Online journal ISSN - 1676-5680
GMR Genetics and Molecular Research
EVOLUTION AND TECHNOLOGY

Karyotypic variability in *Iheringichthys labrosus* (Teleostei, Pimelodidae) from the Tibagi River basin (Paraná State, Brazil)

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Genet. Mol. Res. 7 (3): 718-724 (2008)
Received May 2, 2008
Accepted July 2, 2008
Published August 14, 2008

ABSTRACT. Cytogenetic analyses were carried out in a populational sample of *Iheringichthys labrosus* from the Guaraúna River (Upper Tibagi River; Paraná State, Brazil) in order to provide a karyotypic comparison with another previously studied population from the Lower Tibagi River, characterized by the presence of 32m + 8sm + 6st + 10a (2n = 56, FN = 102) and occurrence of supernumerary chromosomes (80% of individuals). The 17 specimens of *I. labrosus* (6 females, 10 males and 1 of unknown sex) from the Upper Tibagi River showed 2n = 56 chromosomes, a karyotype formula of 14m + 32sm + 4st + 6a (FN = 106), without evidence of sex chromosome heteromorphism or supernumerary chromosomes. The heterochromatin was detected

at telomeric and centromeric positions in several chromosomal pairs. The Ag-nucleolar organizer regions were heteromorphic and located at terminal position on short arms of the 16th chromosomal pair, suggesting a positive association with heterochromatic regions. The inter-populational karyotypic differentiation reported indicates distinct evolutionary pathways within *I. labrosus* in the Tibagi River basin.

Key words: Karyotypic evolution; Cytotaxonomy; Heterochromatin; Ag-nucleolar organizer regions

