



*Short Communication*

## Polymorphic microsatellite loci for the Japanese anchovy *Engraulis japonicus* (Engraulidae)

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**ABSTRACT.** We isolated and characterized 14 polymorphic microsatellite loci in the Japanese anchovy (*Engraulis japonicus*) using a (GT)<sub>13</sub>-enriched genomic library. The numbers of alleles per locus ranged from 6 to 31, with a mean of 17.8. The observed and expected heterozygosities ranged from 0.180 to 0.949 and from 0.172 to 0.966, with means of 0.731 and 0.825, respectively. All 14 loci were in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium and no significant linkage disequilibrium between loci pairs was detected. These microsatellite markers will be useful for analyzing the population genetic structure and gene flow of *E. japonicus*.

**Key words:** *Engraulis japonicus*; Japanese anchovy; Microsatellite loci; Population structure