

Isolation and characterization of 12 polymorphic microsatellite markers for the frog *Pelophylax hubeiensis*

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ABSTRACT. Twelve polymorphic microsatellite loci were isolated from an (AC)_n- and (AG)_n-enriched DNA library for the endemic Chinese frog *Pelophylax hubeiensis* (Ranidae). The number of alleles per locus ranged from two to eight, with a mean of 5.17. The observed and expected heterozygosities ranged from 0.226 to 0.839 and from 0.204 to 0.826, with means of 0.568 and 0.656, respectively. No significant linkage disequilibrium was detected among these loci. However, two significant deviations from HWE were discovered at loci *Pehu-11* and *Pehu-12* ($P < 0.05$). MICRO-CHECKER tests showed that null alleles could be present at locus *Pehu-12*. These polymorphic microsatellite loci can be employed for exploring mating mechanisms, population genetic structure and other relevant genetic investigations of *P. hubeiensis*.

Key words: *Pelophylax hubeiensis*; Genetic marker; Microsatellite; Polymorphism