <i>LEC2</i> , induces the expression of <i>WRI1</i> , which encodes AP2 transcription factor and regulates sugar and oil contents by increasing the gene expression for fatty acid synthesis and sugar degradation	Yamamoto et al., 2010
<i>TTG1</i>	<i>TTG1</i> 编码一种抑制种子储藏蛋白 (SSPs) 和油积累的转录因子,突变体 <i>ug1</i> 的特征是储藏物显著增加,如油和 SSP <i>TTG1</i> encodes a transcription factor that suppresses the accumulation of seed storage proteins (SSPs) and oils. Mutant <i>ug1</i> is characterized by a dramatic increase in storage reserves, such as oils and SSPs	Baud et al., 2008; Chen et al., 2015
耐脱水性 Desiccation tolerance		
<i>ABI3, ABI4, ABI5</i>	<i>ABI3, ABI4, ABI5</i> 调控种子耐脱水性的获得,控制与棉子糖家族寡糖的代谢和 LEA 蛋白合成有关的基因 <i>ABI3, ABI4, and ABI5</i> regulate acquisition of desiccation tolerance and control genes involved in raffinose family oligosaccharide metabolism and LEA proteins synthesis	Zinsmeister et al., 2016
<i>LEC1, ABI3, FUS3</i>	<i>LEC1, ABI3, FUS3</i> 基因突变显著地影响种子的耐脱水性 Mutations of <i>LEC1, ABI3</i> and <i>FUS3</i> significantly affect the desiccation tolerance of the seeds	Roscoe et al., 2015
<i>bZIP67, ERF12</i>	负或正控制 <i>DOG1</i> 的表达 The expression of <i>DOG1</i> gene is controlled by <i>bZIP67</i> and <i>RF12</i> negatively or positively, respectively	Bryant et al., 2019; Li et al., 2019
<i>LEC2</i>	通过诱导 EEL <i>bZIP</i> 转录因子的基因表达来影响 <i>LEA</i> 、 <i>EM1</i> 和 <i>EM6</i> 基因的表达 <i>LEC2</i> affects the expression of <i>LEA, EM1</i> and <i>EM6</i> genes by inducing the expression of the gene for ENHANCED EM LEVEL (EEL) <i>bZIP</i>	Bentsink et al., 2006
<i>EEL bZIP</i>	EM 蛋白的负调控因子 A negative regulator of the EM (early methionine) proteins	Braybrook et al., 2006
种子初生休眠的诱导和维持 Induction and maintenance of primary seed dormancy		
<i>AtNCED6/AtNCED9</i>	<i>AtNCED6</i> 和 <i>AtNCED9</i> 突变体的成熟干燥种子表现出 ABA 水平和休眠程度降低 Mutants of <i>AtNCED6</i> and <i>AtNCED9</i> show a decreased ABA level and dormancy in mature dry seeds	Lefebvre et al., 2006
<i>PvNCED1</i>	在吸胀的烟草种子中 <i>PvNCED1</i> 异位表达和过表达增加 ABA 水平,引起种子萌发延迟 Ectopic expression and overexpression of <i>PvNCED1</i> in imbibed tobacco seeds increased ABA level, resulting in delayed germination of seeds	Ali et al., 2022

续表 1

基因/转录因子 Gene/transcription factor	功能描述 Function description	参考文献 Reference
<i>LeNCED1</i>	基因过表达增加种子的 ABA 水平和休眠 Overexpression of <i>LeNCED1</i> increases ABA level and dormancy of seeds	Ali et al., 2022
<i>TsNCED1</i>	增加 ABA 含量和对收获前萌发 (PHS) 的抗性 <i>TsNCED1</i> increases ABA content and the resistance to preharvest sprouting (PHS)	Fidler et al., 2016
<i>TaABA8'OH1A/</i> <i>TaABA8'-OH1D</i>	<i>AtCYP707</i> 的同源基因, 其突变导致 ABA 水平和休眠程度增加 The homologs of <i>AtCYP707</i> , their mutation results in an increased ABA level and dormancy degree	Chono et al., 2013
<i>ospyl</i> , <i>snrk2.2/3/6</i>	<i>ospyl</i> 和 <i>snrk2.2/3/6</i> 基因突变导致水稻和拟南芥种子的成熟前萌发 A mutation in <i>ospyl</i> and <i>snrk2.2/3/6</i> genes lead to premature germination in rice and <i>Arabidopsis</i> seeds	Nakashima et al., 2009; Miao et al., 2018
<i>aba1</i> , <i>aba2/3</i>	ABA 缺陷突变体 (例如 <i>aba1</i> 和 <i>aba2/3</i>) 种子表现出休眠水平降低 Seeds of ABA-deficient mutants (such as <i>aba1</i> and <i>aba2/3</i>) show reduced dormancy levels	Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022
<i>AtMYB96</i>	直接激活 ABA 合成基因 (<i>AtNCED2</i> , 5, 6 和 9), 以及失活 GA 生物合成基因 (<i>AtGA3ox1</i> 和 <i>AtGA20ox1</i>), 诱导种子初生休眠 <i>AtMYB96</i> directly activates ABA synthesis genes (<i>AtNCED2</i> , 5, 6, and 9) and inactivates GA biosynthesis genes (<i>AtGA3ox1</i> and <i>AtGA20ox1</i>) to induce primary seed dormancy	Lee et al., 2015
<i>AtABI4</i>	直接与 <i>AtNECD6</i> 的启动子区域相互作用以增加 ABA 的生物合成, 与 GA 失活基因 <i>AtGA2ox7</i> 的启动区域相互作用以抑制 GA 的积累; 增加种子休眠 <i>AtABI4</i> increases seed dormancy through direct interaction with promoter regions of <i>AtNECD6</i> to increase ABA biosynthesis, and with promoter regions of <i>AtGA2ox7</i> , a GA inactivation gene, to inhibit GA accumulation	Shu et al., 2013, 2016
<i>VP1</i>	其突变导致 PHS 和胚的成熟中断, 引起休眠水平和对 ABA 的敏感性变弱 A mutation in <i>VP1</i> leads to PHS and disruption of embryo maturation, and causes a reduced dormancy level and sensitivity to ABA	Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022
<i>PLA3</i>	水稻 <i>VP8</i> 的同源基因, <i>PLA3</i> 突变表现出休眠降低 The mutation of <i>PLA3</i> , a <i>VP8</i> homolog in rice, exhibits a reduced dormancy phenotype	Griffiths et al., 2011
<i>DOG1</i>	独立于植物激素起作用, 包括 ABA; 抑制 PP2C 磷酸酶 (AHG1 和 AHG3), 促进和维持种子休眠; 其突变完全解除种子休眠 <i>DOG1</i> functions independently of the plant hormones, including ABA; and inhibits PP2C phosphatases (AHG1 and AHG3), as well as promotes and maintains seed dormancy; mutation of <i>DOG1</i> can completely abolish seed dormancy	Nakabayashi et al., 2012; Née et al., 2017; Carrillo-Barral et al., 2020
<i>RDO5</i>	<i>RDO5</i> 是 PP2C 蛋白磷酸酶家族的一个成员, 但不表现出磷酸酶活性; 独立于植物激素起作用 (包括 ABA); 其突变可减少种子休眠 <i>RDO5</i> is a member of the PP2C protein phosphatase family, but does not show phosphatase activity, which functions independently of the plant hormones (including ABA); mutation of <i>RDO5</i> could reduce seed dormancy	Nakabayashi et al., 2012; Née et al., 2017; Carrillo-Barral et al., 2020
<i>AtSDR4L</i>	<i>AtSDR4L</i> 通过调节 <i>DOG1</i> 和 GA 途径中的 <i>RGA-LIKE2</i> (编码 DELLA 蛋白 RGL2) 来调控种子休眠与萌发 <i>AtSDR4L</i> regulates seed dormancy and germination through regulation of <i>DOG1</i> and <i>RGA-LIKE2</i> (<i>RGL2</i> encoding DELLA protein) in the GA pathway	Cao et al., 2019
<i>AtODR1</i>	<i>AtODR1</i> 作为 <i>OsSDR4</i> 的直系同源基因, 与 bHLH57 一起作用, 并在 <i>AtNCED6</i> 和 <i>AtNCED9</i> 的上游起作用, 以控制 ABA 合成和种子休眠 <i>AtODR1</i> , an ortholog of <i>OsSDR4</i> , acts together with bHLH57 and functions upstream of <i>AtNCED6</i> and <i>AtNCED9</i> to control ABA synthesis and seed dormancy	Liu et al., 2020
种子脱绿 Seed de-greening		
<i>SnRK2</i> , <i>ABI3</i>	<i>SnRK2</i> 和 <i>ABI3</i> 是脱绿过程的重要组分 <i>SnRK2</i> and <i>ABI3</i> are important components of the de-greening process	Delmas et al., 2013
<i>snrk2.2/snrk2.3/</i> <i>snrk2.6</i>	三重突变体 <i>snrk2.2/3/6</i> 的种子具有绿色种皮, 对 ABA 不敏感 The seeds of the triple mutant <i>snrk2.2/3/6</i> have greenish seed coats, and are insensitive to ABA	Nakashima et al., 2009; Zhao et al., 2018
<i>abi3-6</i>	突变体种子表现出缺乏脱绿, 以及 <i>ABI3</i> 通过调控 <i>SGR</i> 的表达来控制胚的脱绿 The mutant seeds exhibit a lack of de-greening, and <i>ABI3</i> control embryo de-greening through regulating the expression of <i>SGR</i> gene	Armstead et al., 2007; Delmas et al., 2013

et al., 2018)。种子在储藏物合成后和成熟结束时开始脱水,并储存新合成的 ABA,进入休眠。一些证据表明,ABA 是这些过程的关键调控因子(Finkelstein et al., 2008; Nambara et al., 2010)。ABA 生物合成、感知和信号转导的突变影响种子休眠(Nakashima et al., 2009; Zhao et al., 2018)(表 1)。

拟南芥 *AtNCED6* 和 *AtNCED9* 突变体的成熟干燥种子表现出 ABA 水平和休眠程度降低(Lefebvre et al., 2006),其他的 ABA 缺陷突变体,如 *aba1* 和 *aba2/3*,也显示出休眠水平降低(Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022)。拟南芥 *ODR1* [*suppressor of RDO5 (REDUCED DORMANCY 5)*] 与 *bHLH57* 一起作用,并在 *NCED6* 和 *NCED9* 的上游起作用,控制 ABA 合成与种子休眠(Liu et al., 2020)。大豆 *PvNCED1* 基因在吸胀的烟草(*Nicotiana tabacum*)种子中异位表达和过表达提高了 ABA 水平,并引起种子萌发延迟。在番茄中,*LeNCED1* 的过表达也通过提高种子中的 ABA 水平来增加休眠(Ali et al., 2022)。在小麦中,2 个 *TaABA8'OH1* 同源基因(*TaABA8'OH1A* 和 *TaABA8'-OH1D*; *AtCYP707* 的同源基因)的突变导致 ABA 含量和休眠程度的增加(Chono et al., 2013)。 *TsNCED1* 也与较高的 ABA 含量和 PHS 抗性增加有关(Fidler et al., 2016)。ABA 信号转导组分的突变,如水稻 *ospyl* 七重突变体和 *snrk2.2/3/6* 三重突变体,也导致水稻和拟南芥种子的成熟前萌发(Nakashima et al., 2009; Miao et al., 2018)。

在拟南芥中,*AtMYB96* 直接激活 ABA 合成基因(*NCED2*、*NCED5*、*NCED6* 和 *NCED9*)和失活 GA 生物合成基因(*AtGA3ox1* 和 *AtGA20ox1*)来诱导种子的初生休眠(Lee et al., 2015)。 *AtABI4* 通过直接与 *AtNECD6* 的启动子区域相互作用增加 ABA 的生物合成,与 GA 失活基因 *AtGA2ox7* 的启动区域相互作用抑制 GA 的积累来增加种子休眠(Shu et al., 2013, 2016)。

LAFL 基因的成员也参与休眠的获得。成熟种子中胚的生长停滞由 *FUS3*、*LEC1* 和 *LEC2* 控制,它们的突变体都不能完全使胚的生长停止,并表现出成熟前萌发(Gubler et al., 2005)。玉米 *VP1* 基因是拟南芥 *ABI3* 的同源基因,是最早鉴定和表征的一种 ABA 信号转导的关键组分。*VP1* 突变导致玉米收获前萌发和胚的成熟中断。小麦、水稻

和高粱(*Sorghum bicolor*)的 *VP1* 基因也与休眠的水平以及对 ABA 和收获前萌发的敏感性有关(Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022)。在玉米中,*LAFL* 基因的成员被 *VP8* (编码一种假定的肽酶)调控(Suzuki et al., 2008)。水稻中 *VP8* 同源基因 *PLA3 (PLATOCHRON 3/GO (COLIATH))* 和拟南芥中 *AMP1 (ALTERDIMERISTEM PROGRAM 1)* 的突变表现出休眠变弱(Griffiths et al., 2011)。 *ABI5* 在小麦和豌豆种子成熟过程中也具有重要的作用(Zinsmeister et al., 2016; Yamasaki et al., 2017; Utsugi et al., 2020)。在高粱中,*SbABI4* 和 *SbABI1* 通过直接与 *SbGA2ox3* 的启动子结合增强其转录,从而延长种子休眠(Cantoro et al., 2013)。

DOG1 和 *RDO5* 已经被鉴定是两个主要的休眠基因,似乎独立于植物激素包括 ABA 起作用(Bentsink et al., 2006; Xiang et al., 2014; Carrillo-Barral et al., 2020)。 *RDO5* 是 PP2C 蛋白磷酸酶家族的一个成员,但不表现出磷酸酶活性(Xiang et al., 2014),而 *DOG1* 是一个功能未知的蛋白(Carrillo-Barral et al., 2020)。 *DOG1* 和 *RDO5* 的突变分别完全解除或减少种子休眠(Bentsink et al., 2006; Xiang et al., 2014)。遗传分析表明, *DOG1* 和 ABA 对于正常的种子休眠都是必需的(Bentsink et al., 2006; Nakabayashi et al., 2012)。

DOG1 与 4 种磷酸酶相互作用,其中 2 种属于 A 分支 2C 型蛋白磷酸酶,即 *AHG1* 和 *AHG3* (图 1)。ABA 途径和 *DOG1* 途径在 PP2C 磷酸酶水平上汇合;*DOG1* 抑制 *AHG1* 和 *AHG3*,而 ABA 抑制其他的 PP2C 磷酸酶和 *AHG3*。通过抑制 PP2C 磷酸酶,ABA 和 *DOG1* 促进和维持种子休眠(Antoni et al., 2012; Née et al., 2017)。 *DOG1* 也是种子成熟的许多过程所必需的,部分是通过干扰 ABA 信号转导组分(Dekkers et al., 2016)。

OsSDR4 (SEED DORMANCY 4) 被认为是一种与种子休眠有关的调控因子,在水稻中具有未知的功能(Sugimoto et al., 2010)。在拟南芥中, *AtSDR4L (SDR4-LIKE)* 通过调节 *DOG1* 和 GA 途径中的 *RGA-LIKE2* (编码 DELLA 蛋白 *RGL2*)来调控休眠释放和萌发(Cao et al., 2019)。Liu 等(2020)推测, *AtODR1* (用于逆转 *rdo5*)是 *OsSDR4* 的一个直系同源基因,与 *bHLH57* 一起在 *AtNCED6* 和 *AtNCED9* 的上游起作用,以控制拟南芥中的 ABA 合成和种子休眠。

3.4 种子脱绿

在种子成熟过程中, *SnRK2* 和 *ABI3* 基因被鉴定为脱绿过程的重要组分 (Delmas et al., 2013)。*snrk2.2/snrk2.3/snrk2.6* 三重突变体在种子发育过程中表现为对 ABA 不敏感, 并产生绿色种子 (Nakashima et al., 2009; Zhao et al., 2018)。研究发现, 拟南芥 *abi3-6* 突变体表现出缺乏脱绿, *ABI3* 通过调控 *SGR* (*STAY GREEN*, *AtSGR1* 和 *AtSGR*) 基因的表达来控制胚的脱绿, 这些基因是由 Mendel I 位点编码的 *SGR* 基因的同源基因 (Armstead et al., 2007; Delmas et al., 2013)。*ABI5* 也调控豆科植物种子的脱绿和种子寿命 (Verdier et al., 2013; Zinsmeister et al., 2016)。

4 结束语

种子发育是一个复杂的过程, 包括胚胎发生和成熟阶段, 主要特征是储藏物的积累、耐脱水性的获得、生长停滞和获得休眠, 并显著地影响种子活力和产量与质量 (Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022)。植物激素 ABA 对种子发育的调控主要是通过 ABA 代谢、信号转导及其 LAFL 网络实现的 (Sano & Marion-Poll, 2021; Ali et al., 2022)。尽管近年来 ABA 调控种子发育的研究已取得了重要进展, 但是仍然有一些重要的科学问题尚不清楚。例如, 内源 ABA 水平的调节通过类胡萝卜素途径合成, 通过 8'-羟基化作用 (8'-hydroxylation) 失活; ABA 葡糖基转移酶 (ABA glucosyltransferase) 能将 ABA 转化成为 ABA-葡糖酯 (ABA-glucose ester, ABA-GE), 作为 ABA 的储存池; ABA-GE 又能被 β -葡糖苷酶 (β -glucosidase) 水解成为 ABA 和葡萄糖 (Sano & Marion-Poll, 2021)。这些酶及其基因如何响应发育或者环境变化以维持种子发育所需的正常 ABA 水平尚不清楚。

种子成熟和耐脱水性的主要调控因子是 ABA 和 DOG1 蛋白, 它们控制转录因子网络, 如 *LEC1*、*LEC2*、*FUS3*、*ABI3*、*ABI5*、*AGL67*、*PLATZ1*、*PLATZ2* (Smolikova et al., 2021)。核心 ABA 途径和 *DOG1* 途径在 PP2C 汇合。值得注意的是, 在整合发育条件或者环境信号时 PP2C 优先响应哪一条途径, 以及这两条途径怎样协调也还不够清楚。虽然 *DOG1* 是种子休眠的主要调控因子之一, 但其分子功能仍然没有被确定 (Nonogaki, 2019a; Sano &

Marion-Poll, 2021)。

在种子成熟过程中, GA 的水平被 *FUS3* 和 *LEC2* 下调, 从而抑制与生物活性 GA 合成有关的酶 (Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022)。在拟南芥中, GA 信号转导通过激活 *LEC1* 以增加胚胎发生晚期生长素的积累来促进胚的发育。GA 信号转导抑制因子 *DELLA* 与 *LEC1* 相互作用, 从而促进 *YUC* (*YUCCA*) 基因的表达, 并通过增加生长素的积累来促进胚胎发生。GA 触发 *DELLA* 的降解, 以解除其对 *LEC1* 的抑制, 导致激活胚胎发生所必需的基因 (Hu et al., 2018)。然而, GA 在胚胎发生中的详细功能尚不清楚 (Kozaki & Aoyanagi, 2022)。生长素促进 *ABI3* 的表达, *ABI3* 通过激活 *ARF* (*AUXIN RESPONSE FACTOR*) 基因诱导胚胎同一性基因 (Kozak & Aoyanagi, 2022)。同样, 生长素通过诱导 *ABI3* 表达来刺激 ABA 信号转导, 从而控制种子休眠 (Liu et al., 2013)。因此, 其他植物激素及其与 ABA 的相互作用对种子发育的调控值得进一步研究。

目前, 虽然许多参与种子成熟的转录因子已经在分子和遗传水平上被鉴定和表征, 但对早期胚胎发生的转录调控研究仍然很少。此外, 转录因子的活性被一些遗传和表观遗传因素的严格控制, 然而对这些因素的了解也不完整 (Verma et al., 2022)。这些问题的深入研究将有助于理解种子发育的分子机制, 从而为提高种子活力和增加产量与质量提供新知识和新技术。

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