

**Title** 1-Methylcyclopropene prevents ethylene induced yellowing of rocket leaves  
**Author** Athanasios Koukounaras, Anastasios S. Siomos and Evangelos Sfakiotakis  
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#### **Abstract**

Fully expanded rocket (*Eruca sativa* Mill.) leaves were treated with 1-methylcyclopropene (1-MCP, SmartFresh™) at a concentration of  $0.5 \mu\text{l l}^{-1}$  for 4 h at 10 °C before storage for 10 days in air or in air with ethylene ( $1 \mu\text{l l}^{-1}$ ). The untreated leaves stored in air showed a progressive yellowing during storage, resulting in a shelf life of about 10 days. The presence of exogenous ethylene in the storage room increased yellowing, and consequently it shortened shelf life by about 2 days. A prestorage treatment with the ethylene action inhibitor 1-MCP prevented yellowing of leaves and shortening of shelf life, which was induced by ethylene.