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Beijing, China, April 28 to May 1, 2025****Original:** English  
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**A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON THE DUS TEST OF EGGPLANT FRUIT COLOR BASED ON LAB COLOR PARAMETERS***Document prepared by an expert from China**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

The annex to this document contains a copy of a presentation “A new perspective on the DUS test of eggplant fruit color based on Lab color parameters”, to be made by an expert from China, at the third session of the TWM.

[Annex follows]



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# A new perspective on the DUS test of eggplant fruit color based on $L^* a^* b^*$ color parameters

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1

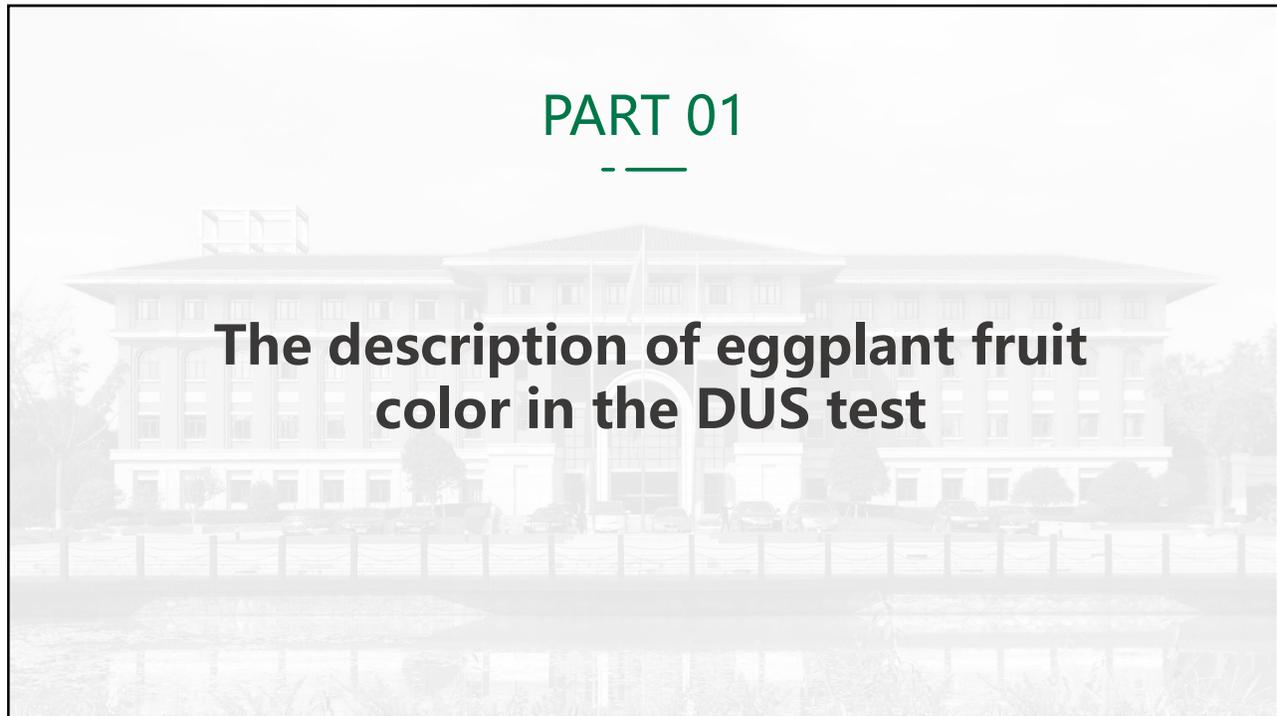
## Contents



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- 1 The description of eggplant fruit color in the DUS test
- 2 Color characteristics of eggplant fruits as revealed by color parameters
- 3 A new perspective on the subdivision of eggplant fruit color based on color parameters

2



3

## Fruit color of eggplant DUS test in UPOV

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TG/11714

**E**

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS

UNION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA PROTECTION DES OBTENUS VEGETAUX

INTERNATIONALE VERBAND VOOR DE BESCHERMING VAN NIEUWE SOORTEN VAN PLANTEN

UNION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA PROTECCION DE LAS OBTENCIONES VEGETALES

GUIDELINES  
FOR THE CONDUCT OF TESTS  
FOR DISTINCTNESS, UNIFORMITY AND STABILITY

EGG PLANT  
(*Solanum melongena* L.)

GENEVA  
2002

English	UPOV Example Varieties	Netherlands Example Varieties	Japan Example Varieties	Note
24 VG (?)	<b>Fruit: main color of skin at harvest maturity</b>			
PQ	white	Dourga	Koshienzakurai	1
QL	green	Kermit	Shironasu	2
G	violet	Bakuroi, Purpura		3

English	UPOV Example Varieties	Netherlands Example Varieties	Japan Example Varieties	Note
41 VG	<b>Fruit: color of skin at physiological ripeness</b>			
PQ	yellow	Dourga		1
G	orange	Compielo Verde Claro		2
	ochre	Adria, Virelli		3
	brown	Bakuroi, Abnardo		4
	red			5
	purple			6
	others			7

1  
yellow

3  
ochre

4  
brown

**Fruit skin main color at harvest maturity**

1  
White

2  
green

3  
violet

Fruit skin main color at physiological ripeness

4

## Fruit color of eggplant DUS test in China



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**GB**

中华人民共和国国家标准

GB/T 19557.20-2017

植物品种特异性、  
一致性和稳定性测试指南 茄子

Guidelines for the conduct of tests for distinctness, uniformity and stability—  
Eggplant (*Solanum melongena* L.)

2017-11-01 发布      2018-05-01 实施

中华人民共和国国家质量监督检验检疫总局  
中国国家标准化管理委员会 发布

### Fruit skin main color at harvest maturity

32	* 果实:果皮颜色 PQ (b) (+)	07 VG	白色 <b>White</b> 湖白茄	1
			绿色 <b>Green</b> 西安绿茄	2
			紫色 <b>Purple</b> 州长茄	3

### Fruit skin color at physiological ripeness

37	果实: 成熟果颜色 PQ (b)	08 VG	黄色 <b>Yellow</b> 湖白茄	1
			红色 <b>Red</b> 巴西茄	2
			褐色 <b>Brown</b> 木长茄	3

**Red**



**B.3.13 性状 32 \* 果实:果皮颜色**

\* 果实:果皮颜色, 见图 B.8.



1  
**White**



2  
**Green**



3  
**Purple**

图 B.8 \* 果实:果皮颜色

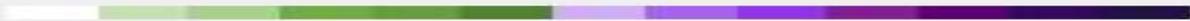
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## Fruit skin main color and fruit pulp color



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### harvest maturity





1 White



2 Green



3 Purple/Violet

### physiological ripeness





1 Yellow



2 Ochre



3 Brown

### Fruit pulp color





1 White



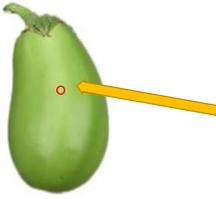
2 Green

6

## PART 02

# Color characteristics of eggplant fruits as revealed by color parameters

7



## Measurement and definition of color parameters



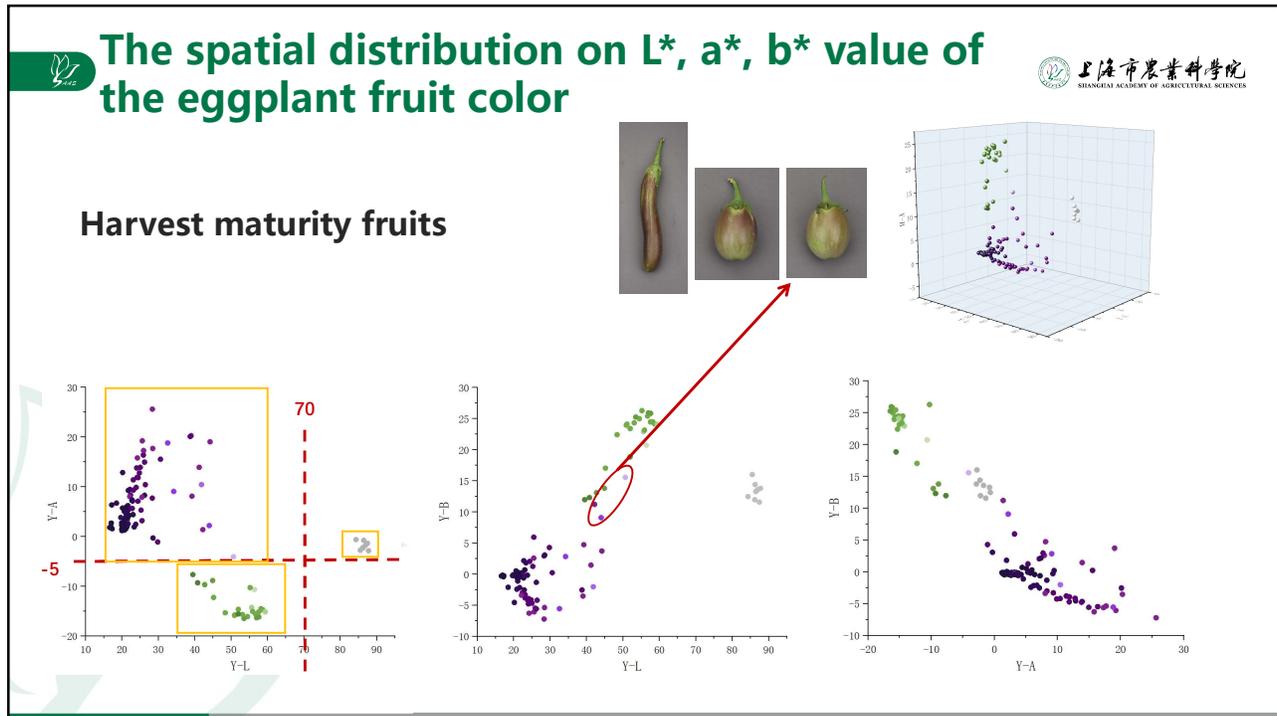

**Table 1** The detailed descriptions of color parameters used for the classification

Parameters	Formula for calculation	Results		Ranges
		+	-	
$L^*$ ( $\Delta L^*$ )	$L^*$ (sample)- $L^*$ (standard)	Lighter	Darker	$-100 \leq \Delta L^* \leq 100$
$a^*$ ( $\Delta a^*$ )	$a^*$ (sample)- $a^*$ (standard)	Redder	Greener	$-100 \leq \Delta a^* \leq 100$
$b^*$ ( $\Delta b^*$ )	$b^*$ (sample)- $b^*$ (standard)	Yellower	Bluer	$-100 \leq \Delta b^* \leq 100$
$C^*$ ( $\Delta C^*$ )	$(\Delta a^{*2} + \Delta b^{*2})^{1/2}$	Brighter	Duller	$\Delta C^* \geq 0$
$H^*$ ( $\Delta H^*$ )	$\tan^{-1}(\Delta b^*/\Delta a^*)$	All positive, the difference in hue		$0 \leq \Delta H^* \leq 270$
$E^*$ ( $\Delta E^*$ )	$[(\Delta L^{*2} + \Delta a^{*2} + \Delta b^{*2})^{1/2}]$	All positive, the total color difference		$E^* \geq 0$

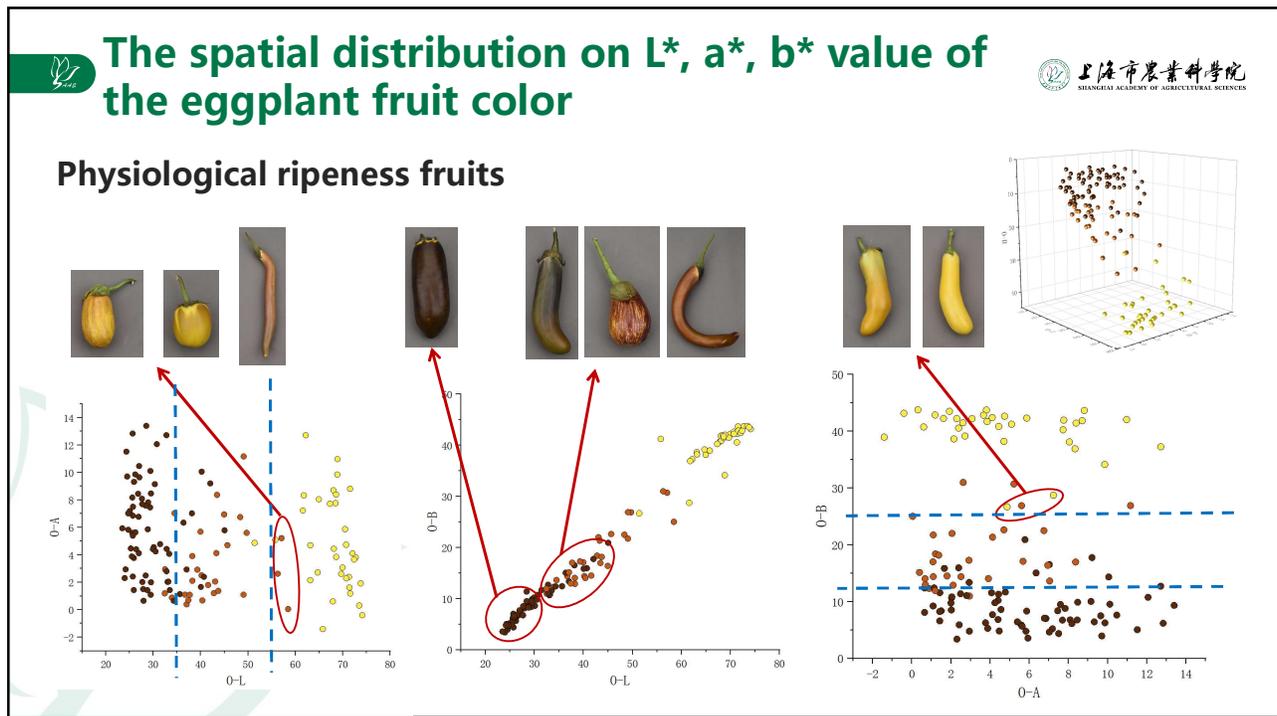
During the measurement, primary value of color parameters (standard) are uniformly set to 0, so the final value of  $\Delta L^*$ ,  $\Delta a^*$ ,  $\Delta b^*$ ,  $\Delta C^*$ ,  $\Delta H^*$  and  $\Delta E^*$  can be recorded simply as  $L^*$ ,  $a^*$ ,  $b^*$ ,  $C^*$ ,  $H^*$  and  $E^*$

Youxia Shan, Chaojun Deng, Wenshun Hu, Junwei Chen, Xiuping Chen, Shaoquan Zheng, Qiaoping Qin. First insight into diversity of leaf color of loquat (*Eriobotrya*) and its potential value on taxonomy. Genet Resour Crop Evol (2019) 66:143–163.

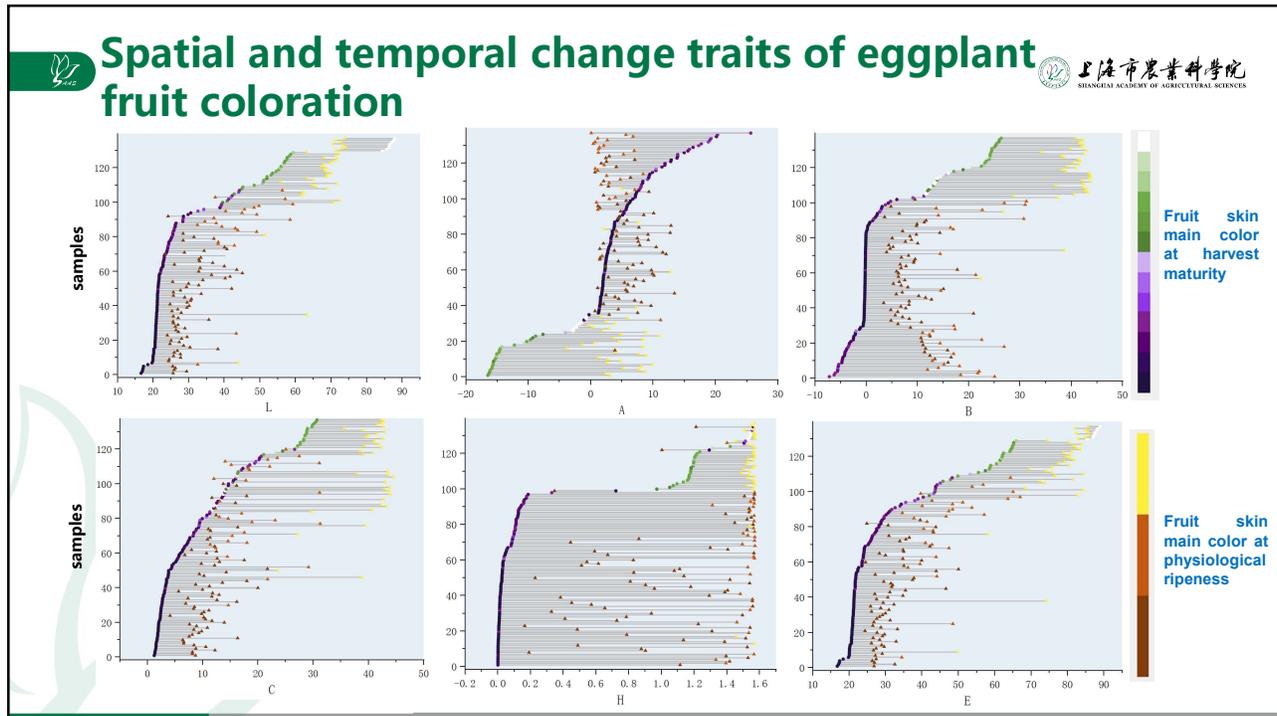
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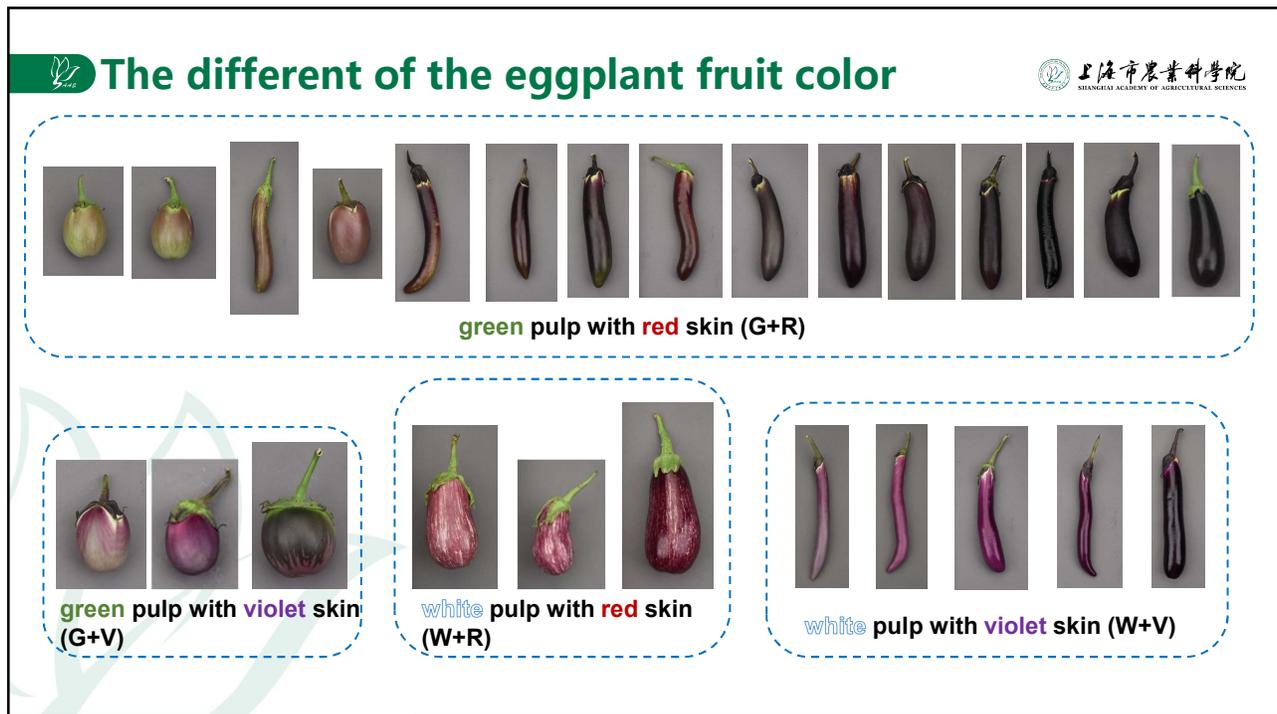
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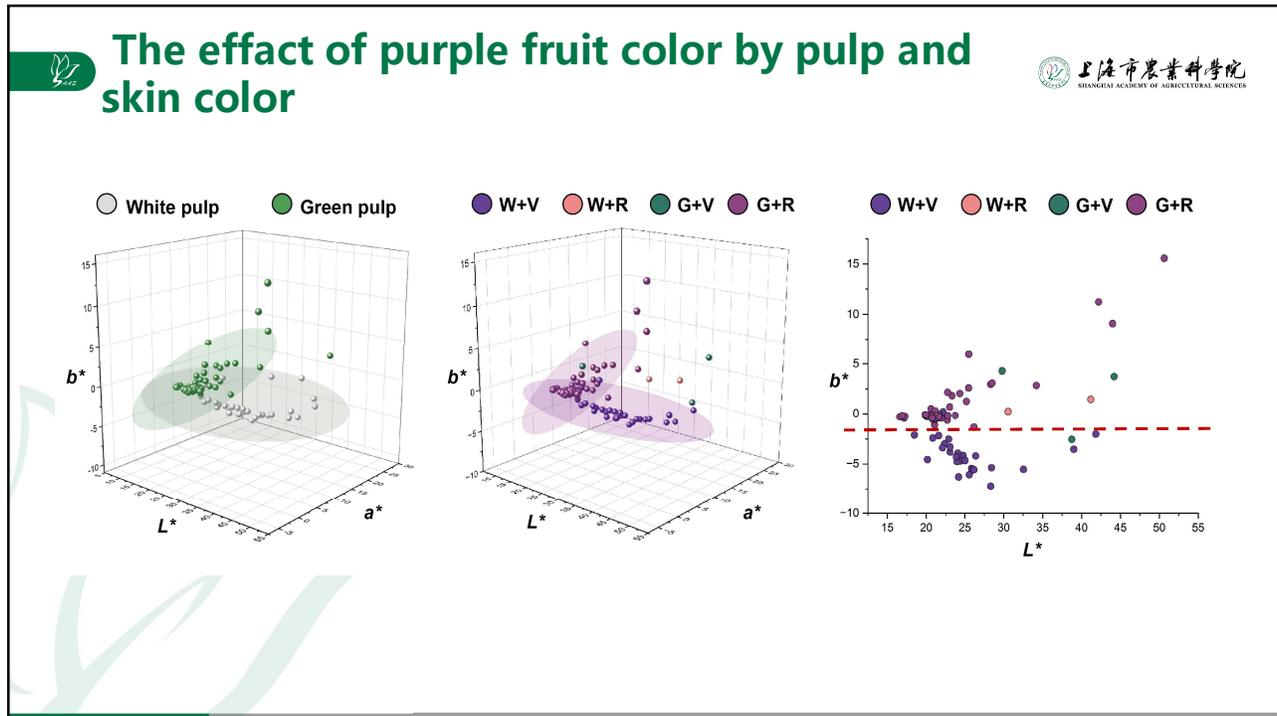
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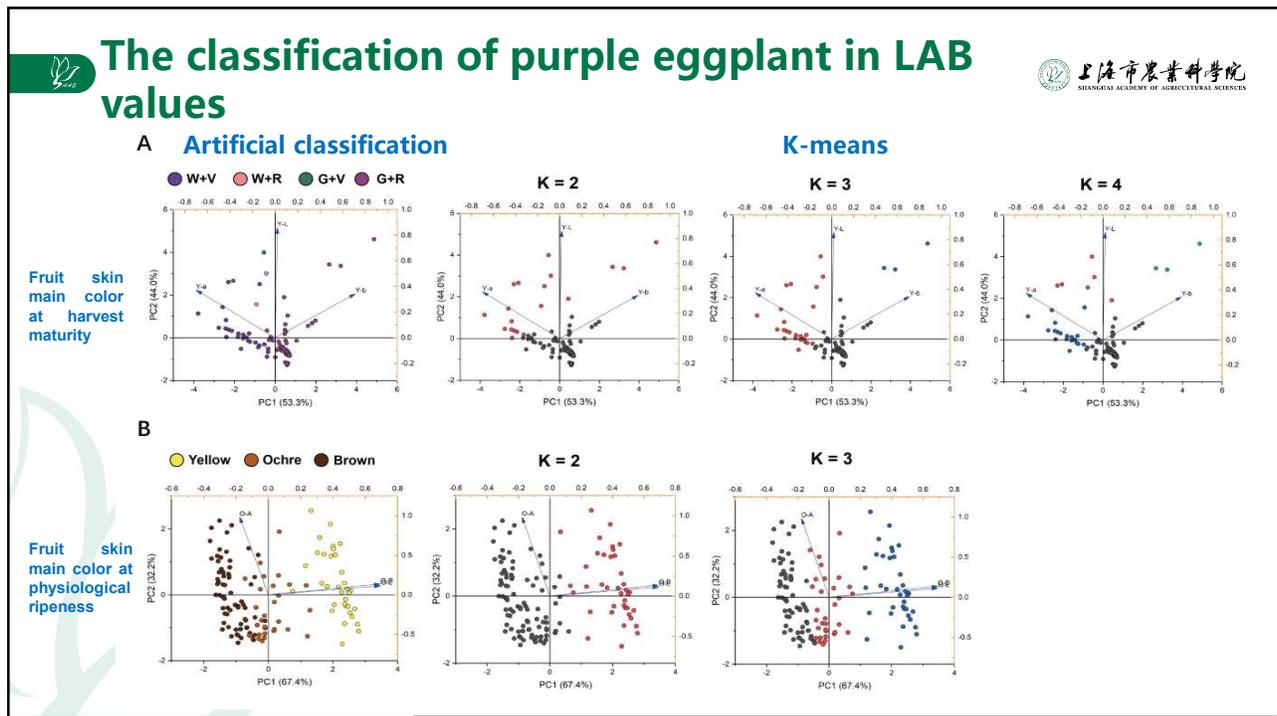
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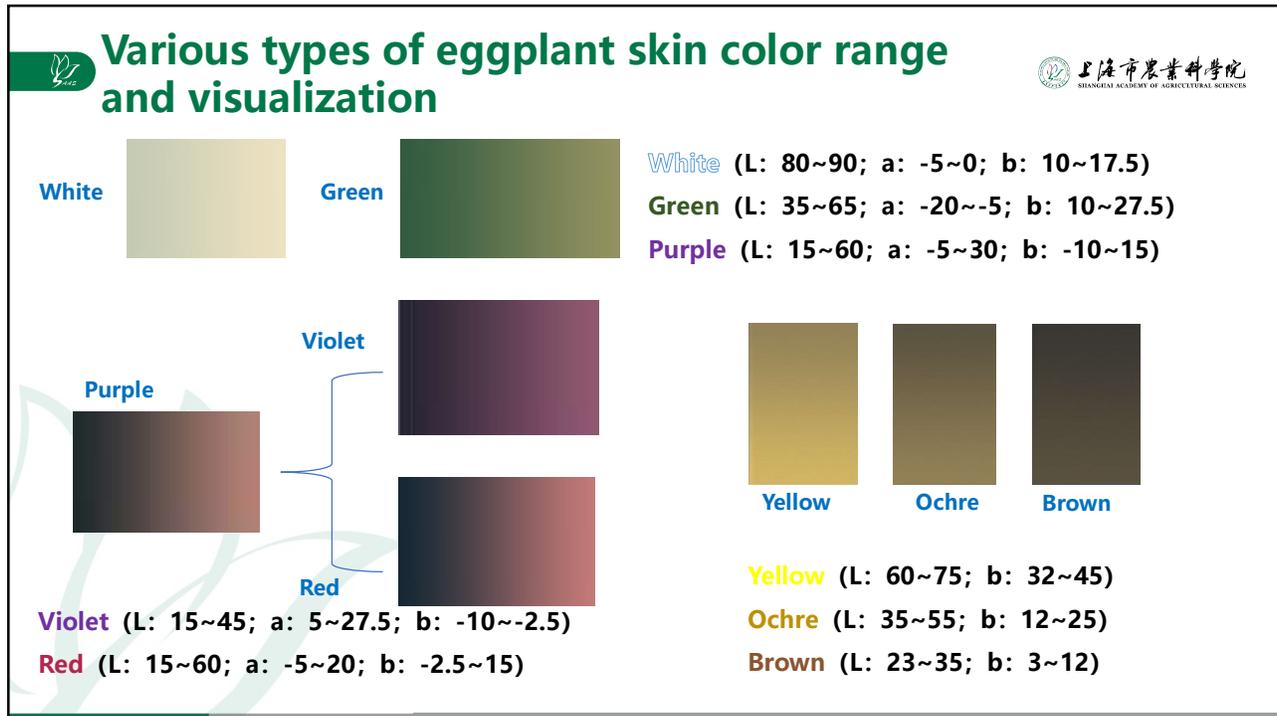
12



13



14



15

## PART 03

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# A new perspective on the subdivision of eggplant fruit color based on color parameters

16



## Studies on chlorophyll and anthocyanins in eggplant fruits

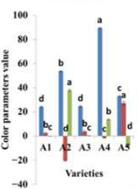


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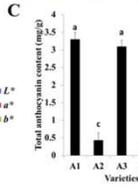
**A**



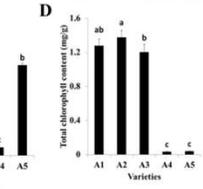
**B**

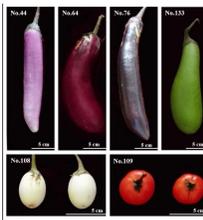


**C**

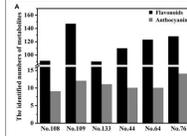


**D**

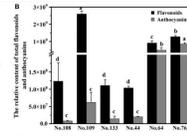




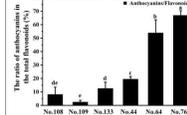
**A**



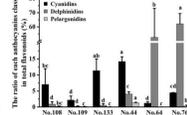
**B**



**C**



**D**



**FIGURE 1 |** Overview of the flavonoid targeted metabolite data from the peels of six eggplant cultivars. (A) The total flavonoid number of total flavonoids and anthocyanins. (B) The relative content of total flavonoids and anthocyanins. (C) The ratio of anthocyanins to total flavonoids. (D) The ratio of cyanidins, delphinidins, and pelargonidins in the total flavonoids, respectively. Values are means  $\pm$  SD ( $n = 3$ , same as following). Means denoted by the same letter did not differ significantly at  $P < 0.05$  according to Duncan's multiple range test.

Zhou, X.; Liu, S.; Yang, Y.; Liu, J.; Zhuang, Y. Integrated Metabolome and Transcriptome Analysis Reveals a Regulatory Network of Fruit Peel Pigmentation in Eggplant (*Solanum melongena* L.). *Int. J. Mol. Sci.* 2022, *23*, 13475.

Yang G, Li L, Wei M, Li J and Yang F (2022). SmMYB113 is a Key Transcription Factor Responsible for Compositional Variation of Anthocyanin and Color Diversity Among Eggplant Peels. *Front. Plant Sci.* 13:843996.

Differences in fruit color metabolism and chlorophyll content between "purple-skinned" and "red-skinned" eggplants. Different percentages of anthocyanin and delphinidin content in eggplant lead to different purple coloration.

17



## The subdivision of the expression status of the eggplant fruit skin color

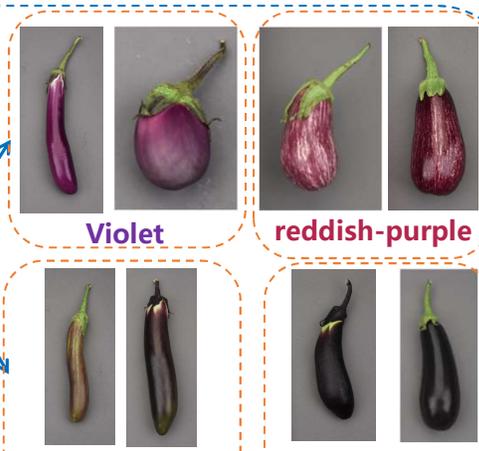


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**Purple** → **Violet**      **Red**



**or Purple**



**Violet**      **reddish-purple**

**greenish-purple**      **black-purple**

18



## Conclusion

- The ranges of eggplant fruit skin color types at harvest maturity and physiological ripeness based on the  $L^*$ ,  $a^*$ ,  $b^*$  values of color parameters was performed, and the data support was provided for subdividing the color system of purple fruit.
- Compared with the observation of the naked eye, the color parameter is more accurate in determining the color, correcting the ambiguity and error of sensory judgment, especially in the judgment of adjacent colors.
- Development of gradient color blocks based on  $L^*$ ,  $a^*$ ,  $b^*$  thresholds, enabling standardized digital documentation of color traits for breeding and intellectual property protection.

19

# THANK YOU FOR WATCHING



20