

Table 1 Activities of enzymes related to cell wall metabolism in three melon varieties during fruit development

Cultivar	Time	Growth stages	Polygalacturonase (PG; mg/h/g FW)	$\beta$ -galactosidase ( $\beta$ -GAL; nmol/min/g FW)	Pectin methylesterase (PME; Ug/g FW)	Catalase (Cx; $\mu$ g/min/g FW)
15B-42-1	Autumn	W	15.86±1.15cd	771.08±4.07e	1.27±0.01e	91.73±2.64g
		T	18.33±0.73cd	1100.66±35.04bc	2.59±0.02b	112.83±2.34f
		M	17.14±0.75cd	993.32±13.63cd	1.77±0.02d	191.29±7.81c
	Spring	W	35.16±0.67c	1289.72±73.59de	2.08±0.02h	106.82±4.47c
		T	48.64±6.34b	1438.53±66.41cd	2.86±0.05f	170.13±1.57a
		M	46.61±2.00b	1393.91±22.08cd	2.53±0.05g	183.46±9.22a
15B-42F-1	Autumn	W	37.93±4.22b	901.99±15.19de	2.57±0.05b	110.86±7.25f
		T	60.52±1.48a	1364.90±64.58a	3.01±0.02a	285.88±3.73b
		M	55.58±4.14a	1066.02±59.98c	2.70±0.02b	334.61±3.94a
	Spring	W	31.96±2.89d	1596.34±140.77c	3.08±0.07ef	108.15±1.57c
		T	69.82±2.22a	2222.74±102.81a	4.42±0.07a	131.02±8.31b
		M	64.87±1.28a	1937.55±43.60b	4.12±0.04b	166.58±8.38a
04-38F-1	Autumn	W	12.28±0.45e	914.05±36.33de	2.09±0.08c	130.66±3.13e
		T	37.87±0.70b	1236.06±41.19ab	2.97±0.13a	162.53±6.72d
		M	22.48±0.65c	783.28±88.35e	2.66±0.06b	301.22±9.75b
	Spring	W	32.29±2.84c	927.36±14.72f	3.13±0.10de	107.07±3.81c
		T	47.83±0.60b	1092.95±130.53ef	3.76±0.02c	121.68±2.26bc
		M	44.76±0.30b	1033.66±50.29ef	3.37±0.18d	135.25±10.93b

Note: Different letters denote significant differences at  $p\leq 0.05$  according to Duncan's multiple range tests. The fruits were classified into three different developmental stages according to the color of the receptacle: the white fruit stage (W); turn color fruit stage (T); and mature stage fruit (M)