



Short Communication

New loci of *Lychnophora ericoides* and transferability to *Lychnophora pinaster*, endangered medicinal species from Brazil

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ABSTRACT. *Lychnophora ericoides* and *Lychnophora pinaster* are species used in popular medicine as analgesic or anti-inflammatory

agents to treat contusions, rheumatism, and insect bites. In this study, 21 simple sequence repeat loci of *L. ericoides* were developed and transferred to *L. pinaster*. Three populations of *L. ericoides* and 2 populations of *L. pinaster* were evaluated; they were collected in the State of Minas Gerais. Population parameters were estimated, and the mean values of observed and expected heterozygosity were 0.297 and 0.408 (*L. ericoides*) and 0.228 and 0.310 (*L. pinaster*), respectively. Greater genetic variability was observed within populations than between populations of *L. ericoides* (62 and 37%) and *L. pinaster* (97 and 2.8%). These results provide information for genetic conservation and taxonomic studies of these endangered species.

Key words: Microsatellite; Population genetics; Arnica; Medicinal plant