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**Suppression of red color development associated with anthocyanin accumulation  
in the epicarp of grape (*Vitis labrusca* × *vinifera* cv. Ruby Roman) berries caused  
by air temperature in daylight periods higher than 33°C during maturation**

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## Abstract

The effect of high air temperature on the anthocyanin accumulation in the epicarp of 'Ruby Roman' grape (*Vitis labruscana* × *vinifera*) berries was examined. Seventeen types of anthocyanin were detected from the epicarp tissue of the matured berries using HPLC. Since a strong positive correlation ( $P < 0.005$ ,  $R^2 = 0.937$ ) was confirmed between the degree of color density evaluated using a color chart and the total content of anthocyanins quantified separately, it seems possible to trace anthocyanin accumulation using the color chart on each berry during maturation at different air temperatures. Four conditions were designed for cooling the fruit clusters with a spot-cooling system, which can keep air temperature 4–5°C lower for 60–70 days after the full-bloom, i.e. consecutive (0:00–24:00) cooling, daytime (6:00–18:00) cooling, nighttime (18:00–6:00) cooling and no-cooling (control). The degree of color density showed statistically higher ( $P < 0.05$ ) values in the consecutive-cooling treatment than that of the control through the post-cooling duration (0–15 days after cooling). To clarify the effect of temperature zones with or without daylight on the anthocyanin accumulation in the epicarp, percentage of exposure time to each temperature zone of  $< 21$ , 21–24, 24–27, 27–30, 30–33, 33–36 and  $36^\circ\text{C} \leq$  were calculated for both daylight and dark periods, separately. Correlations of the  $\Delta$  time % (the amount of difference in percentage of exposure time from the control) with the  $\Delta$  color degree (the amount of difference in degree of color density from the control) in the daylight period were positive at temperature zones of  $< 30^\circ\text{C}$ , but turned to negative at those of  $30^\circ\text{C} \leq$ . The fact that correlation coefficient was statistically significant ( $P < 0.05$ ) at the temperature zones of 27–30°C (positive) and 33–36°C (negative) in the daylight period shows that the threshold where the anthocyanin accumulation starts to be suppressed exists within 30–33°C.

45    Keywords

46    Color chart; degree of color density; fruit maturation; HPLC; spot-cooling system.

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## 1. Introduction

The 'Ruby Roman' grape (*Vitis labruscana* × *vinifera*) is a brand–new tetraploid cultivar bred and registered in 2007 by Ishikawa prefecture, Japan, known as a progeny of 'Fujiminori' which was open-pollinated in 1994 (Shima et al., 2006). The berries of the cultivar have red color on the epicarp and are consumed mainly as sophisticated fresh fruits. Thus, the epicarp color of the fruit is one of the cultivar's most important qualities. Accumulation of red color in the epicarp commonly starts during the veraison period, 40–50 days after the full–bloom, when the young hard fruits turn soft and begin to enlarge. On the production of grapes with red or black epicarp color, it has been pointed out that high air temperature during the veraison or later causes insufficient color development of the epicarp (Winkler, 1962), which is related to the suppression of anthocyanin accumulation (Kliewer, 1970; Mori et al., 2004; Yamane et al., 2006). In this case, the accumulation of anthocyanins was strongly affected by the local temperature of atmosphere around berries (Tomana et al., 1979; Koshita et al., 2007) and cultivars (Kliewer and Torres, 1972). Recently, Gao-Takai et al. (2019) clearly demonstrated that the accumulation and component of anthocyanins, and gene expression related to the anthocyanin biosynthesis in the epicarp of grape berries depended on the temperature. Shinomiya et al. (2015) reported that color development of the epicarp of 'Kyoho' (*V. labrusca* × *vinifera*) became poor when the average daily air temperature exceeded 27°C. However, details on the relation of high temperature, such as threshold of temperature, duration of exposure time, with or without light, and so on, had not yet been clarified.

With anthocyanin analysis using chemical methods, plant tissues must be homogenized during the extraction procedure. This fact indicates that the process of anthocyanin accumulation into the epicarp is untraceable using the same berries attached on a vine by utilizing chemical methods. Matsuda et al. (2020a) showed that a

positive linear correlation was observed between the degree of color density, evaluated using a color chart created for the 'Ruby Roman' berries specifically, and the content of anthocyanins, quantified as cyanidin 3–glucoside equivalent using colorimetric determination. The color chart seems viable for tracing anthocyanin accumulation using the same berries on a vine without sampling. Furthermore, since there are different kinds of anthocyanin molecules contained in the epicarp tissue of grape berries (Li et al., 2013), colorimetric quantification might be too rough. So, we tried to quantify anthocyanins separately using HPLC in this study, and compared the degree of color density with the total content of anthocyanins, so that we can confirm if degree of color density is viable for tracing anthocyanin accumulation in the epicarp of the berries maturing in different conditions.

Another problem in investigating the effect of air temperature on anthocyanin accumulation is that it is very difficult to control air temperature around the berries accurately on the vines grown in a plastic greenhouse. To resolve this matter we employed a spot-cooling system which can keep air temperature around the berries at about 4–5°C lower than the outside air temperature. Tarara et al. (2008) also tried to control air temperature around berry clusters of 'Merlot' grape using a forced convection system to produce a dynamic range of berry temperatures under field conditions in both sun-exposed and shaded fruit. We arranged three treatments on air temperature associated with day/night cooling, and compared the color development on cooled berries with that of the control (without cooling). Furthermore, the amount of difference in both exposure time to a specific air temperature zone and the degree of color density against those of the control were calculated in each treatment, and then correlation of these two factors was used to evaluate the effect of air temperature on the accumulation of red color (anthocyanins) in the epicarp.

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Quantification of anthocyanins using HPLC

The berries of 'Ruby Roman' grape categorized into 1–10 degrees of color density using a specific color chart (Matsuda *et al.*, 2020a) were randomly collected in 2014 from 8-year-old vines which had been grown in a rain-protected plastic greenhouse without side covers at Ishikawa Agriculture and Forestry Research Center, Kahoku, Ishikawa, Japan. In this case, three berries with the same degree were used for anthocyanin analyses, respectively. An epicarp disk (8 mm in diameter) of the berry was punched out at around the top (style side) of the berry using a cork borer, homogenized using mortar and pestle with 1 mL of 50%(v/v) acetic acid, incubated for 12 h at 4°C in the dark, centrifuged at  $10,000 \times g$ , and then supernatant was filtrated through a polyvinylidene difluoride filter (0.45  $\mu\text{m}$  in pore size, EMD Millipore, Darmstadt, Germany). Anthocyanins were analyzed using a High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) system (Prominence LC20A instrument, Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan) as was described by Katayama-Ikegami *et al.* (2016). The conditions for HPLC were as follows: mobile phase, linear gradient analysis of 1.5%(v/v) phosphoric acid (solvent A) and 1.5%(v/v) phosphoric acid, 20%(v/v) acetic acid and 25%(v/v) acetonitrile (solvent B); pump, LC-20AD (Shimadzu); column, Inertsil® ODS-2 analytical (250  $\times$  6.0 mm, 5  $\mu\text{m}$  in silica gel particle size; GL Sciences, Tokyo, Japan); temperature, 35°C (CTO-20A column oven; Shimadzu); detector, UV-VIS (SPD-20AV, Shimadzu); absorbance of wave length, 520 nm ( $A_{520}$ ); flow rate, 0.8 mL  $\text{min}^{-1}$ ; sample volume, 10  $\mu\text{L}$ . The gradients of solvent A/B were as follows: 0–40 min, linear gradient from 75/25 to 15/85; 40–45 min, 75/25. Depending on the peak area monitored at  $A_{520}$ , each anthocyanin of mono glucoside was quantified using an external standard curve for cyanidin 3-glucoside (Cy3G), peonidin 3-glucoside (Pn3G), delphinidin 3-glucoside (Dp3G), petunidin 3-glucoside (Pt3G) and malvidin

3-glucoside (Mv3G), respectively. The other anthocyanins of cyanidin 3,5-diglucoside (Cy3,5G), delphinidin 3-(*p*-coumaroyl glucoside)-5-glucoside (Dp3pG5G), cyanidin 3-(*p*-coumaroyl glucoside)-5-glucoside (Cy3pG5G), petunidin 3-(*p*-coumaroyl glucoside)-5-glucoside (Pt3pG5G), delphinidin 3-*p*-coumaroyl glucoside (Dp3pG), peonidin 3-(*p*-coumaroyl glucoside)-5-glucoside (Pn3pG5G), malvidin 3-(*p*-coumaroyl glucoside)-5-glucoside (Mv3pG5G), cyanidin 3-*p*-coumaroyl glucoside (Cy3pG), petunidin 3-*p*-coumaroyl glucoside (Pt3pG), peonidin 3-*p*-coumaroyl glucoside (Pn3pG), malvidin 3-*p*-coumaroyl glucoside (Mv3pG), and malvidin 3-acetylglucoside (Mv3aG) were identified by comparing the retention time and elution order with those described by Shiraishi et al. (2007), then quantified as mg of mono glucoside equivalent which have the same aglycone (anthocyanidin) using the standard curves for Cy3G, Pn3G, Dp3G, Pt3G and Mv3G, since no authentic sample was available. Total content of anthocyanins was calculated by adding all of them.

## 2.2. Procedures on fruit growing

Experiments were performed in 2016 using two vines of 10-year-old ‘Ruby Roman’ grown in a rain-protected plastic greenhouse without side covers at Ishikawa Agriculture and Forestry Research Center. In this case, the roof of the house was covered in April 2, and the date of the full-bloom and the onset of veraison was May 20 and June 30, respectively. To induce artificial parthenocarpy and make berries seedless, all the fruit clusters at the full-bloom were dipped in a solution containing 25 ppm of gibberellic acid (GA<sub>3</sub>) supplemented with 5 ppm of forchlorfenuron (1-(2-chloro-4-pyridyl)-3-phenylurea, CPPU), then dipped again in the same GA<sub>3</sub> solution without CPPU eleven days after the full-bloom. A few days after the second GA<sub>3</sub> treatment, some fruit clusters were thinned to bring the leaf/cluster ratio closer to 90, i.e. 3 shoots/cluster. This shoots/cluster ratio followed the guideline for growers of



‘Ruby Roman’ vines, which was set by Ishikawa prefecture government since high quality berries must be produced. In addition, some berries in a cluster were also thinned to set the number of berries as 25/cluster. Then, all the fruit clusters were covered with a BIKOO® perforated plastic bag (30 × 40 cm, Nidaiki Corp., Komaki, Japan) with numerous 0.1 mm pores, attached with a paper umbrella for shading on the top of each fruit cluster. This transparent bag can help picking off the cracked-berries from fruit cluster and confirming color development on the epicarp of berries. Perforation is for preventing temperature rise in the bag. In this case, 13% of light intensity was reduced by the bag which was determined using an illuminometer (RTR-574, T&D, Matsumoto, Japan). Other cultivation managements like fertilization, sprinkling and pest control followed the practice. The above-mentioned procedures are very common in the commercial production of ‘Ruby Roman’ berries.

### *2.3. Utilization of a spot-cooling system to decrease air temperature around fruit clusters*

The spot-cooling system (utility model registration number 3204876, Japan Patent Office) employed in this study is composed of three units: a spot-cooling apparatus (SUASP1DS, Daikin, Osaka, Japan) equipped with 2.4 kW cooler, which can decrease the blowing air temperature 9.4°C lower than that of the suction air at a flow rate of 6.6 m<sup>3</sup> min<sup>-1</sup>; clear plastic bags covering the fruit cluster but not closed; thermal insulated pipes and tubes connecting the apparatus and bags (Fig. 1). In this case, 60 fruit bunches in maximum can be cooled down to 4–5°C lower than the outside temperature by the system, simultaneously.

Four experimental groups were designed on cooling the fruit clusters: consecutive (0:00–24:00) cooling; daytime (6:00–18:00) cooling; nighttime (18:00–6:00) cooling; no-cooling (control). Duration of the cooling treatment was from July 19 to July 29

(from 60 to 70 days after the full-bloom), since color development on the berries was the most sensitive to air temperature during this period (Matsuda et al., 2020a). Eleven fruit clusters were used for each treatment. The air temperature was monitored at the center of the fruit cluster in bags using a thermometer (RTR-502, T&D, Matsumoto, Japan) and recorded every 15 min. The surface color of the berries was classified into 1–10 degrees of color density using the color chart every 5 days from July 19 to August 13 (60, 65, 70, 75, 80 and 85 days after the full-bloom).

#### 2.4. Statistical analyses of data

The content of anthocyanins and the degree of color density in the epicarp were represented as average  $\pm$  SE ( $n = 3$  and  $n = 11$ , respectively). Differences in the degree of color density among cooling treatments were analyzed statistically using analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed by Tukey's multiple range test.

### 3. Results

#### 3.1. Anthocyanin content in epicarp related to the degree of color density determined using the color chart

An example high performance liquid chromatogram of the anthocyanin analysis was shown in Fig. 2. This sample was extracted from epicarp of matured berries, whose color was classified into the degree 9 in density using the color chart. Seventeen anthocyanin types were confirmed, which was the maximum number in the 'Ruby Roman' berries examined. They were composed of 4 cyanidin types, 3 peonidin types, 3 delphinidin types, 3 petunidin types and 4 malvidin types (Table 1). The total anthocyanin content per epicarp area was calculated as  $33.92 \mu\text{g cm}^{-2}$ . Among anthocyanins, the greatest content ( $6.87 \mu\text{g cm}^{-2}$ ) of Cy3G occupied 20.3% of the total, the second greatest ( $5.72 \mu\text{g cm}^{-2}$ ) of Cy3pG occupied 16.9%, and the third greatest

(3.26  $\mu\text{g cm}^{-2}$ ) of Pn3G occupied 9.6%. Similarly, the total anthocyanin content in epicarp of the berries whose color was classified into 1–10 degrees in density was determined by the same manner with three replications, respectively. In this case, correspondence of the color degree to the fruit developmental stage of berries is as follows: degree 1, second stage; degrees 2–7, third stage; degrees 8–10, harvest stage. Of course, the detected types of anthocyanins were smaller than 17 in berries with poor color density (Suppl. 1). Then, the total anthocyanin content was compared with the degree of color density. As a result, a strong positive correlation ( $P < 0.005$ ,  $R^2 = 0.937$ ) was confirmed between both factors (Fig. 3). The results show that the anthocyanin accumulation in epicarp of a berry can be monitored using the color chart exactly.

### 3.2. *Effect of cooling berries on red color development (anthocyanin accumulation) in the epicarp*

Effects of the cooling treatments, i.e. consecutive-cooling, daytime-cooling and nighttime-cooling, on red color development in the epicarp were shown in Fig. 4. In all cooling treatments, the degree of color density increased gradually along with the maturing of berries through and after the cooling period. Furthermore, the degree of color density in consecutive-cooling treatment was statistically greater ( $P < 0.05$ ) than that of the control (without cooling) from 0 through 15 days after the cooling period. The curves of both the daytime-cooling and the nighttime-cooling treatments existed between the curves of the consecutive-cooling treatment and the control, but not significantly different from the control.

During the cooling period (July 19–29), sunrise and sunset were at around 5:00 and 19:15, respectively. To evaluate the effect of the air temperature in more detail on the red color development with or without daylight, we employed a concept of temperature

zone composed of 7 zones ( $< 21$ ,  $21-24$ ,  $24-27$ ,  $27-30$ ,  $30-33$ ,  $33-36$  and  $36^{\circ}\text{C} \leq$ ) of air temperature with  $3^{\circ}\text{C}$  interval basically in this experiment. Then, percentage of exposure time when the monitoring fruit cluster had been exposed to each temperature zone to total time during the experiment were calculated for daylight (5:00–19:15) and dark (19:15–5:00) period, separately (Fig. 5). It must be noticed that daylight and dark periods did not correspond to the periods of daytime– and nighttime–cooling, respectively. Furthermore, the amount of difference in the percentage of exposure time to each temperature zone from that of the control ( $\Delta$  time %) were calculated in each cooling treatment. Similarly, the amount of difference in average degree of color density (mean value from 0 through 15 days after the cooling period) in each treatment from that of the control ( $\Delta$  color degree) were calculated. To clarify the effect of the temperature zones on the red color development (anthocyanin accumulation) in the epicarp, correlations of the  $\Delta$  time % with the  $\Delta$  color degree at each temperature zone were shown in Fig. 6. During the daylight period, the relationship between the  $\Delta$  time % and the  $\Delta$  color degree was linearly positive at the temperature zones less than  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$ , but turned negative at the temperature zones greater than  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$ . In this case, correlation coefficient was statistically significant ( $P < 0.05$ ) at temperature zones of  $27-30^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $33-36^{\circ}\text{C}$ . By contrast, no certain direction was confirmed between these two factors during the dark period.

#### 4. Discussion

The color density of the epicarp in red/black–type grape berries would be affected mainly by the component, kinds and the amount, of anthocyanins and pH in the tissues. The anthocyanin analyses using HPLC in this study revealed that the major kinds were Cy3G and Cy3pG, the cyanidin type both with red color, the sum of which occupied 37.2% of the total anthocyanin content. When compared with the other cultivars, the

anthocyanin component in the matured ‘Ruby Roman’ epicarp (Table. 1) was similar to that of ‘Steuben’ with the high content of Cy3G, Cy3pG, Dp3G and Dp3pG, but containing some Pn3G and Pn3pG in contrast to ‘Steuben’ (Shiraishi et al., 2007). Furthermore, the ‘Ruby Roman’ epicarp also contained a certain level of Pt3G, Pt3pG, Mv3G and Mv3pG. Thus, the red color of ‘Ruby Roman’ berries seems to be due to this specific composition of anthocyanins accumulated in the epicarp.

On the anthocyanin content related to the degree of color density in the ‘Ruby Roman’ epicarp, the correlation coefficient ( $R^2 = 0.937$ ) in the present study was higher than that ( $R^2 = 0.745$ ) in the previous study (Matsuda et al., 2020a) where the anthocyanin content was quantified by colorimetric method. Since anthocyanins were quantified more precisely using HPLC, which showed a strong correlation with the degree of color density (Fig. 3), it seems that monitoring the accumulation of anthocyanins in the ‘Ruby Roman’ epicarp using the color chart is quite exact. Indeed, the color chart has also been employed for estimating anthocyanin content in the epicarp of apples (Marsh et al., 1996), raspberries (Stavang et al., 2015) and grapes such as ‘Kyoho’, ‘Pione’ and ‘Suzuka’ (Sugiura et al., 2018; Yamazaki and Suzuki, 1980), even if correlation coefficients were smaller than that of the present study.

It is well known that light intensity play an important role on the anthocyanin accumulation in the epicarp of grape berries. Matsuda et al. (2020b) demonstrated utilizing *in vitro*-cultured ‘Ruby Roman’ berries that the anthocyanin accumulation occurred only when artificial light with luminous intensity of 5,000 lx or more was irradiated from fluorescent tube. In the present study, the light intensity in the green house was kept at more than 5,000 lx from 1h after sunrise to 1h before sunset during the experiment (Suppl. 2). However, we will need to have deeper discussion about the relationship between light intensity and the anthocyanin accumulation.

The roles of temperature on the anthocyanin accumulation in grape berries have been discussed in relation to day/night temperature. The discussions were categorized into 4 groups as the accumulation was accelerated by: lower temperature in daytime (Kliewer, 1970); lower temperature in nighttime (Koshita et al., 2007); lower daily average temperature (Shinomiya et al., 2015; Sugiura et al., 2018); the difference between day/night average temperature (Tomana et al., 1979). In the present study, the degree of color density showed statistically higher values in the consecutive-cooling treatment than that of the control through the post-cooling duration (0–15 days after cooling), but the effect of daytime– or nighttime–cooling alone was not clear (Fig. 4). However, it was clearly demonstrated that the relationship between the  $\Delta$  time % and the  $\Delta$  color degree was positive at less than 30°C, but negative at greater than 30°C during the daylight period. Thus, our results indicate that high air temperature (30°C  $\leq$ ) during the daylight period would suppress the anthocyanin accumulation in the epicarp of ‘Ruby Roman’ berries.

The concept of temperature zone was employed in this study, since we thought that anthocyanin biosynthesis related to some enzymatic reactions might have the optimum temperature. Another possibility of concerning air temperature is based on the concept of accumulated temperature during the treatments, which was not a divided section like a zone but whole. From this point of view, the average air temperature was calculated from the temperature data (570 and 390 data for daylight and dark period, respectively) determined every 15 min for each cooling treatment, and correlation between the average values and those of the  $\Delta$  color degree was examined (Table 2). As a result, the correlation coefficient was statistically significant ( $P < 0.05$ ) only in the case of daylight period. This fact clearly indicates the involvement of daylight on the anthocyanin accumulation in the grape epicarp, which was mentioned previously by many researchers (Jeong et al., 2004; Pereira et al., 2006; Matus et al., 2009;

Azuma et al., 2012; Koyama et al., 2012). In this case, it was also demonstrated that effect of the difference in the average air temperature between daylight and dark period on the anthocyanin accumulation was not significant.

On the critical temperature which suppresses anthocyanin accumulation, it has been pointed out that high temperature during daytime inhibits anthocyanin accumulation in maturing berries (Kobayashi et al., 1967; Kliewer, 1970; Mori et al., 2004). However, since these studies were performed at a constant daytime temperature of 30°C or less set by using a controlled climate room, they couldn't clarify the threshold temperature. The facts that the correlation between the  $\Delta$  time % and the  $\Delta$  color degree turned from positive to negative at 30°C, and furthermore the correlation coefficient was statistically significant ( $P < 0.05$ ) at the temperature zones of 27–30°C (positive) and 33–36°C (negative) indicate that the critical point (threshold) where the anthocyanin accumulation starts to be suppressed may exist within 30–33°C (the transitional temperature zone). It is concluded that the anthocyanin accumulation would be suppressed strongly by air temperature more than 33°C during the daylight period. Thus, it is suggested that keeping the air temperature around the fruit clusters in veraison or later at  $< 30^\circ\text{C}$  during daylight period is indispensable for fully developing red color on the epicarp of 'Ruby Roman' berries.

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## Legends of Figure

Fig. 1. A picture on cooling fruit clusters of 'Ruby Roman' berries using a spot-cooling system. Cold-air flow was supplied from a cooler via the thermal insulated main pipe (mp), the branch pipes (bp) and the tubes (t) into the clear plastic bags (pb). Length of the branch pipes and the loci where they connected with the main pipe are adjustable.

Fig. 2. An example high performance liquid chromatogram of anthocyanins detected from the epicarp of matured 'Ruby Roman' grape berries. Cy3,5G: cyanidin 3,5-diglucoside, Dp3G: delphinidin 3-glucoside, Cy3G: cyanidin 3-glucoside, Pt3G: petunidin 3-glucoside, Pn3G: peonidin 3-glucoside, Mv3G: malvidin 3-glucoside, Dp3pG5G: delphinidin 3-(*p*-coumarylglucoside)-5-glucoside, Cy3pG5G: cyanidin 3-(*p*-coumarylglucoside)-5-glucoside, Pt3pG5G: petunidin 3-(*p*-coumarylglucoside)-5-glucoside, Dp3pG: delphinidin 3-*p*-coumarylglucoside, Mv3aG: malvidin 3-acetylglucoside, Pn3pG5G: peonidin 3-(*p*-coumarylglucoside)-5-glucoside, Mv3pG5G: malvidin 3-(*p*-coumarylglucoside)-5-glucoside, Cy3pG: cyanidin 3-*p*-coumaroylglucoside, Pt3pG: petunidin 3-*p*-coumaroylglucoside, Pn3pG: peonidin 3-*p*-coumaroylglucoside, Mv3pG: malvidin 3-*p*-coumaroylglucoside.

Fig. 3. Relationship between the degree of color density and the total anthocyanin content. Values are average  $\pm$  SE ( $n = 3$ ). \*\*\* $P < 0.005$ .

Fig. 4. Effects of the cooling treatments on red color development in the epicarp of maturing berries. Treatments were as follows: consecutive-cooling (open circle),

daytime-cooling (open triangle), nighttime-cooling (closed circle) and no-cooling (control) (closed triangle). Cooling treatments were made from 60 to 70 days after the full-bloom. The values represent average  $\pm$  SE ( $n = 11$ ). Where no error bar is visible SE was smaller than the symbols. The difference between the values labeled with different alphabets was statistically significant ( $P < 0.05$ , Tukey's multiple range test).

Fig. 5. Percentage of exposure time to each temperature zone associated with the cooling treatments in daylight and dark period, respectively.

Fig. 6. Correlations between the  $\Delta$  time % and the  $\Delta$  color degree in each temperature zone in daylight and dark period, respectively. The  $\Delta$  time % and the  $\Delta$  color degree mean the amount of difference in percentage of exposure time and in degree of color density from those of the control, respectively.



'Ruby Roman' grape  
(*Vitis labruscana* × *vinifera*)

HPLC  
17 types of anthocyanin  
Total content

×



color chart

strong positive correlation  
( $P < 0.005$ ,  $R^2 = 0.937$ )

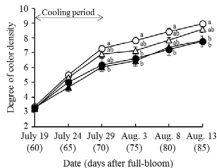
In greenhouse



Spot-cooling system

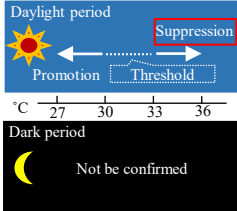
Spot-cooling system can keep air  
temperature 4–5°C lower for 60–70 days  
after the full-bloom

- Consecutive (0:00–24:00) cooling (○)
- Daytime (6:00–18:00) cooling (△)
- Nighttime (18:00–6:00) cooling (●)
- No-cooling (control) (▲)



Correlations of the  $\Delta$  time %  
(difference exposure time from  
the control) with the  $\Delta$  color  
degree

Anthocyanin accumulation



## Highlights

Seventeen types of anthocyanin were detected from the epicarp of matured berries

Degree of the epicarp color density was positively correlated with total anthocyanins

Fruit clusters after veraison were grown at four different air temperature conditions

Anthocyanin accumulation was suppressed strongly by  $33^{\circ}\text{C} <$  during daylight period

Anthocyanin accumulation starts to be suppressed at a temperature within  $30\text{--}33^{\circ}\text{C}$

Table 1. Component of anthocyanins detected from the epicarp tissue of matured ‘Ruby Roman’ berries.

| Anthocyanins     | Content (μg·cm <sup>-2</sup> ) | (%)   |
|------------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| Cy3G             | 6.871 ± 0.742 <sup>z</sup>     | 20.3  |
| Cy3 <i>p</i> G   | 5.723 ± 0.278                  | 16.9  |
| Cy3,5G           | 0.700 ± 0.112                  | 2.1   |
| Cy3 <i>p</i> G5G | 0.558 ± 0.015                  | 1.6   |
| Pn3G             | 3.261 ± 0.242                  | 9.6   |
| Pn3 <i>p</i> G   | 2.784 ± 0.081                  | 8.2   |
| Pn3 <i>p</i> G5G | 1.093 ± 0.022                  | 3.2   |
| Dp3G             | 2.676 ± 0.245                  | 7.9   |
| Dp3 <i>p</i> G   | 2.185 ± 0.181                  | 6.4   |
| Dp3 <i>p</i> G5G | 0.519 ± 0.051                  | 1.5   |
| Pt3G             | 1.670 ± 0.170                  | 4.9   |
| Pt3 <i>p</i> G   | 1.239 ± 0.085                  | 3.7   |
| Pt3 <i>p</i> G5G | 0.795 ± 0.028                  | 2.3   |
| Mv3G             | 2.119 ± 0.154                  | 6.3   |
| Mv3 <i>p</i> G   | 1.157 ± 0.050                  | 3.4   |
| Mv3aG            | 0.232 ± 0.005                  | 0.7   |
| Mv3 <i>p</i> G5G | 0.335 ± 0.019                  | 1.0   |
| Total            | 33.917                         | 100.0 |

<sup>z</sup>Average ± SE (*n* = 3).



Table 2. Correlation between the average air temperature during daylight and/or dark period, the difference, and the Δ color degree.

| Cooling treatment                 | Average air temperature (°C) |                                     |                                 | Difference (°C)<br>[A – B] |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
|                                   | Whole day                    | Daylight period [A]<br>(5:00-19:15) | Dark period [B]<br>(19:15-5:00) |                            |
| Consecutive                       | 23.8                         | 25.6                                | 21.2                            | 4.4                        |
| Daytime                           | 26.1                         | 26.7                                | 25.2                            | 1.5                        |
| Nighttime                         | 25.6                         | 29.0                                | 20.6                            | 8.4                        |
| No-cooling (Cont.)                | 28.6                         | 30.6                                | 25.6                            | 5.0                        |
| <i>r</i> value vs. Δ color degree | – 0.765                      | – 0.956 *                           | – 0.212                         | – 0.566                    |

‘Δ color degree’: see Fig. 6.  
‘*r* value’ means Pearson’s correlation coefficient.  
\**P* < 0.05.

Table 2

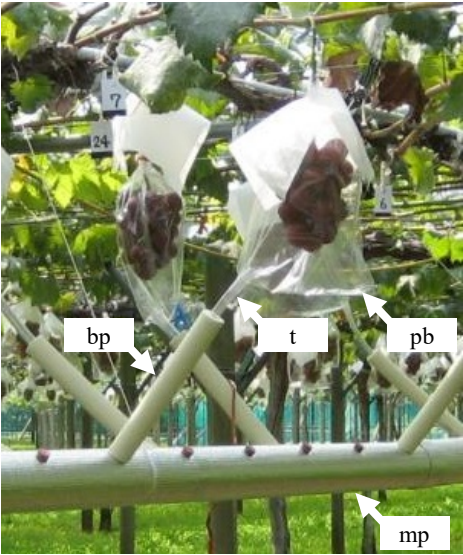


Fig. 1

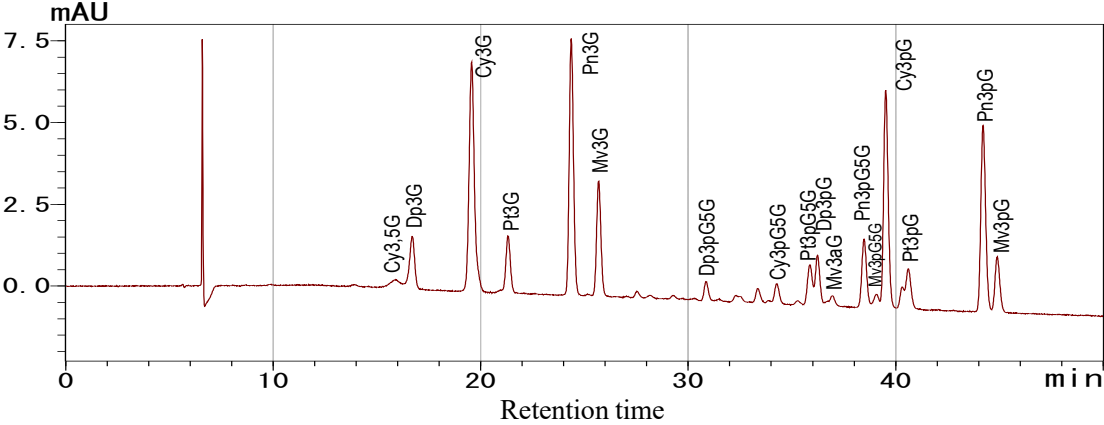


Fig. 2

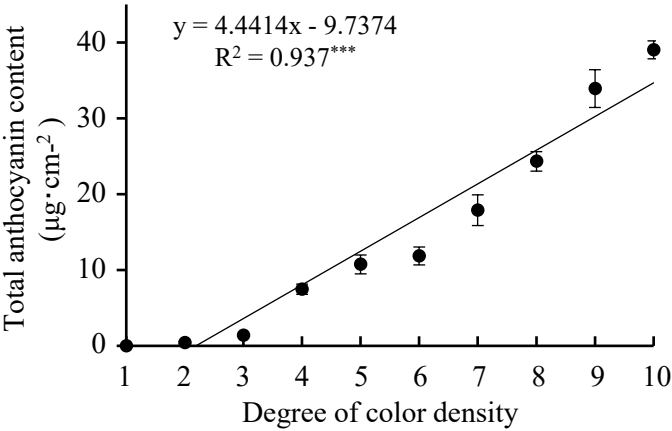


Fig. 3

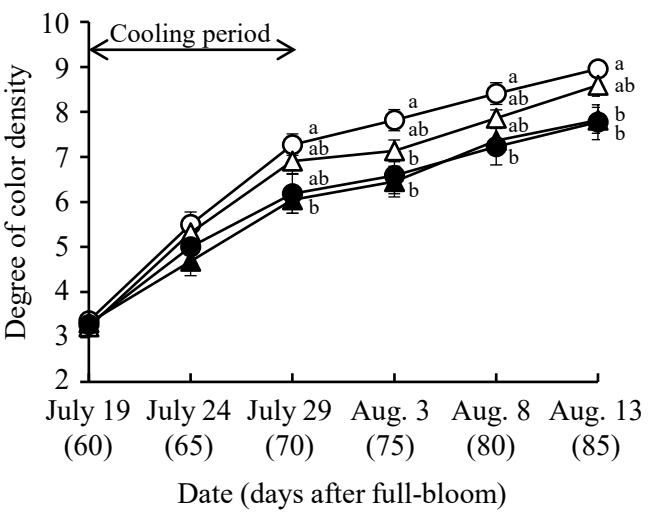


Fig. 4

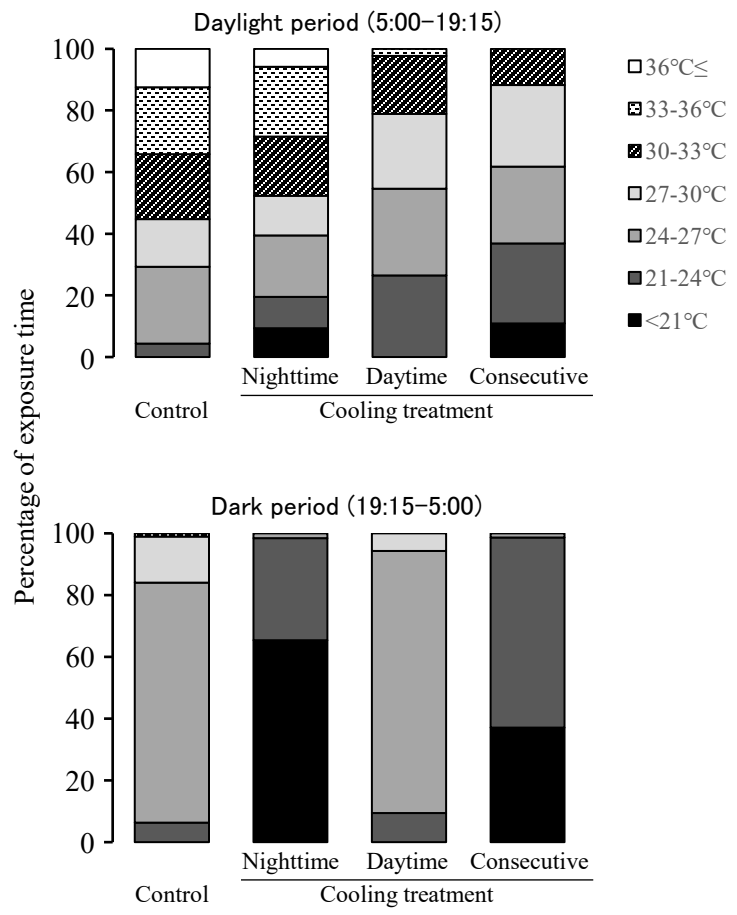


Fig. 5

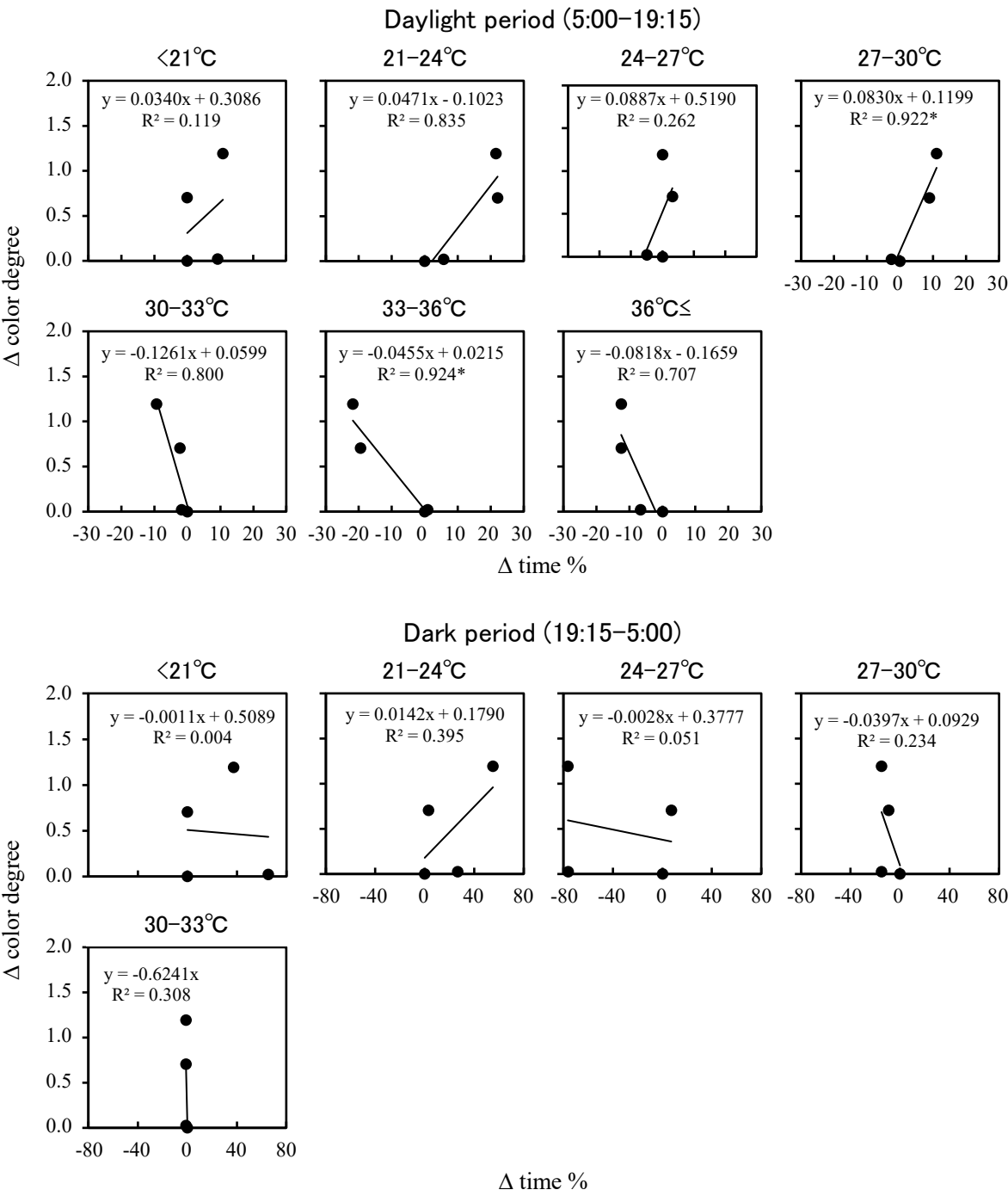


Fig. 6