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Xavier Fauvergue, Cédric Tentelier, Guénaëlle Genson, Philippe Audiot, Thomas Guillemaud, et al..
Microsatellite DNA markers for *Lysiphlebus testaceipes*. *Molecular Ecology Notes*, 2005, 5 (1), pp.109-111. 10.1111/j.1471-8286.2004.00854.x . hal-02675030

HAL Id: hal-02675030

<https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-02675030>

Submitted on 15 Sep 2020

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Microsatellite DNA markers for *Lysiphlebus testaceipes*

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Abstract

Microsatellite loci were isolated from the aphid parasitoid *Lysiphlebus testaceipes* (Hymenoptera: Braconidae). Ten loci were obtained from an enriched partial genomic library. Genetic diversity was analysed at seven of these loci and two natural populations, one on oleander and one on citrus. The observed number of alleles ranged from one to 17, and the observed heterozygosity ranged from 0.37 to 0.82. In both populations, no departure from Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium was detected except for one locus. The differentiation between the two populations was characterized by an F_{ST} of 0.09.

Keywords: *Lysiphlebus testaceipes*, microsatellite, parasitoid, Braconidae, enriched library

Lysiphlebus testaceipes (Cresson) is a solitary parasitoid whose host range reaches more than 100 aphid species on numerous plants (Pike *et al.* 2000). It was introduced from Central America to southern France during the 1970s to control populations of various aphid species. It then spread rapidly all over Mediterranean Europe (Starý *et al.* 1988). The wide host range and geographical distribution of *L. testaceipes* raise questions about the individual processes of dispersal and the resulting population genetic structure. To address these issues, we developed a set of 10 microsatellite loci whose variability was analysed on two samples of *L. testaceipes* collected on oleander and citrus in southeastern France.

Genomic DNA was isolated from a pool of 50 frozen *Lysiphlebus testaceipes* following standard procedure (Sambrook *et al.* 1989) and digested with *RsaI*. A 300–1000 bp fraction of the digested DNA was selected on agarose gel, purified and ligated to *RsaI* linkers. The enrichment procedure followed the protocol from Kijas *et al.* (1994) based on streptavidin-coated magnetic particles (Magnosphere, Promega), with slight modifications. A 5'-biotinylated (CT)₁₀ and (GT)₁₀ oligonucleotides were used as probes. The enriched single stranded DNA was amplified using one of the *RsaI* linkers as primer to recover double stranded DNA. The PCR (polymerase chain reaction) products were

purified and ligated into pGEM-T Easy vector (Promega), and the plasmid transformed into *Escherichia coli* super-competent cells (XL1 blue, Stratagene). Individual *E. coli* colonies were transferred to a positively charged Hybond-N + (Amersham) membrane. DNA was fixed on the membrane by baking at 80 °C for an hour. Positive colonies (i.e. containing a microsatellite) were identified by hybridization with (CT)₁₀ and (GT)₁₀ probes labelled with digoxigenine using the DIG Nucleic Acid Detection kit (Boehringer Mannheim). Positive clones were picked and stored at –80 °C until sequencing. Ninety-six of those clones were sequenced with an ABI377 automated sequencer. Pairs of primers were designed for 10 of these sequences using the PRIMER DESIGNER software (version 2.0, Scientific & Educational Software, 1990–91).

PCR amplification was carried out in 10 µL of reaction mixture containing 10–50 ng of template DNA, 0.4 µM of each locus-specific primer (see Table 1), 1.67 mM each dCTP, dGTP, and dTTP, 50 µM of dATP, 0.01 µL α³³P-dATP (10 mCi/mL, 3000 Ci/mmol), 1.5 mM of MgCl₂, 0.2 mg/mL BSA (bovine serum albumine), 1 µL of 10X buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, 50 mM KCl and 0.1% Triton X-100) and 0.3 units of *Taq* DNA polymerase (Promega). PCR cycles followed a 'touchdown' procedure (Don *et al.* 1991). After an initial denaturing step of 3 min at 94 °C, 10 cycles were performed, each consisting of 30 s at 94 °C, 30 s of annealing starting at 60 °C (or 55 °C, see Table 1) and

Table 1 Characterization of 10 microsatellite loci in *Lysiphlebus testaceipes*. Repeat units, GenBank accession number, primer sequences, range of annealing T° during the 10 first cycles of the touchdown PCR, clone size in bp, observed number of alleles for the oleander population (N_o), observed (H_o) and expected (H_E) heterozygosity per locus for the oleander population (asterisks indicate significant departure from Hardy Weinberg equilibrium tested with Fisher's exact test). Lysi5c4 and Lysi5e1 loci were monomorphic on the screened samples. Despite amplification and polymorphism, results are not reported for the locus LysiF10 because of some uncertainties in allele sizing due to the manual electrophoresis employed in the present study

| Locus ID | Repeat unit of cloned allele | GenBank accession n° | Primers (5' 3') | | T° range (Celsius) | Clone size (bp) | N_o | H_E/H_o |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--|------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-------|------------|
| | | | F: forward | R: reverse | | | | |
| Lysi5a12 | (TG) ₉ | AY670688 | F: TTAAGTTGCAAAAGTCAATG R: CAAGTTTGAAAAATTGAATTAC | | 55 45° | 176 | 3 | 0.5/0.47 |
| Lysi1b6 | (TC) ₃ (TC) ₈ | AY670689 | F: TAGTAATATATCGTTGTGTGAA R: AATTTGCCTGACGACGC | | 55 45° | 170 | 3 | 0.43/0.37 |
| Lysi5c4 | (GT) ₆ | AY670690 | F: TACCTATACAGACATATTCG R: ACAGTGATCTTTCTTCTCTA | | 55 45° | 107 | 1 | |
| Lysi5e1 | (TG) ₁₀ | AY670691 | F: GCTGCCAACTATACTCTC R: GGATATATTCTAACTTGTG | | 55 45° | 148 | 1 | |
| Lysi6b12 | (CA) ₁₀ | AY670692 | F: CATATGAAGAGTAAAGATCG R: CGATTAATCTAGGTAAAATG | | 55 45° | 135 | 4 | 0.54/0.61 |
| Lysi6f4 | (CA) ₈ | AY670693 | F: ACATGTGACTTTGTTTGAGA R: CAAGATAAAGATCCCCATTC | | 55 45° | 145 | 5 | 0.71/0.72 |
| Lysi H02 | (TC) ₁₀ | AY670694 | F: CTGTTTCAGTAGTCAATTGC R: ACCAGTCACAATCACCATCT | | 60 50° | 185 | 5 | 0.66/0.67 |
| LysiC1158 | (TC) ₁₀ | AY670695 | F: ACAGCAAATTTAAAGG R: GTGTGGGTATTTATAAG | | 60 50° | 138 | 2 | 0.44/0.39 |
| LysiC5158 | (TG) ₅₀ | AY670696 | F: TAACCTATTGGGAACAGCTA R: GTGACAAGCCACTGAGACC | | 60 50° | 222 | 17 | 0.91/0.82* |
| LysiF10 | (CT) ₁₄ | AY670697 | F: CATTGTCTATATGGGTGCAC R: TGTCCAGAAGGGTTGAATTAA | | 60 50° | 132 | | |

decreasing by 1 °C per cycle, and 30 s at 72 °C. Additional 25 cycles were run consisting of 30 s at 94 °C, 30 s at 50 °C (or 45 °C), 30 s at 72 °C. A final extension step was performed at 72 °C for 5 min. PCR products were denatured and electrophoresed on standard DNA sequencing gels.

Among the 10 loci tested, seven gave clear amplifications, were polymorphic, and were therefore chosen for population analysis. PCR conditions and primer sequences are described in Table 1.

Genetic variability analyses were performed with GENEPOP Version 3.3 (Raymond & Rousset 1995). Because of the haplodiploidy of *L. testaceipes*, only females were used in the analysis of heterozygosity. In the oleander population, the number of alleles per locus ranged from one to 17 (Table 1). Expected heterozygosity ranged from 0.43 to 0.91, and observed heterozygosity from 0.37 to 0.82. No departure from Hardy Weinberg equilibrium (HWE) was detected except for locus C5158 ($P = 0.035$, s.e. $< 10^{-3}$). Three loci, 6B12, H02 and C5158 displayed significant linkage disequilibrium after sequential Bonferroni correction ($P < 2.10^{-3}$ and s.e. $< 5.10^{-3}$ for each pairwise comparison). In the small sample collected on citrus, neither deviations from Hardy Weinberg (except again for locus C5158, $P =$

0.024, s.e. $< 2.10^{-3}$) nor linkage equilibria were detected. The two populations were significantly differentiated ($P < 10^{-5}$; $F_{ST} = 0.09$) raising the question of whether the host plant or the distance separating the two sites (c. 2 km) was responsible for this differentiation. In conclusion, we found a set of at least seven variable microsatellite loci in *L. testaceipes* that are potentially useful for population studies.

Acknowledgements

We thank Jean Yves Rasplus for his crucial enthusiasm at the beginning of this study, and the 'Département Santé des Plantes et Environnement' at INRA for the not less crucial financial support.

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