



Short Communication

Isolation and characterization of novel microsatellite markers in commercial selected golden Malaysian arowana fish, *Scleropages formosus* (Osteoglossidae)

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ABSTRACT. Malaysian arowana (dragonfish; *Scleropages formosus*) is an ancient osteoglossid fish from southeast Asia. Due to the high demand of the ornamental fish trade and because of habitat loss, the species is close to extinction. We isolated and characterized 10 polymorphic microsatellites of this species, using 5'-anchored PCR. The number of alleles at the 10 microsatellite loci ranged from 2 to 28, with a mean of 7.8/locus. The observed heterozygosity ranged from 0.03 to 0.93 (mean: 0.39), whereas the expected heterozygosity ranged from 0.03 to 0.94 (mean: 0.46). Seven microsatellites deviated from Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium, and three conformed to Hardy-

Weinberg equilibrium and were in linkage equilibrium. These 10 novel microsatellites should facilitate studies of genetic diversity and population structure of arowana to help plan actions for the conservation of the indigenous Malaysian arowana.

Key words: *Scleropages formosus*; RAMs; Microsatellites; Genetic variation; Conservation