

CURRICULUM VITAE

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Gene discovery and elucidation of the mechanisms underlying phytonutrient and micronutrient metabolism, as well as plant biotechnology for improving the nutritional quality and health-promoting properties of food crops. Current research focuses primarily on carotenoid, anthocyanin, and glucosinolate metabolism as well as selenium and zinc nutrition in plants.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Plant Biochemistry and Physiology, University of Reading, U. K.; Ph.D.
Horticulture, Sichuan Agricultural University, P. R. China; B.S.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016-present Adjunct Professor, Plant Breeding and Genetics Section, School of Integrative Plant Science, Cornell University
2009-2015 Adjunct Associate Professor, Plant Breeding and Genetics Section, School of Integrative Plant Science, Cornell University
2003-2008 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics, Cornell University
2002-present Research Molecular Biologist (Plant), USDA-ARS, Plant, Soil and Nutrition Laboratory, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
1995-2002 Research Associate IV, Department of Plant Biology, Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics, Cornell University
1993-1994 Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Biochemistry, University of Missouri-Columbia
1988-1992 Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Biochemistry, MSU-DOE Plant Research Laboratory, Michigan State University
1984-1988 Graduate Assistant, Department of Botany, Reading University, U. K.

TEACHING

Co-Instructor of Nutritional Quality Improvement of Food Crops (PLBRG 4070)
Guest Lecturer in several courses

PUBLICATIONS

2020

Sun T, Yuan Y, Chen C, Kadirjan-Kalbach DK, Mazourek M, Osteryoung KW, Li L (2020) ORHis, a natural variant of OR, specifically interacts with plastid division factor ARC3 to regulate chromoplast number and carotenoid accumulation. *Molecular Plant* 13:864-878

Stange C, Rodriguez-Concepcion M, Li L (2020) Editorial: Illuminating carotenoid synthesis and plastid transition in plants. *Frontier in Plant Science* 11:301

Zeng S, Huang S, Yang T, Biao T, Ai P, Li L, Hayward A, Wang Y (2020) Comparative proteomic and ultrastructural analysis shed light on fruit pigmentation distinct in two Lycium species. *Industrial Crops & Products* 147:112267

Zhu Q, Wang B, Tan J, Liu T, Li L, Liu YG (2020) Plant synthetic metabolic engineering for enhancing crop nutritional quality. *Plant Communications* 1:100017

Sun T, Tadmor Y, Li L (2020) Pathways for Carotenoid Biosynthesis, Degradation, and Storage. In: Rodríguez-Concepción M., Welsch R. (eds) *Plant and Food Carotenoids. Methods in Molecular Biology*, vol 2083. Humana, New York, NY, p3-23

Welsch R, Zhou X, Koschmieder J, Schlossarek T, Yuan H, Sun T, Li L (2020) Characterization of cauliflower OR mutant variants. *Frontier in Plant Science* 10:1716

Tan H, Wang X, Fei Z, Li H, Tadmor Y, Mazourek M, Li L (2020) Genetic mapping of green curd gene *Gr* in cauliflower. *Theoretical and Applied Genetics* 133:353-364

Sun T, Li L (2020) Toward the ‘golden’ era: the status in uncovering regulatory control of carotenoid accumulation in plants. *Plant Science* 290:110343

2019

Sun T, Zhou F, Huang X, Kong M, Chen W, Li L, Lu S (2019) ORANGE represses chloroplast biogenesis in etiolated Arabidopsis cotyledons via interacting with TCP14. *The Plant Cell* 31:2996-3014

Santiago FEM, Tian M, Boldrin PF, Li L (2019) Effects of selenium treatment on sulfur nutrition and metabolism. *Selenium Research for Environment and Human Health: Perspectives, Technologies, and Advancements* (edited by G Banuelos, ZQ Lin, D Liang, and XB Yin). CRC Press, p47-48

Feder A, Chayut N, Gur A, Freiman Z, Tzuri G, Meir A, Gal-On A, Shnaider Y, Wolf D, Katzir N, Schaffer A, Burger J, Li L and Tadmor Y (2019) The role of the carotenogenic metabolic flux in carotenoid accumulation and chromoplast differentiation: lessons from the melon fruit. *Frontier in Plant Science* 10:1250

Cao H, Luo H, Yuan H, Eissa MA, Thannhauser TW, Welsch R, Hao YJ, Cheng L, Li L (2019) A neighboring aromatic-aromatic amino acid combination governs activity divergence of tomato PSY1 and PSY2. *Plant Physiology* 180:1988-2003

Yazdani M, Sun Z, Yuan H, Zeng S, Thannhauser T, Vrebalov J, Ma Q, Xu Y, Fei Z, Van Eck J, Tian S, Tadmor Y, Giovannoni J, Li L (2019) Ectopic expression of ORANGE promotes carotenoid accumulation and fruit development in tomato. *Plant Biotechnology Journal* 17:33-49

2018

Huang D, Wang X, Tang Z, Yuan Y, Xu Y, He J, Jiang X, Peng SA, Li L, Butelli E, Deng X, Xu Q (2018) Subfunctionalization of the *Ruby2-Ruby1* gene cluster during the domestication of citrus. *Nature Plants* 4:930-941

Tian M, Yang Y, Avila FW, Fish T, Yuan H, Hui M, Pan S, Thannhauser T, Li L (2018) Effects of selenium supplementation on glucosinolate biosynthesis in broccoli. *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry* 66:8036-8044

Welsch R*, Zhou X*, Yuan H*, Álvarez D, Sun T, Schlossarek D, Yang Y, Shen G, Zhang H, Rodriguez-Concepcion M, Thannhauser TW, and Li L (2018) Clp protease and OR directly control the proteostasis of phytoene synthase, the crucial enzyme for carotenoid biosynthesis in Arabidopsis. *Molecular Plant* 11:149-162

Sun T, Yuan H, Cao H, Yazdani M, Tadmor Y, Li L (2018) Carotenoid metabolism in plants: The role of plastids. *Molecular Plant* 11:58-74

D'Andrea L, Simon-Moya M, Llorente B, Llamas E, Marro M, Loza-Alvarez P, Li L, Rodriguez-Concepcion M (2018) Interference with Clp protease impairs carotenoid accumulation during tomato fruit ripening. *Journal of Experimental Botany* 69:1557-1568

2017

Tian M, Hui M, Thannhauser TW, Pan S, Li L (2017) Selenium-induced toxicity is counteracted by sulfur in broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* L. var. *italica*). *Frontiers in Plant Science* 8:1425

Gur A, Tzuri G, Meir A, Sa'ar U, Portnoy V, Katzir N, Schaffer A, Li L, Burger J, Tadmor Y (2017) Genome-wide linkage-disequilibrium mapping to the candidate gene level in melon (*Cucumis melo*). *Scientific Reports* 7:9770

Zhou X, Zha M, Huang J, Li L, Imran M, Zhang C (2017) StMYB44 negatively regulates phosphate transport by suppressing expression of *PHOSPHATE1* in potato. *Journal of Experimental Botany* 68:1265-1281

Figueiredo MA, Boldrin PF, Hart JJ, De Andrade MJB, Guilherme LRG, Glahn RP, Li L (2017) Zinc and selenium accumulation and their effect on iron bioavailability in common bean seeds. *Plant Physiology and Biochemistry* 111:193-202

Chayut N, Yuan H, Ohali S, Meir A, Sa'ar U, Tzuri G, Zheng Y, Mazourek M, Gepstein S, Zhou X, Portnoy V, Lewinsohn E, Schaffer AA, Katzir N, Fei Z, Welsch R, Li L, Burger J, Tadmor Y (2017) Distinct mechanisms of the ORANGE protein in controlling carotenoid flux. *Plant physiology* 173:376-389

2016

Qin G, Zhu Z, Wang W, Cai J, Chen Y, Li L, Tian S (2016) A tomato vacuolar invertase inhibitor mediates sucrose metabolism and influences fruit ripening. *Plant Physiology* 172:1596-1611

Li L, Yuan H, Zeng Y, Xu Q (2016) Plastids and carotenoid accumulation. In “*Carotenoid Function and Biosynthesis in Plants*” (edited by Claudia Stange), the Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology book series, Springer. Chapter 10.

Boldrin P, Figueiredo M, Yang Y, Luo H, Giri S, Hart JJ, Faquim V, Guilherme LRG, Thannhauser T, Li L (2016) Selenium promotes sulfur accumulation and plant growth in wheat (*Triticum aestivum*). *Physiologia Plantarum* 158:80-91

Liu C, Long J, Zhu K, Liu L, Yang W, Zhang H, Li L, Xu Q, and Deng X (2016) Characterization of a citrus R2R3-MYB transcription factor that regulates the flavonol and hydroxycinnamic acid biosynthesis. *Scientific Reports* 6:25352

Zhang J*, Yuan H*, Yang Y, Fish T, Lyi SM, Thannhauser TW, Zhang L, Li L. (2016) Plastid ribosomal protein S5 is required for normal chloroplast function and plant development in Arabidopsis. *Journal of Experimental Botany* 67:2731-2744

2015

Chayut N, Yuan H, Ohali S, Meir A, Yeselson Y, Portnoy V, Fei Z, Lewinsohn E, Katzir N, Schaffer AA, Gepstein S, Burger J, Li L, Tadmor Y (2015) A bulk segregant transcriptome analysis reveals metabolic and cellular processes associated with melon *Orange* allelic variation and fruit β -carotene accumulation. *BMC Plant Biology* 15:274

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Yuan H, Owsiany K, Sheeja T, Zhou X, Rodriguez C, Li Y, Welsch R, Chayut N, Yang Y, Thannhauser TW, Partjasaratju MV, Xu Q, Deng X, Fei Z, Schaffer A, Katzir N, Burger J, Tadmor Y, Li L. (2015) A single amino acid substitution of the orange protein causes carotenoid accumulation in Arabidopsis. *Plant Physiology* 169:421-431

Zhou X, Welsch R, Yang Y, Riediger M, Álvarez D, Yuan H, Fish T, Liu J, Thannhauser TW, Li L (2015) Arabidopsis OR proteins are the major post-transcriptional regulators of

phytoene synthase in mediating carotenoid biosynthesis. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 112:3558-3563

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Avila FW, Yang Y, Faquin V, Ramos SJ, Guilherme LRG, Thannhauser TW, Li L (2014) Impact of selenium supply on Se-methylselenocysteine and glucosinolate accumulation in selenium-biofortified Brassica sprouts. *Food Chemistry* 165:578-586

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2013

Li L, Yuan H (2013) Chromoplast biogenesis and carotenoid accumulation. *Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics* 539: 102-109

Zhang J, Li H, Zhang M, Hui M, Qi W, Li L, Zhang L (2013) Fine mapping and identification of candidate *Bo-or* gene controlling orange head of Chinese cabbage (*Brassica rapa* L. ssp. *Pekinensis*). *Molecular Breeding* 32: 799-805

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Avila FW, Faquin V, Yang Y, Ramos SJ, Guilherme LRG, Thannhauser TW, Li L (2013) Assessment of the anticancer compounds *Se*-methylselenocysteine and glucosinolates in *Se*-biofortified broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. *italica*) sprouts and florets. *Journal of Agriculture and Food Chemistry* 61: 6216-6223

Lv-Hui Sun, LH, Li JG, Zhao H, Shi Jing, Huang JQ, Wang KN, Xia XJ, Li L, and Lei XG (2013) Porcine serum can be biofortified with selenium to inhibit proliferation of three types of human cancer cells. *The Journal of Nutrition* 143: 1115-1122

Wang YQ, Yang Y, Fei Z, Yuan H, Fish T, Thannhauser TW, Mazourek M, Kochian LV, Wang X, Li L (2013) Proteomic analysis of chromoplasts from six crop species reveals insights into chromoplast function and development. *Journal of Experimental Botany* 64:949-961

2012

Chiu LW, Li L (2012) Characterization of the regulatory network of BoMYB2 in controlling anthocyanin biosynthesis in purple cauliflower. *Planta* 236: 1153-1164

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Li L, Yang Y, Xu Q, Owsiang K, Welsch R, Chitchumroonchokchai C, Lu S, Van Eck J, Deng X, Failla M, Thannhauser TW (2012) The *Or* gene enhances carotenoid accumulation and stability during post-harvest storage of potato tubers. *Molecular Plant* 5: 339-352

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Zhou X, McQuinn R, Fei Z, Wolters AM, Van Eck J, Brown C, Giovannoni JJ, Li L (2011) Regulatory control of high levels of carotenoid accumulation in potato tubers. *Plant, Cell & Environment* 34:1020-1030

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Ramos SJ, Yuan Y, Faquin V, Guilherme LRG, Li L (2011) Evaluation of genotypic variation of broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. *italica*) in response to selenium treatment. *Journal of Agriculture and Food Chemistry* 59:3657-3665

Ramos SJ, Rutzke MA, Hayes RJ, Faquin V, Guilherme LRG, Li L (2011) Selenium accumulation in lettuce germplasm. *Planta* 233:649-660

Zhou X, Sun TH, Wang N, Ling HQ, Lu S, Li L (2011) The cauliflower *Orange* gene enhances petiole elongation by suppressing expression of *eukaryotic release factor 1*. *New Phytologist* 190: 89-100

2010

Chiu LW, Zhou X, Burke S, Wu X, Prior RL, and Li L (2010) The purple cauliflower arises from activation of a MYB transcription factor. *Plant Physiology* 154: 1470-1480.

Zhou X, Cooke P, Li L (2010) Eukaryotic release factor 1-2 affects *Arabidopsis* responses to glucose and phytohormones during germination and early seedling development. *Journal of Experimental Botany* 61:357-367.

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Zhou X, Li L (2010) Think outside the box: Selenium volatilization altered by a broccoli gene in the ubiquinone biosynthetic pathway. *Plant Signaling & Behavior* 5:74-75

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2009

Yuan Y, Chiu LW, Li L (2009) Transcriptional regulation of anthocyanin biosynthesis in red cabbage. *Planta* 230:1141-1153

Zhou X, Yuan Y, Yang Y, Rutzke M, Thannhauser TW, Kochian LV, Li L (2009) Involvement of a broccoli COQ5 methyltransferase in the production of volatile selenium compounds. *Plant Physiology* 151:528-540.

2008

Salas-Fernandez MG, Hamblin M, Li L, Rooney WL, Tuinstra MR, Kresovich S (2008) Quantitative trait loci analysis of endosperm color and carotenoid content in sorghum grain. *Crop Science* 48:1732-1743.

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Zhou X, Van Eck J, Li L (2008) Use of the cauliflower *Or* gene to improve crop nutritional quality. *Biotechnology Annual Review*, Volume 14. Chapter 6, p171-190.

Lopez AB, Yang Y, Thannhauser TW, Li L (2008) Phytoene desaturase is present in a large protein complex in plastid membrane. *Physiologia Plantarum* 133:190-198.

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2007

Li L, Van Eck J (2007) Perspectives: metabolic engineering of carotenoid accumulation by creating a metabolic sink. *Transgenic Research* 16:581-585.

Yang Y, Thannhauser TW, Li L, Zhang S (2007) Development of an integrated approach for evaluation of 2-D gel image analysis: impact of multiple proteins in single spots on comparative proteomics in conventional 2-D gel/MALDI workflow. *Electrophoresis* 28:2080-2094.

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