

Genetic variation among date plum (*Diospyros lotus*) genotypes in Turkey

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Genet. Mol. Res. 9 (2): 981-986 (2010)

Received February 13, 2010

Accepted March 16, 2010

Published May 25, 2010

DOI 10.4238/vol9-2gmr787

ABSTRACT. Turkey is one of the most important genetic resources of the date plum, *Diospyros lotus*, especially in the northeastern part of the country. Authenticating the identity of germplasm resources of *D. lotus* would be of great value for breeding. We examined the genetic variability of 11 *D. lotus* genotypes sampled from Coruh Valley in Turkey. One hundred and twenty-eight DNA markers were generated by 12 random primers. The highest polymorphism ratio was observed with the primer OPA-01 (71%) while the lowest was with OPY-01 (36%). The band size was between 350 and 2500 bp for these primers. The percentage of polymorphic bands was 58%, which demonstrated the efficiency of these primers. The similarity between genotypes ranged from 0.48 to 0.76. The RAPD markers permitted us to distinguish all the genotypes.

Key words: Persimmon; *Diospyros lotus*; RAPD; Genetic diversity