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紫花苜蓿抗旱育种研究现状及展望

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摘要: 紫花苜蓿属豆科四倍体多年生草本植物, 目前在世界范围内广泛种植, 是草食动物所需的优质蛋白饲草资源。发展紫花苜蓿产业对全球各国农业产业和畜牧业都具有重要意义。然而, 随着世界范围内干旱等极端气候的频繁出现及水资源短缺, 旱灾已是束缚整个紫花苜蓿产业发展的关键因素, 培育抗旱性强的紫花苜蓿品种, 不但能保持高产稳产, 还能节约水资源。因此, 本研究主要综述了国内外紫花苜蓿种质资源收集保存及抗旱性鉴定评价情况, 抗旱品种审定登记现状以及抗旱育种存在的问题及挑战, 并对我国紫花苜蓿抗旱育种工作进行了展望。旨在为我国紫花苜蓿抗旱育种的发展提供技术支撑及参考。

关键词: 紫花苜蓿; 抗旱性; 种质资源; 育种

Current situation and prospects for drought-resistance breeding in *Medicago sativa*

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Abstract: Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*), a tetraploid perennial herb of the legume family, is widely cultivated around the world and protein forage resource for herbivores of the highest quality. The development of the alfalfa industry is of major importance for agricultural industries and animal husbandry worldwide. However, with the frequent occurrence globally, of extreme climate events such as drought and water shortage, drought has emerged as a key factor limiting alfalfa performance in many regions. Development of varieties with strong drought resistance can not only maintain high and stable yield, but also help to conserve water resources. Therefore, this research focused on reviewing the collection and preservation of alfalfa germplasm resources and evaluation of drought resistance both in China and abroad. The current evaluation and registration status of drought-resistant varieties, as well as the problems and challenges of breeding for drought-resistance, are reviewed in order to promote breeding of drought-resistant alfalfa varieties in China. Our study aims to provide technical support and reference information for the development of drought-resistance in alfalfa breeding in China.

Key words: alfalfa; drought resistance; germplasm resources; breeding

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紫花苜蓿(*Medicago sativa*)是豆科苜蓿属(*Medicago*)多年生草本植物,因其生物量高、营养价值丰富、适应性强、适口性好、利用年限长、耐旱耐寒、抗适度盐碱、耐刈割、保持水土、肥田增产等特性,被美誉为“牧草之王”^[1-4]。随着农业产业结构调整 and 畜牧业的快速发展,紫花苜蓿已被确认为奶牛等草食家畜所需的高蛋白优质饲料之一,目前在全世界范围内广泛推广种植和利用。然而,自2000年以来,全球干旱区面积每10年增加1.1%,干旱的时间、频率增加29%^[5],这也给具有一定耐旱性的紫花苜蓿的生长发育带来了严峻挑战。在恶劣环境和干旱胁迫下,植物一般都是通过各种形态、生理、生化和分子等反应来应对和生存^[6],其中紫花苜蓿表现为相对发芽率和发芽势降低^[7],气孔导度下降^[8],胞间CO₂浓度下降^[9],光合作用和蒸腾速率降低^[8,10-11],茎秆的生长被抑制^[12],叶面积和叶水势下降^[13],根系体积增大^[14],根冠比增加^[15-16],渗透调节物质如脯氨酸(proline, Pro)、可溶性蛋白(soluble protein, SP)和可溶性糖(soluble sugar, SS)含量增加,抗氧化酶如过氧化氢酶(catalase, CAT)、过氧化物酶(peroxidase, POD)、超氧化物歧化酶(superoxide dismutase, SOD)和抗坏血酸过氧化物酶(ascorbate peroxidase, APX)等活性增强^[17-19],生长发育出现迟缓或者停止现象^[20],最终导致其种群从种子发芽到种子成熟整个生长周期内的生长发育皆出现问题^[21-26],进而制约了生产力、种植面积和分布^[27-28]。所以,了解紫花苜蓿的耐旱机制,开展资源收集和水分亏缺条件下耐旱性状的鉴定^[29],培育抗旱性强、草产量高及品质优良品种是解决旱作地区紫花苜蓿种植中出现品种问题的主要路径,也是从根本上解决干旱影响紫花苜蓿产业快速、健康发展的方法之一,同时也是提高紫花苜蓿生产性能和推进农业可持续性发展的有效战略^[30]。因此,本研究主要系统总结了国内外现阶段紫花苜蓿种质资源的收集保存现状、抗旱表型和生理鉴定评价情况、抗旱性的分子生物学研究现状、抗旱品种审定登记现状,以及抗旱育种中存在的问题及挑战,同时结合畜牧业的发展需求及当前我国农业产业政策,展望了未来我国紫花苜蓿抗旱育种中的重点、难点及热点问题,旨在为我国紫花苜蓿抗旱育种的发展提供参考。

1 紫花苜蓿种质资源收集保存及抗旱性鉴定评价

1.1 紫花苜蓿种质资源的收集保存现状

育种工作中,种质资源是最重要的物质基础,是农业创新的根本,是确保植物多样性和可持续发展的基础,其在保障国家食物安全、粮食安全和生态安全方面发挥着重要的作用^[31]。目前,世界范围内苜蓿属植物有100多种,其中2/3是一年生的,1/3是多年生的^[32-33]。我国是苜蓿属资源分布丰富的地区之一,但因种内、种间的杂交等原因,我国苜蓿属现有多少种的记载存在差异,其中《中国高等植物图鉴》记载有7种^[34],《中国苜蓿》中记载有12种、3变种、6变性^[35],《中国种子植物科属词典》(1982年修订版)记载有16种^[36],《中国沙漠植物志》记载有10种^[37],《中国植物志》记载有13个种、1个变种^[38]。苜蓿属的物种主要有紫花苜蓿、杂花苜蓿(*Medicago rivularis*)、黄花苜蓿(*Medicago falcata*)、天蓝苜蓿(*Medicago lupulina*)、小苜蓿(*Medicago minima*)、南苜蓿(*Medicago polymorpha*)等。其中紫花苜蓿最具经济价值,因而成为世界范围内主要的优质栽培牧草种之一,也是苜蓿属栽培最多的种^[35,39]。紫花苜蓿种质资源在全球范围内分布广,材料丰富,保存份数较多,保存量位于前3位的国家是美国、澳大利亚和俄罗斯,其中主要保存机构是美国国家种质资源系统,植物种质资源引进与试验研究单位,南澳大利亚研究与发展研究所,澳大利亚牧场基因库,还有俄罗斯的圣尼古拉·瓦维洛夫植物工业研究所,它们保存了占世界55%以上的超过21000份的紫花苜蓿种质资源,具体各个国家保存的紫花苜蓿种质资源数量见图1^[40]。我国由于紫花苜蓿育种起步时间晚,其种质资源的收集工作落后于美洲、欧洲等地区。资料显示,中国农业科学院草原所在1997年之前保存紫花苜蓿种质资源700多份^[32]。但自20世纪90年代以后,随着科技部国家科技计划和农业部牧草种质资源保护等项目的启动和落地实施,我国建立了紫花苜蓿种质资源基因数据库,构建出了其种质资源国家库圃(中心库、备份库、工作库和资源圃)4级保存体系,其中基因库中保存种质3440份,种质圃保存活体种质1557份^[41]。目前已详细描述特征特性的苜蓿属资源就有355份,其中紫花苜蓿资源321份[数据来源于中国作物种质资源信息网(www.cgris.net,访问时间:2024年1月28日)]。入库保存的紫花苜蓿种质资源经过鉴定评价、整理编目和繁种更新,以及开展生活力检测等,实现了资源的妥善保存,为利用奠定了物质基础^[42-43]。总之,随着经济社会发展和畜牧业的转型升级,紫花苜蓿作为一种最具经济价值的优质牧草,其资源的收集、保存成

了一项重要的工作。目前,国家苜蓿种质资源库中保存的紫花苜蓿材料在支持草畜产业发展方面的作用日益显著,部分资源已通过一些项目的实施进行了性状鉴定、遗传多样性分析及育种利用。

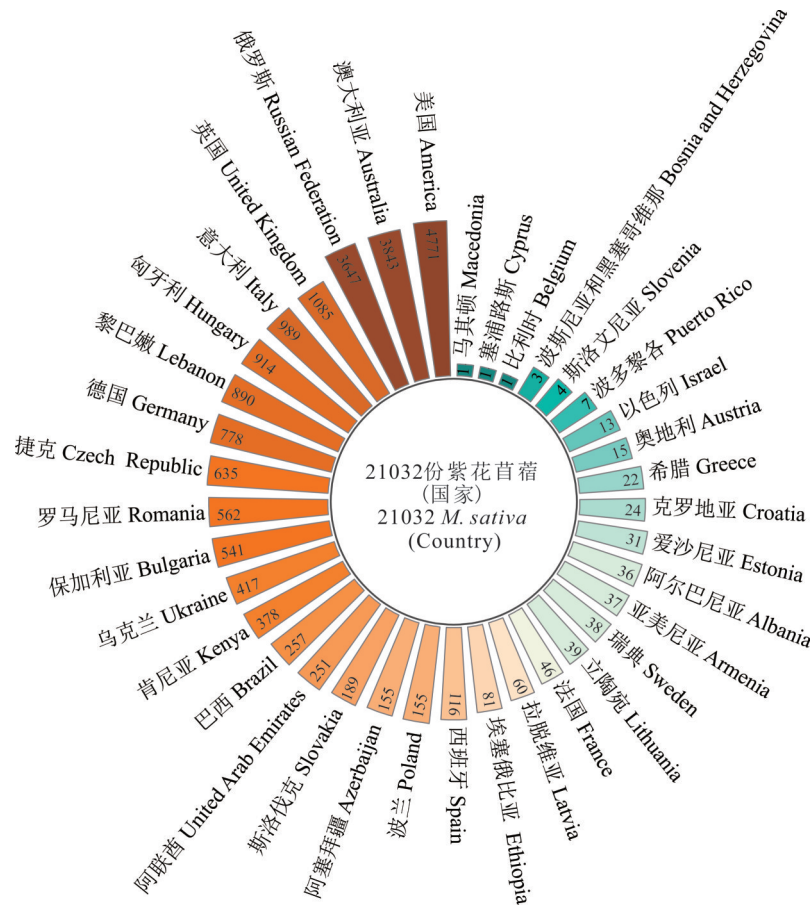


图1 世界上保存紫花苜蓿种质资源的国家及保存数量

Fig. 1 Countries and quantities of preserved germplasm resources of *M. sativa* in the world

1.2 紫花苜蓿种质资源的抗旱表型和生理鉴定评价

对收集到的紫花苜蓿种质资源进行抗旱性鉴定评价是抗旱育种的关键环节。干旱胁迫下紫花苜蓿材料为适应环境,会从表型特征、自身内部结构、生理代谢等方面发生一系列的变化^[44]。因而,其鉴定评价内容包括干旱胁迫下的形态、生理生化特性等方面。程伟燕等^[45]和李慥哲^[46]研究了干旱胁迫下紫花苜蓿的表型特征,得出干旱胁迫使紫花苜蓿叶、茎表皮上生出表皮毛和单细胞,也使叶肉栅栏组织中的细胞密度增加,同时使根部的导管数量减少和最外层的细胞排列变紧密。王焱^[47]通过对59份紫花苜蓿种质资源萌发期的根长、芽长、发芽率等萌发指标进行抗旱性综合评价,筛选出萌发期极强抗旱性和极弱抗旱性种质各6份。同时对57份紫花苜蓿苗期的叶面积、叶片相对含水量、株高等8个表型和生理指标进行评价,筛选出了苗期极强和极弱抗旱性种质分别是17和5份。最后综合萌发期和苗期的抗旱性鉴定结果,得出2个时期共同抗旱性强的种质有2份。Zhang等^[48]对198份紫花苜蓿种质资源的18个与抗旱性相关的农艺、生理和品质性状进行了鉴定,获得了适应干旱环境的紫花苜蓿种质资源。Maghsoodi等^[49]对10个紫花苜蓿的CAT、APX、POD活性、丙二醛(malondialdehyde, MDA)含量、牧草产量、应力敏感指数(stress susceptibility index, SSI)、耐旱指数(drought tolerance index, DTI)进行抗旱性鉴定评价,筛选出了最耐旱的紫花苜蓿品种,并得出牧草产量、CAT、APX可作为紫花苜蓿选育耐旱品种的指标。相关研究表明,植物种质资源的表型、生理抗旱性评价研究主要集中在种子萌发期、苗期、开花期、灌浆期和全生育期^[50],而紫花苜蓿种质资源的抗旱性评价大部分集中在萌发期^[51-54]和苗期^[55-57],其他生育期的研究较少^[58]。这主

要是因为萌发期的生长发育对紫花苜蓿后期的生长起着决定性作用,是紫花苜蓿生活史上的关键期,研究具有一定的现实意义^[59]。苗期是紫花苜蓿生长发育的开始阶段,对干旱较为敏感,且干旱胁迫不仅影响其当前阶段的生长,还对后期生物量积累、生长发育、越冬都产生很大的影响^[60-61]。同时,紫花苜蓿苗期抗旱性鉴定评价时间短,便于执行,适用于大量材料的鉴定评价,具有一定的科学性^[58]。在紫花苜蓿表型和生理抗旱性评价方法中,单纯依据单项指标进行评价具有一定的缺陷,评价结果不具可靠性,因此,大多采用综合评价方法进行评价。常用的综合评价方法有直接比较^[44,62]、主成分分析法^[63]、隶属函数法^[64]、直接分级赋分法^[65]、聚类分析法^[66]、层次分析法(analytic hierarchy process, AHP)^[67]等。在以上的综合评价方法中,每种方法各具优缺点,为保证评价结果的可靠性、准确性,需多种方法联合进行使用。

1.3 紫花苜蓿抗旱性的分子生物学研究

1.3.1 组学研究现状 20世纪90年代以来,随着分子生物学的发展及测序技术的进步,紫花苜蓿对干旱胁迫的响应研究逐步从形态、农艺性状和生理特性过渡到了更深层次的分子水平,比如采用转录组学、蛋白质组学、代谢组学等确定得到与胁迫相关的基因、蛋白及代谢途径^[68-70],明确了紫花苜蓿在干旱胁迫下的响应机理。其中在转录组水平上,主要是确定得到了紫花苜蓿各个部位参与干旱胁迫响应的基因,以及基因参与的主要途径。例如,Wan等^[71]确定得到紫花苜蓿根系响应干旱的关键基因,这些基因主要参与植物病原体的相互作用、植物激素信号转导、丝裂原活化蛋白激酶和苯丙类生物合成途径。Chen等^[72]通过对苜蓿嫩芽和根部进行转录组分析,确定得到紫花苜蓿在脱水反应中的响应基因,明确了这些基因在脱水反应过程中参与了一些特定的信号转导途径、渗透调节和离子稳态调节。Ma等^[73]研究了叶片和根系对水分亏缺的转录变化,发现干旱胁迫下差异表达基因参与碳水化合物代谢、木质素和蜡质的生物合成。在蛋白质水平上,主要是通过激活CAT、SOD、POD、APX等抗氧化酶来维持植物细胞稳态并从脱水中解毒,以及确定出耐胁迫蛋白及参与的主要途径。如Zhang等^[74]鉴定得到干旱胁迫下2个品种中的差异积累蛋白(differentially accumulated proteins, DAPs),这些DAPs大多参与应激和防御、蛋白质代谢、跨膜运输、信号转导以及细胞壁和细胞骨架代谢。Ma等^[75]研究表明200 mmol·L⁻¹ NaCl和180 g·L⁻¹ 聚乙二醇(polyethylene glycol, PEG)处理下的中苜3号萌发期种子的部分蛋白主要参与防御反应、能量代谢、蛋白质合成和降解、氧化应激、碳水化合物代谢。Aranjuelo等^[76]通过研究固氮酶(nitrogenase, N_{ase})活性降低之后紫花苜蓿相关的蛋白质组学过程,发现干旱对紫花苜蓿生产性能的影响主要表现在影响光合作用和N_{ase}活性上。Rahman等^[77]为了评估紫花苜蓿对水分亏缺(water deficit, WD)胁迫的响应,采用蛋白质组学方法研究了WD诱导下的紫花苜蓿候选植株,鉴定得到49个WD响应蛋白,其中部分蛋白质参与钙信号、脱落酸(abscisic acid, ABA)生物合成、活性氧(reactive oxygen species, ROS)调节、转录/翻译、抗氧化/解毒/应激防御、能量代谢、信号转导和储存。在代谢水平上,主要是确定出了木质素和脯氨酸的合成、糖和氮的代谢等都参与了植物对干旱胁迫的响应^[33,78-80]。如Yang等^[81]采用5% PEG对WL-712紫花苜蓿品种幼苗进行模拟干旱处理,并喷施浓度为0.1 μmol·L⁻¹的一种人造的独脚金内酯类似物rac-GR24,处理3 d后收集了24 h内的根分泌物。测定了干旱条件下根系分泌物中rac-GR24调控的代谢产物。结果表明,rac-GR24处理可以缓解干旱对苜蓿根系的负面影响,提高渗透调节物质含量、细胞膜稳定性和抗氧化酶活性。rac-GR24可以通过三羧酸(tricarboxylic acid, TCA)循环、戊糖磷酸、酪氨酸代谢和嘌呤途径的代谢缓解干旱对苜蓿的不利影响。

1.3.2 抗旱性状标记 除了应用组学外,数量性状基因座(quantitative trait locus, QTL)定位和全基因组关联分析(genome-wide association analysis, GWAS)等方法也可对紫花苜蓿种质耐旱性状进行位点标记,确定出与耐旱相关的数量性状位点或基因等。如Jiang等^[82]对干旱胁迫下12个表型数据和150个F₁代群体进行耐旱性相关的基因位点鉴定和评价,确定得到31个候选基因和22个功能性候选蛋白。Ray等^[83]基于253个紫花苜蓿回交一代群体进行干旱胁迫条件下饲草产量相关的QTL检测和鉴定评价,分别鉴定得到10和15个QTL在干旱期间能提高或降低草产量。Santantonio等^[84]利用紫花苜蓿F₁代回交群体和334个分子标记的遗传图谱检测干旱胁迫下与茎部生物量(shoot biomass, SB)、碳(C)、氮(N)含量相关的QTL,结果表明,在以上QTL的位点有与气孔发

育、角质层蜡生物合成、碳氮代谢和非生物胁迫响应相关的多个候选基因。Yu^[85]对收集的200份紫花苜蓿种质进行基因分型和GWAS分析,结果表明,水分亏缺条件下共有28个标记与产量有关,同时也确定得到与抗旱性位点相关的富亮氨酸重复受体样激酶、B3 DNA结合域蛋白、翻译起始因子IF2和磷脂酶样蛋白。Zhang等^[86]对198份苜蓿品种和地方资源组成的种质群体进行GWAS分析,鉴定得到与抗旱指数(drought resistance index, DRI)、叶片相对含水量(relative leaf water content, RWC)相关的单核苷酸多态性(single nucleotide polymorphism, SNP)位点分别为19和15个,这些位点可能在响应干旱和非生物胁迫耐受性方面具有潜在的作用。

1.3.3 抗旱基因功能研究 随着分子生物学的发展,已对紫花苜蓿中挖掘出的抗旱关键基因进行了克隆和功能验证,初步阐明了紫花苜蓿的抗旱分子调控机制,其可能在将来用于分子遗传改良中^[69]。目前,已有基因被验证参与应答干旱胁迫(表1)。但是,这些基因只是被转化进入模式植物拟南芥(*Arabidopsis thaliana*)、烟草(*Nicotiana tabacum*)或者蒺藜苜蓿(*Medicago truncatula*)中进行功能验证,转入紫花苜蓿本体中的较少。因此紫花苜蓿的抗旱分子机理尚不是很明确,需进行进一步地深入探索。

表1 紫花苜蓿抗旱基因及其功能

Table 1 Drought resistance genes and their functions in *M. sativa*

基因 Genes	基因来源 Gene origins	转基因物种 Genetically modified species	功能 Functions	参考文献 References
<i>MsMYB58</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i>	烟草 <i>N. tabacum</i>	POD、CAT、SOD活性,Pro含量、叶绿素荧光参数PS II利用效率和PS II最大光化学量子产量增加,MDA含量、非光化学猝灭降低。POD, CAT, and SOD activities, Pro content, chlorophyll fluorescence parameters PS II utilisation efficiency and PS II maximum photochemical quantum yield increased, and MDA content and non-photochemical burst decreased.	[87]
<i>MsPPR1</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i>	烟草 <i>N. tabacum</i>	Pro含量升高,MDA含量降低。The MDA content decreased while the Pro content increased.	[88]
<i>MsASG166</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i>	拟南芥 <i>A. thaliana</i>	促进根长生长。Promoted root growth.	[89]
<i>MsSAP22</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i>	拟南芥 <i>A. thaliana</i>	萌发期的发芽率、苗期的相对根长及侧根数增加。Germination rate in the sprouting period, relative root length and number of lateral roots increased in the seedling stage.	[90]
<i>MsLEA10</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i>	拟南芥 <i>A. thaliana</i>	促进根长生长,SS和Pro含量升高,MDA含量和离子泄露水平降低。Promoted root length growth, SS and Pro content were increased, and MDA content and ion leakage levels were decreased.	[91]
<i>MsERF003</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i>	烟草 <i>N. tabacum</i>	保水性和Pro含量升高。Water retention and Pro content were increased.	[92]
<i>MsTH11</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i>	烟草 <i>N. tabacum</i>	维生素B1、叶绿素a、叶绿素b、SP含量和POD活性升高,膜脂过氧化程度降低。Vitamin B1, chlorophyll a, chlorophyll b, SP content and POD activity were increased, and membrane lipid peroxidation was decreased.	[93]
<i>MsHSP70</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i>	拟南芥 <i>A. thaliana</i>	Pro含量、SOD活性和RWC升高,MDA含量降低。Pro content, SOD activity and RWC were increased, and MDA content was decreased.	[94]
<i>MsSPL9</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i>	RWC和花青素含量升高,叶片衰老程度降低。RWC, anthocyanin content were increased, and leaf senescence were reduced.	[95]
<i>MsVDAC1</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i>	烟草 <i>N. tabacum</i>	MDA、谷胱甘肽、SS、SP和Pro含量升高。MDA, glutathione, SS, SP and Pro content were increased.	[96]
<i>MsLEA4-4</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i>	拟南芥 <i>A. thaliana</i>	侧根增多,SS含量、各种抗氧化酶活性和存活率升高,Pro和MDA含量降低。The number of lateral roots, SS content, activities of various antioxidant enzymes, and survival rate were increased, and Pro and MDA content were decreased.	[97]
<i>MsCML46</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i>	烟草 <i>N. tabacum</i>	渗透调节物质含量和抗氧化酶活性升高,ROS的积累量降低。The osmotic regulator content and antioxidant enzyme activities were increased, and the accumulation of ROS was reduced.	[98]

2 紫花苜蓿抗旱品种审定登记现状

紫花苜蓿的生产受到干旱等不利环境因素的严重影响,因而开发具有抗环境胁迫因子的紫花苜蓿品种是全球苜蓿可持续生产的必要条件。世界范围内紫花苜蓿的育种工作最早是在1903—1915年,在此期间培育了“Grimm”“Baltic”“Cossack”和“Ladak”等品种,其中品种“Ladak”是从印度北部的拉达克省引进到美国西部半干旱地区^[99]。20世纪50年代初,“Ladak”品种在美国北达科他州3个半干旱地区不管是在收获干草的草地系统中还是放牧系统中都是草产量最高、生命力最强和持久性最好的品种,为美国半干旱地区草产业的发展做出了巨大的贡献^[40]。同时,以此品种为亲本材料,育成了其他具有一定耐旱性的品种,如“Travios”^[100]、“Roamer”^[101]等。1970年以后,美国和加拿大开始开发极强抗旱性苜蓿品种,但其重点培育的是黄花苜蓿品种,而不是紫花苜蓿品种^[102–105]。但是,相比较紫花苜蓿,黄花苜蓿的抗旱性强,产草量却比紫花苜蓿低很多^[99]。我国是在1987和2019年分别由国家农业农村部和国家林业和草原局正式成立了全国草品种审定委员会,其审定的草品种按照育种目标分为抗旱、抗寒、抗病虫害、耐盐、耐湿热、耐牧、高产、优质等主要类型^[106–107]。截至2023年,我国牧草品种审定委员会审定登记的苜蓿属品种有120个,分别为育成品种、引进品种、地方品种和野生栽培品种,具体苜蓿属品种数量和紫花苜蓿品种的数量见图2(其中2021年之前的数据来源于参考文献^[107],2022—2023年的数据来源于<http://www.nahs.org.cn>和<https://www.forestry.gov.cn>,访问时间:2024年6月11日)。在以上紫花苜蓿品种中,有如中兰1号、美国苜蓿王、中兰2号等抗旱性强或较强的品种(表2~4),这些品种在我国北方苜蓿生产区发挥了很大的经济、社会和生态效益。总的来说,我国紫花苜蓿育种工作直至1980年之后才呈活跃状态,但整体取得了很大的进步。不过,相比较美国等发达国家,我国育成的紫花苜蓿品种数量还比较少。据美国官方种子认证机构协会(Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies, AOSCA)统计数据结果显示,2013—2022年美国审定登记的紫花苜蓿品种高达1136个,而我国在这一时期审定登记的紫花苜蓿品种仅有41个^[106]。仅在2023年,美国审定登记的紫花苜蓿品种数量是40个(数据来源于<http://www.naaic.org/resource/cultivar.php>,访问时间:2024年1月29日),接近于我国过去10年育成的紫花苜蓿品种数量,而我国审定的紫花苜蓿品种仅有2个(数据来源于<http://www.nahs.org.cn>,访问时间:2024年6月11日)。同时,我国目前育成的紫花苜蓿品种大部分都适应高水肥条件下生产,这有悖于当前我国的农业产业政策,也不能满足草畜产业的实际发展需求。因此,开发抗旱性紫花苜蓿品种是我国当前草学界需重点解决的问题之一。

在育种方法上,世界范围培育紫花苜蓿品种的方法主要集中于杂交育种、诱变育种、选择育种、雄性不育系育种等常规方法,而转基因育种、基因编辑育种和分子辅助设计育种为代表的生物育种技术应用较少^[116],且主要作为辅助手段。据统计,目前只有美国采用转基因育种方式选育出了抗除草剂草甘膦和木质素含量低的苜蓿品种^[117–118],并进行了生产和应用,而其他国家尚未有转基因紫花苜蓿品种或纯粹利用分子生物学育成紫花苜蓿品种的报道。

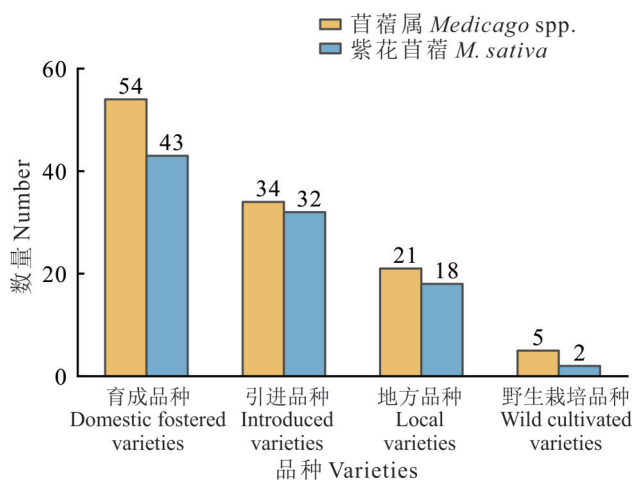


图2 我国审定登记的苜蓿属品种和紫花苜蓿品种

Fig. 2 *Medicago* spp. and *M. sativa* varieties validated and registered in China

表2 我国育成的具有抗旱特性的紫花苜蓿品种

Table 2 Bred *M. sativa* varieties with drought-resistant characteristics in China

品种 Varieties	抗旱性及适宜种植区域 Drought resistance and suitable cultivation areas	选育单位 Breeding institutes	文献 References
中兰1号 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Zhonglan No. 1	抗旱性中等;适宜种植在黄土高原降水量为350 mm半干旱半湿润的旱作或灌溉地区。Medium drought resistance. It is suitable for planting in dry or irrigated areas of the Loess Plateau where the precipitation is 350 mm semi-arid and semi-humid.	中国农业科学院兰州畜牧与兽药研究所 Lanzhou Institute of Husbandry and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences	[108]
中兰2号 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Zhonglan No. 2	抗旱性强;适宜种植在黄土高原半干旱半湿润的旱作地区。Strong drought resistance. It is suitable for planting in semi-arid and semi-humid dry farming areas on the Loess Plateau.	中国农业科学院兰州畜牧与兽药研究所 Lanzhou Institute of Husbandry and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences; 甘肃农业大学 Gansu Agricultural University	[109]
敖汉苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Aohan	抗旱性强;适宜栽培于年降水量为260~460 mm的我国东北、华北和西北各省区。Strong drought resistance; Suitable for cultivation in the annual precipitation of 260—460 mm in China's northeastern, northern and northwestern provinces and regions.	内蒙古农牧学院 Inner Mongolia College of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry; 内蒙古赤峰市草原站 Chifeng Grassland Station of Inner Mongolia; 内蒙古赤峰市敖汉旗草原站 Aohanqi Grassland Station of Chifeng City of Inner Mongolia	[110—111]
图牧2号 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Tumu No. 2	抗旱性强;适宜在内蒙古东部地区和吉林、黑龙江省种植。Strong drought resistance; It is suitable for cultivation in the eastern part of Inner Mongolia and Jilin and Heilongjiang Provinces.	内蒙古图牧吉草地研究所 Inner Mongolia Tumuji Grassland Research Institute	[111]
新牧2号 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Xinmu No. 2	具有抗旱特性; 适宜焉营盆地各农区、南疆塔里木盆地、宁夏引黄灌区、甘肃省河西走廊等地种植。It has drought resistance characteristics. It is suitable for planting in the agricultural areas of Yanying Basin, Tarim Basin in southern Xinjiang, Yellow River Diversion irrigation area of Ningxia, Hexi Corridor of Gansu Province, etc.	新疆农业大学畜牧分院 Animal Husbandry Branch, Xinjiang Agricultural University	[111]
中苜1号 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Zhongmu No. 1	耐旱性好;适宜黄淮海平原及渤海湾一带的盐碱地,也可种植于其他类似的内陆盐碱地。Good drought tolerance. It is suitable for saline soils along the Huanghuaihai Plain and Bohai Bay, and can also be grown in other similar inland saline soils.	中国农业科学院畜牧兽医研究所 Institute of Animal Science, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences	[111]
甘农3号 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Gannong No. 3	抗旱性中等,适宜黄土高原地区和西北内陆灌溉农业区。Medium drought resistance. Suitable for the Loess Plateau region and the inland irrigated agricultural areas of Northwest China.	甘肃农业大学 Gansu Agricultural University; 甘肃创绿草业科技有限公司 Gansu Chuanglv Grass Science & Technology Co.	[111]
龙牧806 <i>M. sativa</i> × <i>M. ruthenica</i> cv. Longmu 806	抗旱性强;适宜种植在东北寒冷气候区、西部半干旱地区及盐碱地,也可以种植在我国西北、华北及内蒙古等地。Strong drought resistance; It is suitable for planting in the cold climate zone in the northeast, semi-arid areas in the west, and saline and alkaline land, and can also be planted in the northwest, North China and Inner Mongolia of China.	黑龙江省农业科学院畜牧研究所 Institute of Animal Husbandry, Heilongjiang Academy of Agricultural Sciences	[112—113]
公农3号 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Gongnong No. 3	耐旱;适宜东北、西北、华北北纬46°以南、年降水量为350~550 mm的区域。Drought-resistant. It is suitable for areas south of 46° N latitude in Northeast and Northwest China with annual precipitation of 350—550 mm.	吉林省农业科学院畜牧分院草地研究所 Grassland Research Institute, Animal Husbandry Branch, Jilin Academy of Agricultural Sciences	[112]
中苜4号 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Zhongmu No. 4	抗旱性中等;适宜种植于黄淮海地区及其类似区域。Medium drought resistance. Suitable for planting in the Huanghuaihai area and its similar regions.	中国农业科学院北京畜牧兽医研究所 Institute of Animal Science, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences	[114]
甘农7号 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Gannong No. 7	抗旱性较好;适宜种植于黄土高原半干旱、半湿润地区和北方类似地区。Good drought tolerance. It is suitable for planting in semi-arid and semi-humid areas of the Loess Plateau and similar areas in the north.	甘肃创绿草业科技有限公司 Gansu Chuanglv Grass Science & Technology Co.; 甘肃农业大学草业学院 College of Pratacultural Science, Gansu Agricultural University	[114]

表 3 我国引进的具有抗旱特性的紫花苜蓿品种

Table 3 Introduced *M. sativa* varieties with drought resistance characteristics in China

品种 Varieties	抗旱性及适宜种植区域 Drought resistance and suitable cultivation areas	来源国家 Country of origin	文献 References
美国苜蓿王 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Alfaking	抗旱性强;适宜种植在我国黄土高原半干旱半湿润雨养区和西部干旱灌区。Strong drought resistance. It is suitable for planting in semi-arid and semi-humid rain-fed areas and arid irrigated areas in western China.	美国 America	[115]
牧歌 401+Z <i>M. sativa</i> cv. AmeriGraze 401+Z	抗旱性强;适宜种植在华北大部分地区,以及东北、西北及华中地区。Strong drought resistance. It is suitable for planting in most parts of north China, as well as northeast, northwest and central China.	美国 America	[112]
金黄后 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Golden Empress	抗旱性较好;适宜我国北方有灌溉条件的干旱、半干旱地区。Good drought tolerance. It is suitable for arid and semi-arid areas with irrigation conditions in northern China.	美国 America	[112]
皇冠 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Phabulous	抗旱性较好;适宜华北、西北、东北地区南部,华中及苏北等区域。Good drought tolerance. It is suitable for north China, northwest China, south northeast China, central China and north Jiangsu Province and other regions.	加拿大 Canada	[112]
维克多 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Vector	抗旱性较好;适宜我国华北和华中地区。Good drought tolerance. It is suitable for north and central China.	加拿大 Canada	[112]
WL232HQ <i>M. sativa</i> cv. WL232HQ	抗旱性强;适宜我国北方干旱半干旱地区种植。Strong drought resistance. It is suitable for cultivation in arid and semi-arid areas in the north of China.	美国 America	[112]

表 4 我国审定的具有抗旱特性的紫花苜蓿地方品种

Table 4 Local varieties of *M. sativa* with drought-resistant characteristics approved in China

品种 Varieties	抗旱性及适宜种植区域 Drought resistance and suitable cultivation areas	选育单位 Breeding institutes	文献 References
北疆苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Beijiang	抗旱性强;适宜我国北方各省、区种植。Strong drought resistance. Suitable for planting in northern provinces and districts of China.	新疆农业大学畜牧分院 Animal Husbandry Branch, Xinjiang Agricultural University	[111]
关中苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Guanzhong	抗旱性中等;适宜渭水流域、渭北旱塬及与山西晋南、关中类似气候区种植。Medium drought resistance. It is suitable for planting in Weihe River basin, Weibei dry tableland and similar climatic areas with Shanxi, Jinnan and Guanzhong.	西北农业大学 Northwest Agricultural University	[111]
河西苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Hexi	耐旱性强;适宜黄土高原地区及西北各省荒漠、半荒漠、干旱有灌溉条件的区域。Strong drought resistance. It is suitable for irrigation in desert, semi-desert and arid areas of Loess Plateau and northwest provinces.	甘肃农业大学 Gansu Agricultural University; 甘肃省畜牧厅 Gansu Provincial Animal Husbandry Department; 甘肃省饲草饲料技术推广总站 Gansu Forage Feed Technology Extension Station	[111]
晋南苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Jinnan	抗旱性中等;适宜在年平均气温在 9~14 °C, 年降水量在 300~550 mm 的地区种植。Medium drought resistance. It is suitable for planting in areas where the annual average temperature is 9~14 °C, and the annual precipitation is 300~550 mm.	山西省农业科学院畜牧兽医研究所 Institute of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Medicine, Shanxi Academy of Agricultural Sciences; 山西省运城地区农牧局牧草站 Bureau Forage Station of Shanxi Yuncheng District Agriculture and Animal Husbandry	[111]
陇东苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Longdong	耐旱性强;最适宜黄土高原地区栽培。Strong drought resistance. It is most suitable for cultivation in Loess Plateau area.	甘肃草原生态研究所 Gansu Grassland Ecology Research Institute; 甘肃农业大学 Gansu Agricultural University; 甘肃省畜牧厅 Gansu Provincial Animal Husbandry Department; 甘肃省饲草饲料技术推广总站 Gansu Forage Feed Technology Extension Station	[111]
陇中苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Longzhong	抗旱性强;最适宜黄土高原地区种植,也可在长城沿线干旱风沙地区栽培。Strong drought resistance. It is most suitable for planting in Loess Plateau area, and can also be cultivated in arid and sandy areas along the Great Wall.	甘肃省饲草饲料技术推广总站 Gansu Forage Feed Technology Extension Station; 甘肃省畜牧厅 Gansu Provincial Animal Husbandry Department; 甘肃农业大学 Gansu Agricultural University	[111]

续表 Continued Table

品种 Varieties	抗旱性及适宜种植区域 Drought resistance and suitable cultivation areas	选育单位 Breeding institutes	文献 References
内蒙准格尔苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Neimeng Zhungeer	抗旱性强;适应在内蒙古中、西部以及相邻的陕北、宁夏部分地区。Strong drought resistance. It is suitable for planting in central and western Inner Mongolia as well as parts of neighboring northern Shaanxi and Ningxia.	内蒙古农牧学院 Inner Mongolia College of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry; 内蒙古草原工作站 Grassland Workstation of Inner Mongolia	[111]
陕北苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Shanbei	抗旱性较强;适宜在黄土高原北部、长城沿线风沙地区。More drought resistant. It is suitable for cultivation in the northern part of Loess Plateau and the wind-blown sand area along the Great Wall.	西北农业大学 Northwest Agricultural University	[111]
无棣苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Wudi	抗旱性强;适宜鲁西北渤海湾一带以及类似地区。Strong drought resistance. It is suitable for Bohai Bay area in northwest Shandong Province and similar areas.	中国农业科学院畜牧研究所 Institute of Animal Science, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences; 山东省无棣县畜牧局 Wudi County Animal Husbandry Bureau, Shandong Province	[111]
蔚县苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Yuxian	抗旱性强;适宜种植于河北省北部、西部,山西省北部和内蒙古自治区中西部地区。Strong drought resistance. It is suitable for planting in northern and western Hebei Province, northern Shanxi Province and central and western Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.	河北省张家口市草原畜牧研究所 Hebei Zhangjiakou Grassland Animal Husbandry Institute; 河北省蔚县畜牧局 Yu County Animal of Husbandry Bureau of Hebei Province; 河北省阳原县畜牧局 Animal Husbandry Bureau of Yangyuan County of Hebei Province	[111]
肇东苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Zhaodong	抗旱性强;适宜在北方寒冷湿润及半干旱地区种植。Strong drought resistance. It is suitable for planting in cold, humid and semi-arid areas in the north.	黑龙江省农业科学院畜牧研究所 Institute of Animal Husbandry, Heilongjiang Academy of Agricultural Sciences	[111]
保定苜蓿 <i>M. sativa</i> cv. Baoding	耐旱性较好;适宜北京、天津、河北、山东、山西、甘肃、宁夏、青海东部、辽宁、吉林中南部等地区。More drought resistant. Suitable for Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Shandong, Shanxi, Gansu, Ningxia, eastern Qinghai, Liaoning, South-central Jilin and other regions.	中国农业科学院畜牧研究所 Institute of Animal Science, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences	[112]

3 紫花苜蓿抗旱育种存在的问题及挑战

3.1 种质资源存在重收集、轻评价现象

资料显示,我国苜蓿种质资源开展的相关工作存在一定不足,比如存在重收集及轻评价的现象。截至2018年,在全国畜牧总站收集的5.58万份牧草种质资源中,完成抗性评价的种质资源仅有8758份^[106,119]。同时,在资源的评价中,评价工作存在不完整性,大部分种质只是就表型、生理指标存在抗旱性评价,且评价指标较少,同时也没有将评价结果与图片等结合起来,从而导致紫花苜蓿种质资源存在有评价,但无充分利用的现象^[120]。

3.2 缺乏统一的抗旱性鉴定评价体系

紫花苜蓿抗旱性鉴定是抗旱育种工作的基础,但目前缺乏统一、标准的抗旱性鉴定体系。比如,大部分研究机构和学者可能采用不同的指标和评价标准,这导致抗旱性鉴定结果的可比性和可靠性受到一定程度的影响。比如,赵海明等^[121]的研究认为紫花苜蓿苗期抗旱性评价的指标是地上地下生物量、根长、株高、分枝数和根冠比,张荟荟等^[56]的研究认为苗期功能叶的长度、宽度、株高、干物质4个指标是紫花苜蓿苗期抗旱性评价的重要指标。翟春梅等^[64]的研究认为苗期的存活率是紫花苜蓿抗旱能力强弱判定最直接的指标,同时也认为苗期叶片长度、宽度、地下生物量胁迫指数、干物质含量胁迫指数、根冠比胁迫指数这些指标可操作性强、代表性高,与生产实践结合紧密,且能区分又具独立性,是紫花苜蓿抗旱性综合评价指标。韩瑞宏等^[122]的研究认为苗期根冠比、根长、根冠比胁迫指数、根长胁迫指数、地下生物量胁迫指数、旱害指数、恢复指数7个指标能反映出苜蓿的抗旱性。以上的例证说明就苗期的抗旱性鉴定评价指标,大部分学者的研究结果也存在较大的差异,不具有统一性,更何况紫

花苜蓿的全生育周期内的抗旱评价指标。因此,建立统一、标准的抗旱性鉴定评价体系,是当前亟待解决的问题之一。

3.3 抗旱相关基因挖掘不足和抗旱调控分子机制不明

随着分子生物学的发展,近年来对紫花苜蓿抗旱相关基因的研究不断深入,挖掘到相关抗旱功能基因和调节基因^[27,123-125],探索了其抗旱基因在应答干旱胁迫过程中的功能。但相对于其他作物或模式植物,紫花苜蓿抗旱相关基因的挖掘仍然不足,这严重约束了紫花苜蓿的育种和遗传改良。同时,由于紫花苜蓿是多年生、同源四倍体($2n=4x=32$)、异花授粉植物,存在自交不亲和、近交衰退、高度杂合、基因组多倍化、结构复杂及普遍庞大等特性^[126-127],因而不存在两粒紫花苜蓿种子的基因组是一致的这种情况,从而导致其抗旱相关基因的克隆和功能验证更加困难^[89]。因此,加强抗旱相关基因的挖掘和功能验证,找寻出新的抗旱来源,是未来紫花苜蓿抗旱育种的重要方向。

作为重要的牧草种类之一,紫花苜蓿的抗旱分子机制已成为当前的重点及热点研究之一。研究显示,在紫花苜蓿(新疆大叶、中苜1号)基因组分别公布以后^[128-129],结合转录组^[130]和全基因组关联性分析^[69,86],对紫花苜蓿抗旱分子机制的研究较以前更深入了一步,同时也鉴定出了许多抗旱表型和生理相关联的候选基因,并对其功能进行了验证。但是,因紫花苜蓿的抗旱性是受多基因控制的性状,是一个复杂的生物学过程,涉及多个基因和代谢途径的协同作用^[131],从而限制了传统育种的成功,因此,利用转基因等生物技术培育抗旱性品种已然成为一种趋势^[132]。但目前对紫花苜蓿抗旱分子机制的研究深度不够,这制约了抗旱育种工作的深入开展。因此,揭示紫花苜蓿抗旱分子机制是从根本上提高其抗旱性的主要方法,这对于抗旱育种具有重要的意义。

3.4 抗旱性状遗传转化率低

在紫花苜蓿抗旱育种中,通过选择育种、杂交育种和诱变育种等传统育种手段将抗旱优良性状导入到优异品种中,费力、费时、费资源,且因不良基因存在连锁现象,以及筛选困难,还使得结果存在不确定性,这在很大程度上限制了紫花苜蓿抗旱育种和遗传改良的进程^[133]。而通过转基因手段将外源抗旱相关基因导入到紫花苜蓿有机体中并表达,能得到性状改良的抗旱新种质材料或资源^[134](表5)。同时,也可采用基因编辑手段直接修改对干旱敏感的紫花苜蓿自身的基因组,以达到精准修改和调整抗旱目标基因的目的。但是,在紫花苜蓿抗旱育种中,转基因和基因编辑等分子生物学手段虽然较传统育种可以缩短育种周期,并能根据育种目标进行遗传改良。但在利用生物学方法进行育种和遗传改良过程中,遗传转化是前提和基础。对任何一个物种来说,若要开展转基因或基因编辑育种,高效的遗传转化体系的建立是必不可少的。目前,我国虽然在包括紫花苜蓿、白三叶(*Trifolium repens*)、多年生黑麦草(*Lolium perenne*)、百脉根(*Lotus corniculatus*)、蒺藜苜蓿、二穗短柄草(*Brachypodium distachyon*)等在的牧草中建立了比较成熟的遗传转化体系^[133],但紫花苜蓿的遗传转化效率仍较低^[135-137],且容易受到技术、法规和伦理等因素的限制。因此,如何提高紫花苜蓿遗传转化率,是当前抗旱紫花苜蓿分子育种中面临的挑战之一。

3.5 抗旱性育种周期长

首先因紫花苜蓿的抗旱性是受多基因控制的复杂性状,所以根据抗旱育种目标需收集大量的遗传变异材料,筛选出具有优良抗旱性的材料或基因资源,这是耗时耗力的过程,需要进行多代的试验和选择,才能逐步聚合到优良抗旱材料或抗旱基因。其次,紫花苜蓿抗旱育种需要不停地对材料进行逐代的观察、淘汰,同时也需要对每一代材料从生长、生理、生化、遗传及分子等多个方面的数据进行多维度的分析和比较,这一过程也需要耗费大量的时间,同时也必须具备数据处理和分析的能力,以此来确保结果的准确性和可靠性。再就是紫花苜蓿多年生、种子较小,且为双子叶植物,其大田种植当年无法进行数据的测定或当年因建植、出苗等原因,测定的结果不具可靠性,这就进一步延长了抗旱育种的周期。因此,如何缩短紫花苜蓿的育种周期,是提高其抗旱育种效率的关键。

3.6 群体遗传多样性下降

遗传多样性是物种进化和适应环境变化的基础。在自然界,许多物种遗传多样性都很丰富,这使得它们能够

表5 转入紫花苜蓿的外源基因及其功能

Table 5 Exogenous genes transferred to *M. sativa* and functions

外源基因 Exogenous genes	外源物种 Exogenous species	转基因物种 Genetically modified species	功能 Functions	参考文献 References
<i>CsALDH</i> 、 <i>BAR</i>	无芒隐子草 <i>Cleisto-</i> <i>genes songorica</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sa-</i> <i>tiva</i>	RWC和地上生物量升高,膜伤害和渗透胁迫水平降低。RWC and aboveground biomass were elevated, and levels of membrane injury and osmotic stress were reduced.	[138]
<i>AtEDT1</i>	拟南芥 <i>A. thaliana</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sa-</i> <i>tiva</i>	存活率、生物量、气孔大小、根系大小、根长、根重、根直径,叶绿素、SS、Pro含量和SOD活性升高,失水率、气孔密度、质膜透性和MDA含量降低。Survival rate, biomass, stomatal size, root size, root length, root weight, root diameter, chlorophyll content, SS content, Pro content and SOD activity were elevated, while water loss rate, stomatal density, plasma membrane permeability and MDA content were reduced.	[139]
<i>AtABF3</i>	拟南芥 <i>A. thaliana</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sa-</i> <i>tiva</i>	叶片枯萎速度、蒸腾速率和ROS含量降低。Leaf wilting rate, transpiration rate and ROS content were reduced.	[140]
<i>AtNDPK2</i>	拟南芥 <i>A. thaliana</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sa-</i> <i>tiva</i>	RWC、Pro含量升高,叶片枯萎速度、失水率和MDA含量降低。RWC, Pro content were increased, leaf wilting rate, water loss rate and MDA content were decreased.	[141]
<i>MtWXP1</i>	蒺藜苜蓿 <i>M. trun-</i> <i>catula</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sa-</i> <i>tiva</i>	净光合速率、蒸腾速率、气孔导度、光系统II的效率、光系统II的量子效率、光化学猝灭系数、表观电子传递速率、RWC和叶水势升高。Net photosynthetic rate, transpiration rate and stomatal conductance, photosystem II efficiency, quantum efficiency of photosystem II, photochemical burst coefficient, apparent electron transfer rate, RWC and leaf water potential were increased.	[142]
<i>AgcodA</i>	球形接杆菌 <i>Arthro-</i> <i>bacter globiformis</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sa-</i> <i>tiva</i>	RWC,甜菜碱和Pro含量升高。RWC, betaine and Pro content were increased.	[143]
<i>GsWRKY20</i>	野大豆 <i>Glycine soja</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sa-</i> <i>tiva</i>	Pro和SS含量升高,膜透性和MDA含量降低。Pro and SS content were increased, and membrane permeability and MDA content were decreased.	[144]
<i>ZxABCG11</i>	霸王 <i>Zygophyllum</i> <i>xanthoxylum</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sa-</i> <i>tiva</i>	株高、地上生物量、角质层蜡质、保水能力和光合能力升高,角质层的透性降低。Plant height, aboveground biomass, cuticle wax, water retention capacity and photosynthetic capacity were increased, while cuticle permeability were decreased.	[145]
<i>CsP5CDH1</i>	无芒隐子草 <i>C.</i> <i>songorica</i>	紫花苜蓿 <i>M. sa-</i> <i>tiva</i>	Pro含量升高,叶片失水率降低。Pro content were elevated, while leaf water loss rate were reduced.	[146]

在不同的环境下生存和繁衍,然而,因我国现有的紫花苜蓿种质经过以产量为主要目标的多年人工选择和系统驯化,其后代群体的遗传基础越来越窄,遗传多样性降低,这意味着适应环境和抗逆性的能力有限,难以应对不断变化的环境条件。同时,种质遗传多样性的降低也影响到了紫花苜蓿的育种和改良进程。在抗旱紫花苜蓿育种过程中,需要利用不同基因型之间的差异来进行选择和杂交,以此获得具有优良性状的抗旱品种。但因紫花苜蓿群体的遗传多样性降低,可供选择的基因有限,这就使得抗旱育种进程也变慢,也限制了紫花苜蓿的改良潜力,使其难以满足不断增长的需求。因此,加强全球范围内的紫花苜蓿种质资源的收集、保存和评价工作,尽可能多地保存不同旱作生态环境下生长的种质资源,发掘新的抗旱种质资源,是提高抗旱育种成效的重要途径。

4 我国紫花苜蓿抗旱育种展望

随着农业产业结构调整及世界育种“4.0时代”的到来,未来我国抗旱紫花苜蓿品种的培育,可从以下几个方面进行深入。一是可应用全基因组选择、转基因、基因编辑、分子标记辅助选择、人工智能及合成生物等新技术手段^[147],精准地定向改良紫花苜蓿的抗旱性能,提高育种效率,加速育成新品种^[106]。二是因为紫花苜蓿基因的多效性和累加效应,单纯依靠个别基因的表达可能无法达到抗旱育种的目标,可将分子生物学育种方法与常规育种方

法紧密结合,从而实现快速、有效育种。三是未来紫花苜蓿的抗旱育种研究应继续深入挖掘抗旱相关基因,探索新的育种策略,并结合其他逆境性状(耐寒性、耐盐碱、耐热性等)进行综合改良,以适应日益严峻的环境条件。四是在紫花苜蓿的抗旱品种培育中,应挖掘和利用野生种及近缘种植物,发掘出更多的抗旱相关基因。比如,蒺藜苜蓿、黄花苜蓿、天蓝苜蓿与紫花苜蓿亲缘关系较近,它们含有丰富的抗旱基因^[148-150],是紫花苜蓿最重要的抗旱基因源,能为紫花苜蓿的抗旱育种和遗传改良提供遗传材料。五是未来需继续加强紫花苜蓿种质资源的收集保存,以及开展抗旱表型和基因型的精准鉴定评价,厘清资源遗传背景,构建整合出紫花苜蓿种质资源数据库,为抗旱种质的充分利用奠定材料基础及提供技术支撑,也为抗旱紫花苜蓿品种选育提供科学的基础平台^[151]。

综上所述,紫花苜蓿抗旱育种研究对于提高干旱和半干旱地区农业生产水平、保障国家粮食安全、食品安全、生态安全及推进乡村振兴都具有重要意义。因此,育种工作者需深入开展紫花苜蓿种质资源的收集、抗旱精准鉴定评价、创制利用和育种研究,培育出更多具有优良抗旱性能的紫花苜蓿品种,从根本上解决农业产业发展中存在的“卡脖子”关键问题,推动经济社会发展。

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