



Isolation and characterization of polymorphic microsatellite loci in the sea cucumber *Holothuria scabra*

Z.B. Li^{1,2}, G. Dai^{1,2}, J.B. Shangguan^{1,2}, Y.F. Ning^{1,2}, Y.Y. Li^{1,2}, R.B. Chen^{1,2},
Y.S. Huang^{1,2} and Y. Yuan^{1,2}

¹Fisheries College, Jimei University, Xiamen, China

²Fujian Provincial Key Laboratory of Marine Fishery Resources and
Eco-environment, Xiamen, China

Corresponding author: Z.B. Li

E-mail: lizhongbao@jmu.edu.cn

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ABSTRACT. The sea cucumber *Holothuria scabra* is an endangered species. In this study, nine new polymorphic microsatellite loci were developed and tested in 30 individuals. The number of alleles ranged from 2 to 5, and the observed and expected heterozygosities ranged from 0.1200 to 0.7391 and from 0.2408 to 0.5983, respectively. No loci significantly deviated from the Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium after a Bonferroni correction, and no significant linkage disequilibrium was found between pairs of loci. These polymorphic microsatellite loci will be useful in studying the genetic diversity of *H. scabra* and its conservation.

Key words: Sea cucumber; *Holothuria scabra*; Microsatellite; Conservation