SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Table S1. Results of factorial analysis of variance (ANOVA) examining the effect of three N treatments and three cultivars on total yield and percentage discard fruit, in muskmelon and sweet pepper. Significant effects are shown as: ns, $p>0.05$; *, $p<0.05$; **, $p<0.01$; ***, $p<0.001$.

			Muskmelon		**Sweet pepper**	
			F-value		F-value	
Year	Effect	df	Total yield	% Discard fruit	Total yield	% Discard fruit
2020	Block (B)	3	3.77*	2.80ns	0.59ns	54.54**
	Nitrogen (N)	2	21.88*	21.38*	139.49***	10.16ns
	Cultivar (C)	2	65.57*	6.44**	2.37ns	0.27ns
	N x C	4	0.85ns	1.26ns	4.84***	29.53***
	Error	24				
2021	Block (B)	3	0.63ns	3.85*	3.86*	5.89**
	Nitrogen (N)	2	306.75***	31.84***	2.35ns	0.54ns
	Cultivar (C)	2	10.95***	18.61***	2.40ns	7.79**
	N x C	4	1.69ns	7.22***	0.42ns	0.99ns
	Error	24				

Table S2. Results of factorial analysis of variance (ANOVA) examining the effect of three N treatments and three cultivars on fruit firmness and TSS, in muskmelon and sweet pepper. Significant effects are shown as: ns, p>0.05; *, p<0.05; **, p<0.01; ***, p<0.001.

			Muskmelon		**Sweet pepper**	
			F-value		F-value	
Year	Effect	df	Firmness	TSS	Firmness	TSS
2020	Block (B)	3	11.78***	4.11*	0.23ns	3.91*
	Nitrogen (N)	2	0.77ns	11.79***	0.34ns	4.45*
	Cultivar (C)	2	12.00***	58.58***	39.53***	47.58***
	N x C	4	1.23ns	0.67ns	0.17ns	1.00ns
	Error	24				
2021	Block (B)	3	1.90ns	0.84ns	2.74ns	1.62ns
	Nitrogen (N)	2	5.30*	2.87ns	1.25ns	11.21***
	Cultivar (C)	2	6.56**	24.32***	13.21***	39.58***
	N x C	4	0.21ns	0.56ns	0.90ns	0.63ns
	Error	24				

Table S3. Results of factorial analysis of variance (ANOVA) examining the effect of three N treatments and three different cultivars on fruit weight and equatorial and polar fruit diameters, in muskmelon and sweet pepper. Significant effects are shown as: ns, $p>0.05$; *, $p<0.05$; **, $p<0.01$; ***, $p<0.001$.

			Muskmelon			**Sweet pepper**		
			F-value			F-value		
Year	Effect	df	Fruit weight	Equatorial diameter	Polar diameter	Fruit weight	Equatorial diameter	Polar diameter
2020	Block (B)	3	0.98ns	0.46ns	1.70ns	1.48ns	1.82ns	0.70ns
	Nitrogen (N)	2	8.56**	8.44**	9.57**	1.37ns	0.40ns	3.16ns
	Cultivar (C)	2	1.11ns	2.36ns	1.18ns	82.40***	9.58***	111.72***
	N x C	4	0.45ns	0.25ns	1.15ns	0.23ns	0.17ns	1.07ns
	Error	24						
2021	Block (B)	3	5.49**	4.15*	0.72ns	0.90ns	4.08*	2.11ns
	Nitrogen (N)	2	1.70ns	21.34***	17.60***	0.50ns	2.59ns	0.72ns
	Cultivar (C)	2	1.20ns	26.89***	1.13ns	135.50***	39.70***	554.89***
	N x C	4	3.52*	1.69ns	0.57ns	3.60*	1.20ns	0.70ns
	Error	24						

Table S4. Results of factorial analysis of variance (ANOVA) testing the effect of three N treatments and three different cultivars on internal fruit colour in muskmelon and sweet pepper. Significance is shown as: ns, p>0.05; *, p<0.05; **, p<0.01; ***, p<0.001.

			Muskmelon						**Sweet pepper**					
			F-value						F-value					
Year	Effect	df	L*	a*	b*	h	C*	IC*	L*	a*	b*	h	C*	IC*
2020	Block (B)	3	3.65*	1.80ns	4.01*	0.70ns	3.10*	1.45ns	0.80ns	0.65ns	0.79ns	0.46ns	1.63ns	0.91ns
	Nitrogen (N)	2	3.91*	0.26ns	12.82***	5.96**	9.12***	8.59**	14.92***	0.55ns	13.99***	5.40*	4.46*	12.22***
	Cultivar (C)	2	11.77***	142.80***	123.70***	304.66***	79.87***	284.87***	6.44**	8.55**	5.24*	0.38ns	10.50***	0.83ns
	N x C	4	2.16ns	2.49ns	1.94ns	0.93ns	1.64ns	1.30ns	0.36ns	7.26***	2.06ns	1.46ns	6.27**	1.49ns
	Error	24												
2021	Block (B)	3	1.40ns	1.80ns	4.00*	0.30ns	3.86*	0.26ns	99.19***	3.58*	8.11***	0.11ns	4.82**	11.05***
	Nitrogen (N)	2	7.20**	4.19*	36.04***	23.90***	29.59***	27.37***	1.12ns	1.03ns	1.43ns	0.32ns	1.14ns	0.21ns
	Cultivar (C)	2	56.20***	410.82***	89.76***	930.50***	74.31***	750.04***	2.51ns	24.91***	11.54***	5.91**	23.95***	1.37ns
	N x C	4	3.30*	9.56***	1.79ns	9.90***	2.47ns	10.77***	0.11ns	2.53ns	0.57ns	2.63ns	1.96ns	1.60ns
	Error	24												

Figure S1

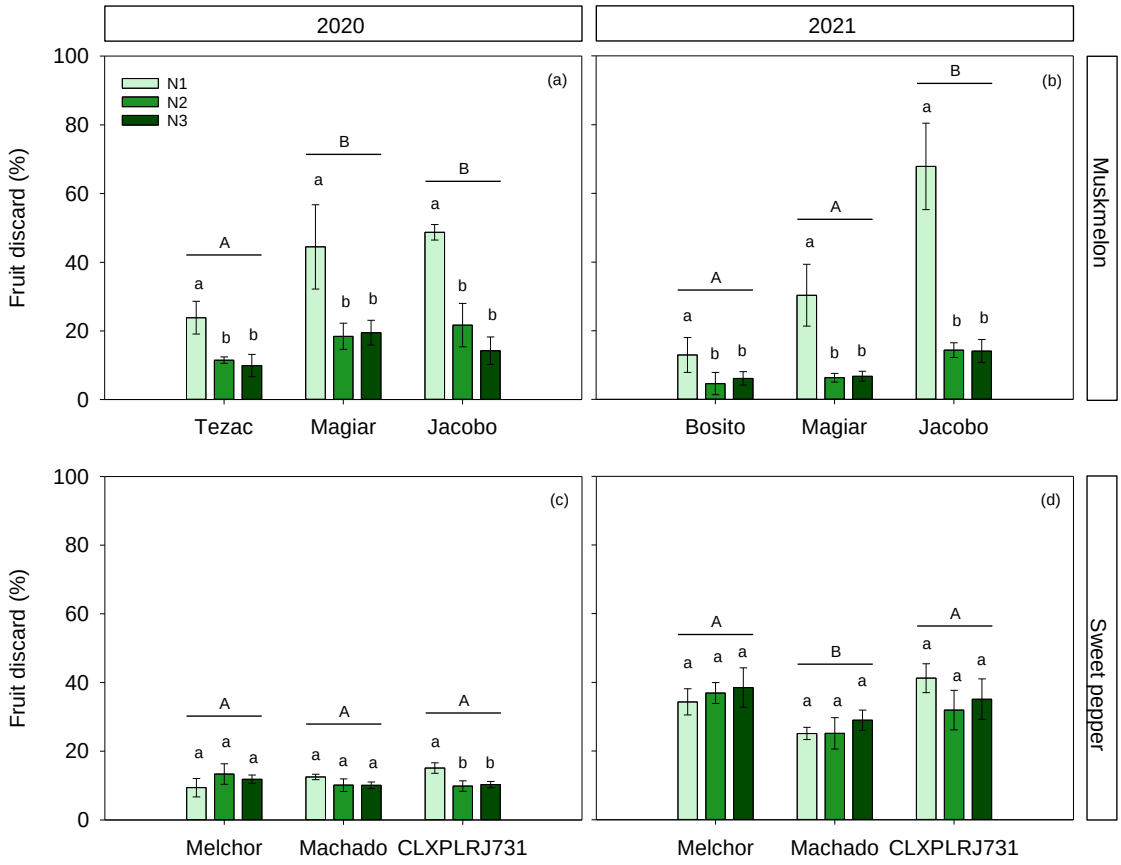

Figure S1. Percentage of fruit discard for three different cultivars and three N treatments, for muskmelon ((a) and b)) and sweet pepper ((c) and d)) crops, conducted in 2020 and 2021 years. Different lower-case letters show significant differences between N treatments within each cultivar; different upper-case letters show significant differences between cultivars. Values are means ± SE.

Figure S2

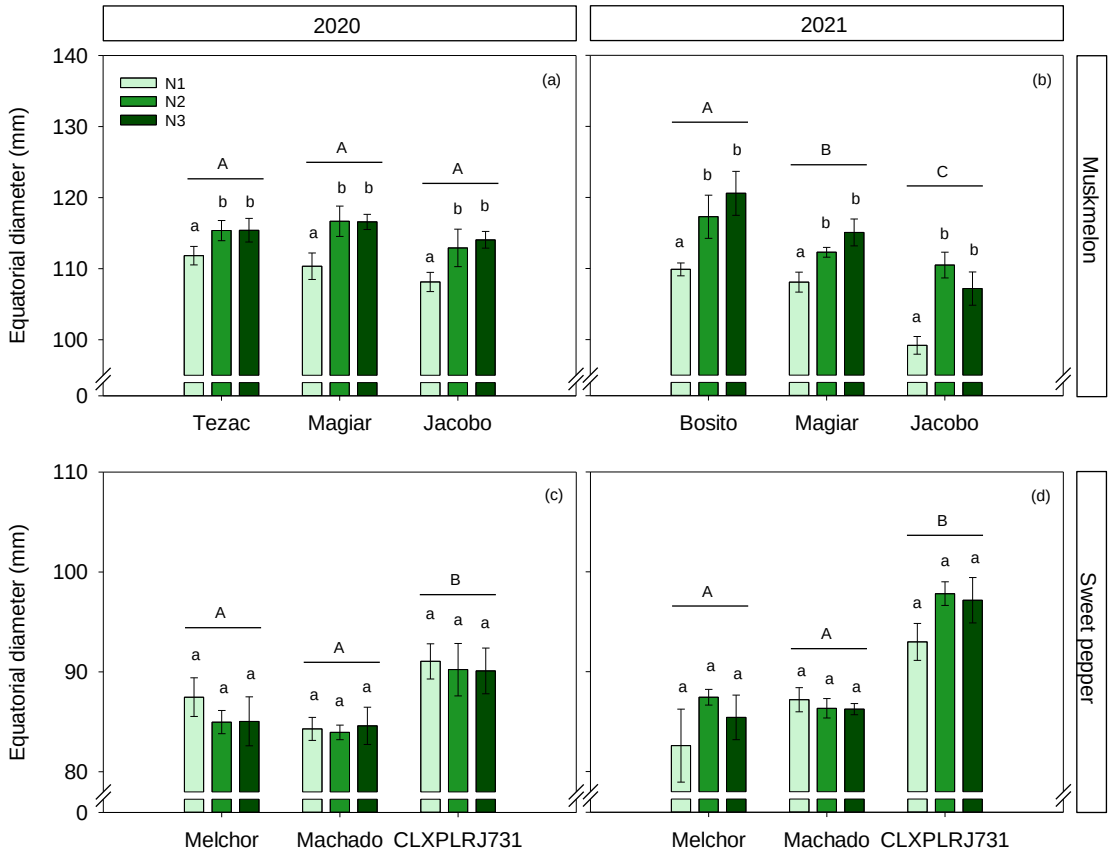

Figure S2. Fruit equatorial diameter for three different cultivars and three N treatments, for muskmelon ((a) and b)) and sweet pepper ((c) and d)) crops, conducted in 2020 and 2021 years. Different lower-case letters show significant differences between N treatments within each cultivar; different upper-case letters show significant differences between cultivars. Values are means ± SE.

Figure S3

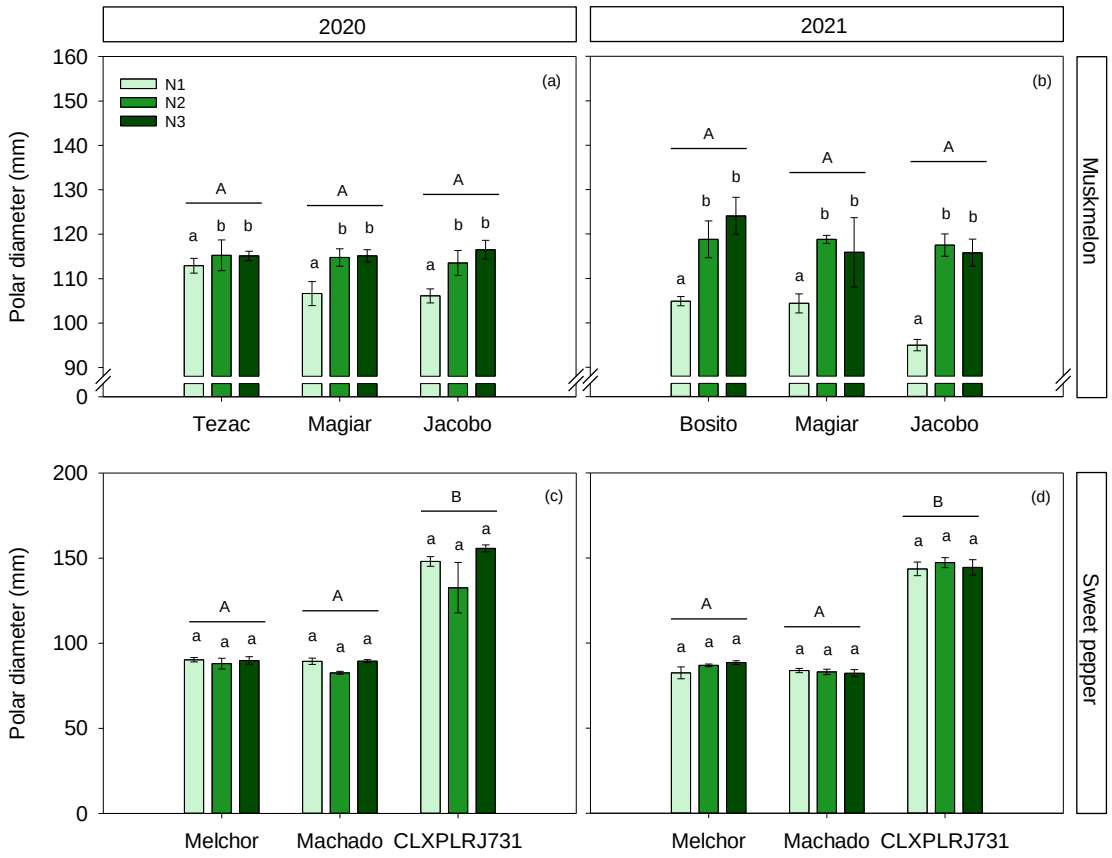

Figure S3. Fruit polar diameter for three different cultivars and three N treatments, for muskmelon ((a) and b)) and sweet pepper ((c) and d)) crops, conducted in 2020 and 2021 years. Different lower-case letters show significant differences between N treatments within each cultivar; different upper-case letters show significant differences between cultivars. Values are means ± SE.

Figure S4

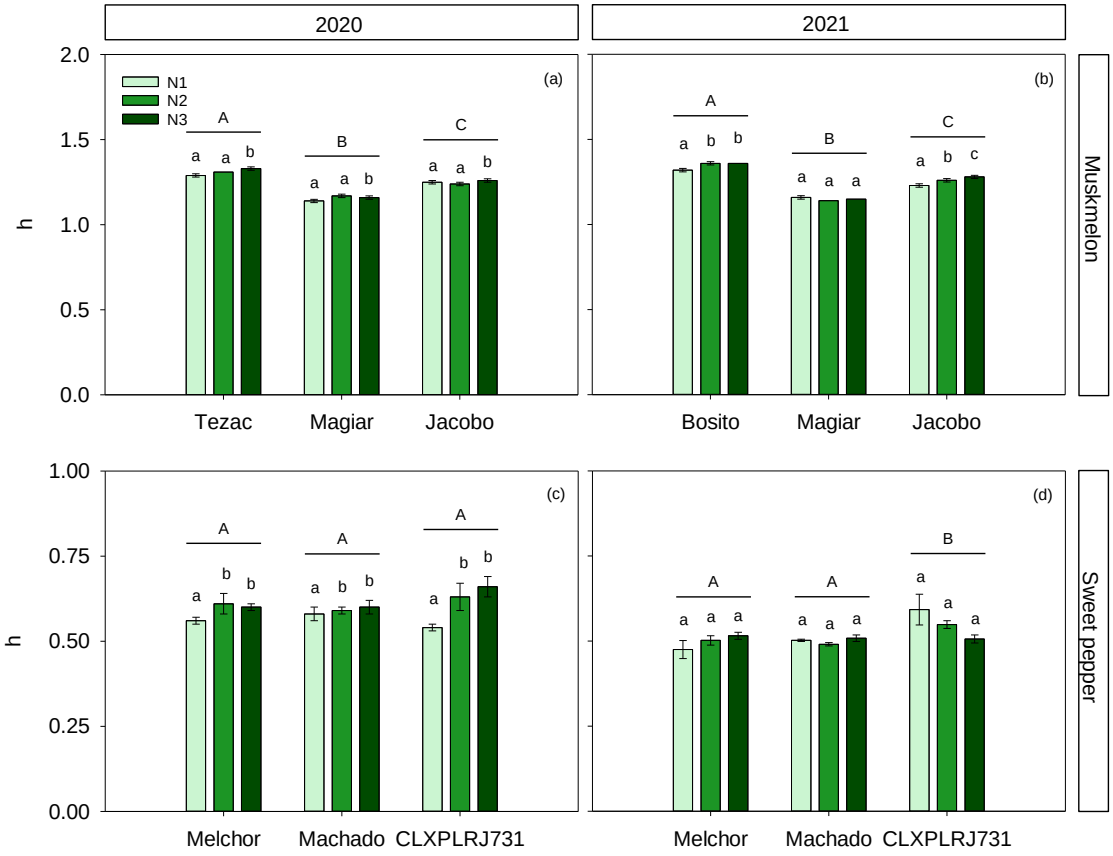

Figure S4. Fruit hue angle (h) for three cultivars and three N treatments, for muskmelon ((a) and b)) and sweet pepper ((c) and d)) crops, conducted in 2020 and 2021 years. Fruit measurements are internal for muskmelon and external for sweet pepper. Different lower-case letters show significant differences between N treatments within each cultivar; different upper-case letters show significant differences between cultivars. Values are means ± SE.

Figure S5

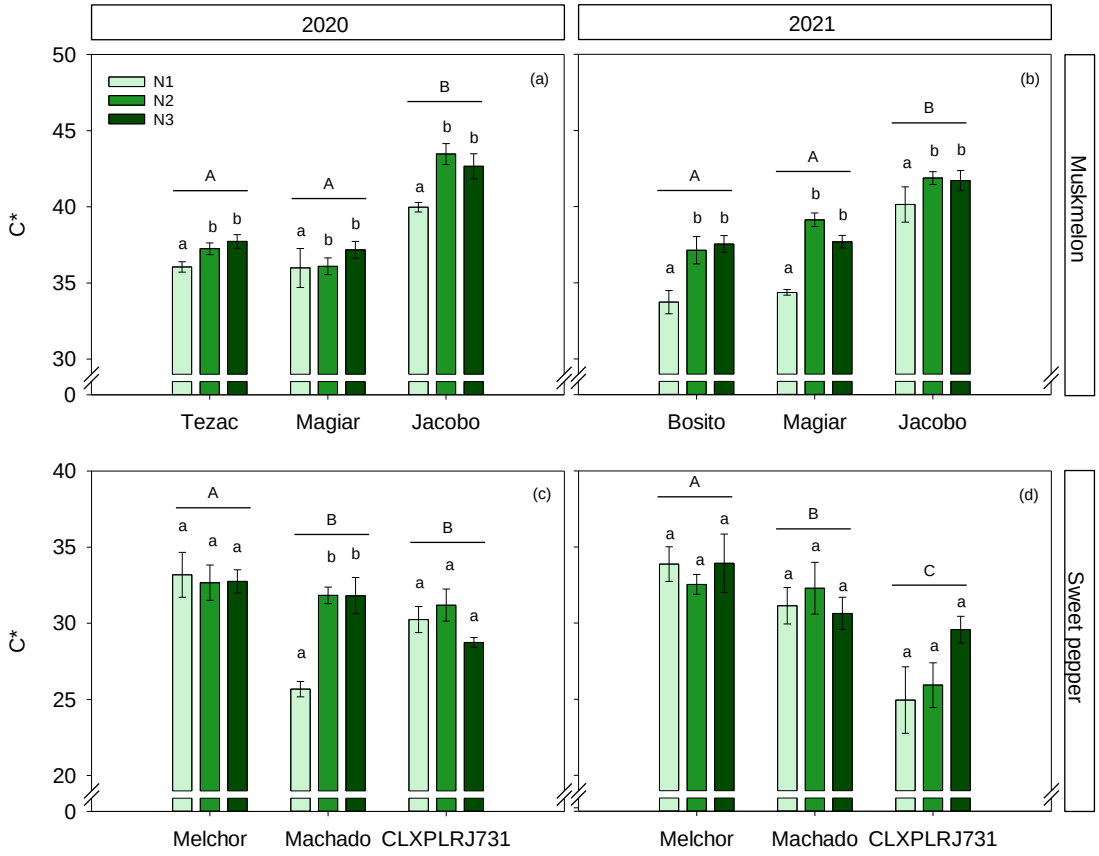

Figure S5. Fruit chroma (C*) for three cultivars and three N treatments, for muskmelon ((a) and b)) and sweet pepper ((c) and d)) crops, conducted in 2020 and 2021 years. Fruit measurements are internal for muskmelon and external for sweet pepper. Different lower-case letters show significant differences between N treatments within each cultivar; different upper-case letters show significant differences between cultivars. Values are means ± SE.

Figure S6

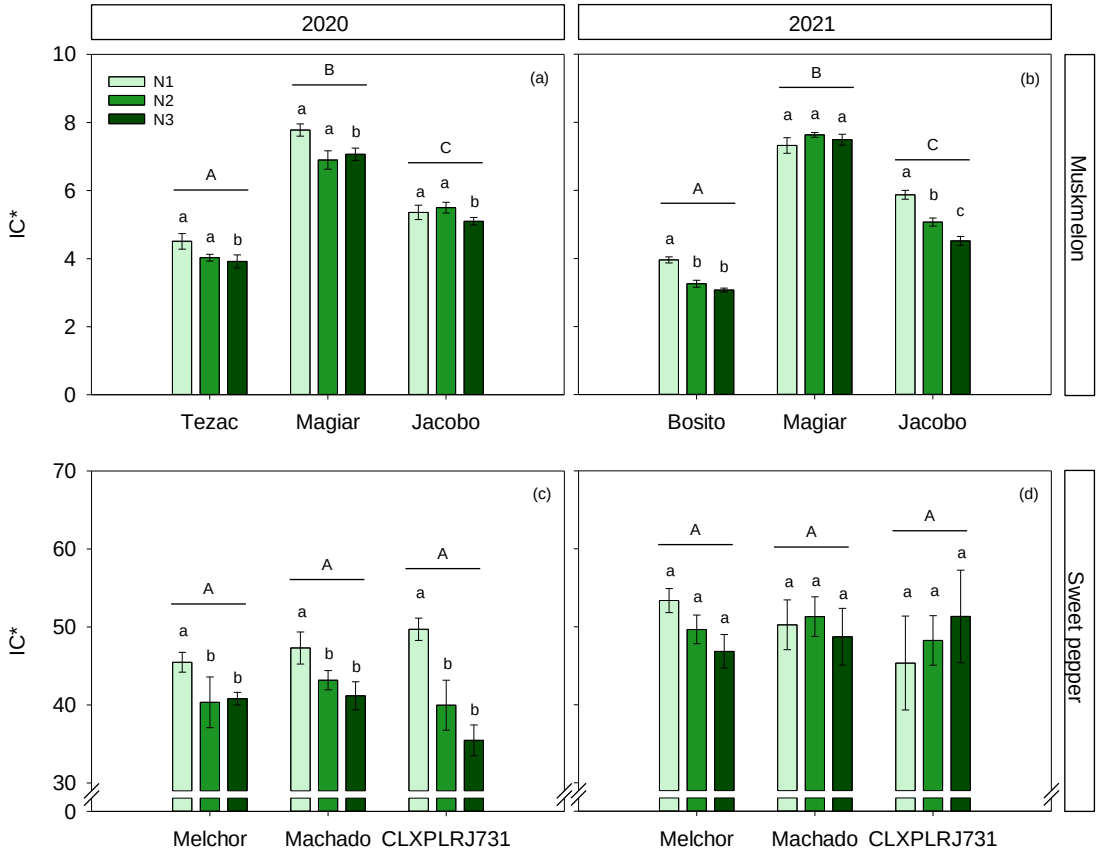

Figure S6. Fruit colour index (IC*) for three cultivars and three N treatments, for muskmelon ((a) and b)) and sweet pepper ((c) and d)) crops, conducted in 2020 and 2021 years. Fruit measurements are internal for muskmelon and external for sweet pepper. Different lower-case letters show significant differences between N treatments within each cultivar; different upper-case letters show significant differences between cultivars. Values are means ± SE.