

Rapid isolation of 14 microsatellite markers for Van Diemen's siphon limpet *Siphonaria diemenensis*

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Abstract Siphon limpets are an ecologically important component of the intertidal zone of Australia's temperate coast. Using 1/16 of a shotgun pyrosequencing plate, a set of 14 microsatellites was developed for the Van Diemen's siphon limpet (*Siphonaria diemenensis*). From 2,744 sequences that contained putative microsatellite motifs, 18 were selected for primer design and tested for amplification. Fourteen microsatellite loci were successfully genotyped in 48 specimens of *S. diemenensis* from two localities. The number of alleles per locus varied from 5 to 35 (mean = 14.6) and the observed heterozygosity ranged from 0.53 to 0.90 (mean = 0.77). Only one locus showed significant deviation from Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium, probably due to null alleles. No linkage disequilibrium between pairs of loci was detected. Connectivity and seascape genetic studies on siphon limpets using the markers reported here should provide important information for management of temperate Australian marine biodiversity.

Keywords Seascape genetics · Marine connectivity · Population genetics · MPA · Mollusc · Phylogeography

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Marine invertebrates provide useful systems for study gene flow since they allow comparisons between co-distributed species with different dispersal capabilities (Hart and Marko 2010). Van Diemen's siphon limpet (*Siphonaria diemenensis*) is a marine intertidal mollusc distributed from central New South Wales to southern Western Australia, including Tasmania (Shepherd and Thomas 1989). *Siphonaria diemenensis* has a planktonic larvae period that has not been directly determined, however circumstantial evidence suggests a large potential planktonic dispersal (Mapstone 1978; Johnson and Black 1984). Van Diemen's limpet's wide distribution and potential long dispersal capability make it an attractive model to evaluate factors that could affect connectivity among populations along the temperate coast of Australia. This information is potentially relevant for the design of an effective system of marine protected areas (MPAs) in the region.

Microsatellite loci for Van Diemen's siphon limpet were obtained using a next generation DNA sequencing (NGS) technology following Gardner et al. (2011). A total of 10 µg of genomic DNA was extracted from muscle tissue of a siphon limpet specimen and sent to the Australian Genome Research Facility (www.agrf.com.au) for DNA sequencing. Sequencing was conducted on 1/16 of a PicoTiter plate using the Roche GS FLX (454) system (Margulies et al. 2005). Using default settings in MSAT-COMMANDER v. 0.8.1 (Faircloth 2008) all contigs were screened for microsatellites. MICROFAMILY v. 1.2 (Megléczy 2007) and PRIMER 3 (Rozen and Skaletsky 1999) were used to select unique contigs and design primer sets as described in Carvalho and Beheregaray (2011).

A total of 58,395 reads were obtained, from which 2,744 sequences contained putative microsatellite motifs. MICROFAMILY recovered 220 unique loci, from which the best 18 loci were chosen for polymerase chain reaction

(PCR) trials. Amplifications and PCR conditions followed Beheregaray et al. (2004) using a 63–55 °C touchdown. From initial PCR optimizations with the 18 markers, 14 amplified consistently and were selected for further analyses. For the microsatellite loci characterization, 24 individuals from Peak Bay, South Australia (34°29'12"S, 136°04'02"E) and 24 individuals from Bridport, Tasmania (40°59'09"S, 147°23'32") were genotyped.

The PCRs were performed separately, products were combined in three runs namely PlexA, PlexB and PlexC (Table 1), and amplified peaks were detected on an ABI

3130 Sequencer (Applied Biosystems). The resulting profiles were examined to determine alleles using GENEMAPPER 4.0 (Applied Biosystems). Scoring errors and null alleles in the genotypes were assessed using MICROCHECKER (Van Oosterhout et al. 2004). Number of alleles (N_A), expected (H_E) and observed (H_O) heterozygosity, linkage disequilibrium and Hardy–Weinberg proportions were estimated using GENEPOP V4 (Rousset 2008). Sequential Bonferroni corrections were applied when conducting multiple statistical tests (Rice 1989).

Table 1 Characteristics of the 14 microsatellite loci isolated from *Siphonaria diemenensis*

| Locus | Primer sequences | Motif | Size (bp) | M13 label | N_A | H_E/H_O | H–W (P) | F_{IS} |
|--------|---|----------|-----------|-----------|-------|-------------|--------------------------|----------|
| PlexA | | | | | | | | |
| Side16 | F: AGGGGAATACCATTATCAC R: ATAGGCATAGGAACAAAAAG | (TTTC)15 | 268–472 | 6FAM | 35 | 0.967/0.917 | 0.553 | 0.053 |
| Side15 | F: GTGTTTGTGTTTTACTACTTGC R: ACAGTTAATAGTGATGCCC | (TA)9 | 183–207 | VIC | 11 | 0.892/0.833 | 0.368 | 0.067 |
| Side07 | F: AAATAAGAAACAACAGGACG R: CAGATCAACCGATAAAAATG | (AG)10 | 296–320 | VIC | 11 | 0.778/0.684 | 0.046 ^b | 0.124 |
| Side13 | F: GAACATGGTACAGATTATGG R: TACAAGCTGAAGTAAGATGG | (CAA)10 | 165–192 | PET | 9 | 0.769/0.708 | 0.168 | 0.08 |
| Side19 | F: GGTCAATGTCTGTAAAAAGG R: GTGAGGTAAAACTATGTGG | (TAA)13 | 266–293 | PET | 10 | 0.658/0.542 | 0.099 | 0.079 |
| PlexB | | | | | | | | |
| Side12 | F: TAGTCAAACCAATAACAGG R: GATGTCTGTACAAAAATGC | (AT)9 | 268–276 | 6FAM | 5 | 0.645/0.625 | 0.339 | 0.152 |
| Side05 | F: GAATTGAAGGTGTTAGTTCC R: GATAAGAGTAGGCCAGAATG | (GA)11 | 319–341 | VIC | 10 | 0.881/0.750 | 0.182 | 0.043 |
| Side17 | F: CTTTGTTCCTACTACTCC R: CTTCAATGCTGTGATTTGC | (CAA)10 | 208–264 | NED | 14 | 0.867/0.583 | 0.002^a | 0.332 |
| Side03 | F: ATACTTCGAGTCCACAAAAG R: TTTCGGTCAGTACCTTTATC | (GTTT)14 | 245–313 | PET | 15 | 0.896/0.917 | 0.478 | 0.023 |
| PlexC | | | | | | | | |
| Side20 | F: AATATACACACGGGACCTAC R: TTGTCCAAAATCACGAAC | (GA)14 | 204–256 | 6FAM | 26 | 0.947/0.870 | 0.098 | 0.083 |
| Side01 | F: CAATATGCTGAGTGTGACG R: CTTCTCTTCTACATAAAAACC | (TGTT)11 | 385–441 | 6FAM | 14 | 0.821/0.739 | 0.181 | 0.102 |
| Side10 | F: TCTGAGGCGTAATCTTTAAC R: TCGTATTTATTGTTTCTCCC | (AAAC)15 | 200–244 | VIC | 12 | 0.900/0.870 | 0.053 | 0.034 |
| Side04 | F: TTTGATTTTCAGATACACGTC R: GCAGACAAAATAAGAAAGG | (GTT)11 | 284–335 | PET | 16 | 0.914/0.917 | 0.526 | 0.003 |
| Side09 | F: ATCTCGTTGGTTTATATTGG R: GGCTGATGATTTTATTGAC | (GACA)17 | 313–401 | NED | 17 | 0.934/0.917 | 0.482 | 0.019 |

Number of alleles (N_A) and range of allelic size were based on 48 specimens

Hardy–Weinberg P values (H–W), observed (H_O) and expected (H_E) heterozygosity, and inbreeding index (F_{IS}) are based on 24 specimens from Bridport, Tasmania

^a Significant after Bonferroni correction

^b Not significant after Bonferroni correction. Forward primers were tagged with a 5′M13 universal sequence (5′TGTAACGACGGCC) and labelled using four different fluorescence labels

All 14 loci were polymorphic, with an average of 14.6 alleles per locus (ranging from 5 to 35 alleles) and H_O ranging from 0.46 to 0.92 (mean = 0.77). After sequential Bonferroni correction, only Side17 showed a possibility of null alleles. No deviations from Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium were detected, except for Side17, and there was no evidence of linkage disequilibrium between pairs of loci. We tested cross-amplification for all the loci in the congeneric *S. denticulata* using eight samples from New South Wales, Australia. Amplification succeeds for nine loci and polymorphism was detected on all of them. Connectivity and seascape genetic studies on Australian siphon limpets using the microsatellite markers reported here would provide valuable information for the design of MPAs in temperate waters of Australia.

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