



Isolation and characterization of 32 microsatellite loci for topmouth culter (*Culter alburnus* Basilewsky)

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ABSTRACT. The topmouth culter (*Culter alburnus*) is an economically important freshwater fish, which is widely distributed throughout large rivers, reservoirs, and lake areas of China. We report here the isolation and characterization of 32 new polymorphic microsatellite loci isolated from genomic DNA in this species enriched by (CA)₁₂ and (GA)₁₂ probes. The variability of these microsatellites was tested on 30 individuals cultured. The average allele number was 6.6 per locus, ranging from 3 to 12. The observed heterozygosity was from 0.4667 to 0.9000, and the expected heterozygosity was from 0.6163 to 0.9085. After using Bonferroni's correction for multiple tests, there was no evidence of linkage disequilibrium between pairs of loci, but deviations from Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium were found in 3 loci. These microsatellites can be used to study QTL of economic importance, population genetic diversity and the construction of genetic maps for *C. alburnus* in the future.

Key words: *Culter alburnus*; Microsatellite; Genetic diversity