



[Available Issues](#) | [Japanese](#)

Author:  [ADVANCED](#)

Volume  Page

Keyword:



[TOP](#) > [Available Issues](#) > [Table of Contents](#) > **Abstract**

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### **Change in Fruit Characteristics during Ripening and Packaging on Fruit Ripening in 'Koshisayaka' Pears**

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The peel color index and soluble solid concentration of 'Koshisayaka' pears increased during ripening at 20°C, while the flesh firmness, elasticity coefficient and elasticity index of the fruit decreased. When the fruit ripeness stage 12 days after harvest, the values of those characteristics were 12.7 Brix % (soluble solid concentration), 1.4 N (flesh firmness)

(elasticity coefficient) and  $1.1 \times 10^7$  (viscosity coefficient). In addition, values were calculated from the frequency of second resonance and the values were  $9.5 \times 10^6$  and  $17.4 \times 10^6$ , respectively. Film packaging of the pear resulted in a reduction of moisture loss, yellowing of the peel, softening of the flesh and saccharification during ripening. The characteristics of the film-packaged fruit 12 days after harvest were: 12.5 N (flesh firmness), 20% (potassium iodide reaction), 29.5  $\times 10^6$  (elasticity coefficient),  $15.0 \times 10^7$  (viscosity coefficient),  $29.5 \times 10^6$  ( $Emf_3$ ). These findings clarify the ripening characteristics of 'Koshiki' and the delaying effect of film packaging on fruit ripening. The delaying effect is suggested to be due to decreased level of oxygen in film. Furthermore, this is a nondestructive method for estimating the ripening stage is suggested between the elasticity index and fruit softening.

**Key Words:** [elasticity coefficient](#), [elasticity index](#), [flesh firmness](#), [ripening](#), [viscosity coefficient](#)

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