



Eight polymorphic microsatellite markers for the spotted babylon, *Babylonia areolata* (Buccinidae)

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ABSTRACT. The spotted babylon, *Babylonia areolata*, is one of the most extensively cultured marine mollusks in southeast Asia. Eight polymorphic microsatellite markers were developed for this species, from a microsatellite-enriched library. These markers, characterized in 32 individuals from a hatchery population, were polymorphic, with allele numbers ranging from 6 to 18 per locus, expected and observed heterozygosities ranging from 0.68 to 0.94 and 0.56 to 0.81, respectively. One locus (*HUBA09*) showed significant deviation from Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium, probably due to the presence of null alleles. These microsatellite loci should be useful for future population genetic studies and marker-assisted breeding in this species.

Key words: *Babylonia areolata*; Microsatellites; Population genetics; Aquaculture; Spotted babylon