



Short Communication

Isolation and characterization of microsatellite markers of sea cucumber *Stichopus horrens*

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ABSTRACT. Curry fish (*Stichopus horrens*) is a tropical holothurian species and is widely distributed in the India-West Pacific. In the present study, 9 polymorphic microsatellite loci were isolated and characterized for *S. horrens*. These loci were tested in 30 individuals from Hainan Island in China. The number of alleles ranged from 2 to 5. The polymorphism information content ranged from 0.348-0.584. The levels of observed and expected heterozygosities varied from 0.1500-0.8000 and from 0.2014-0.5000, respectively. Most loci were in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium, except HCS1-27 and HCS2-7, after sequential Bonferroni's correction, and no significant linkage disequilibrium was detected for any pairwise combination of loci. These polymorphic microsatellite loci will be useful for studying population structure and conservation strategy design for *S. horrens*.

Key words: Conservation; Microsatellite; Sea cucumber; *Stichopus horrens*