

Title Use of salicylic acid to increase strawberry fruit total antioxidant activity

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Abstract

Effect of Salicylic acid treatment at different concentrations during different growth stages of strawberry (*Fragaria x ananassa* cv.Selva) on fruit total antioxidant activity (TAA) was studied. When applied constantly at least at 2 stages, salicylic acid at all concentrations (1, 2 and 4 mmol/L) effectively enhanced fruit TAA and it was most effective when applied at vegetative + fruit development + postharvest stages. Single treatment strategy was not effective in fruit TAA increase. Treatment with 2 mmol/L SA was more effective than 1 mmol/L and it was more effective than 4 mmol/L in increasing fruit TAA. Postharvest treatment with 4 mmol salicylic acid caused damage to fruit and decreased fruit TAA compared to control.