

Title Postharvest metabolomics
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Abstract

In this paper we will introduce metabolomics as a new and powerful tool to study the postharvest physiology of fruit and vegetables. We will first give an overview of the underlying technology, with special attention to sample preparation and mass spectrometry. As metabolomics dataset are typically very large, we will discuss appropriate multivariate statistical analysis techniques. Finally, we will present some postharvest applications of metabolic fingerprinting and profiling, and explore the potential of metabolic flux analysis and kinetic modelling.