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

Genetic relationships between selected Turkish mulberry genotypes (*Morus* spp) based on RAPD markers

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Genet. Mol. Res. 9 (4): 2176-2183 (2010)
Received July 15, 2010
Accepted August 3, 2010
Published November 3, 2010
DOI 10.4238/vol9-4gmr958

ABSTRACT. Mulberry (*Morus* spp, Moraceae) is an important horticultural crop in Turkey, which is one of the main world producers of mulberry fruit. We evaluated the genetic relationships among 26 mulberry genotypes selected for agronomic characteristics, using RAPD markers. A total of 367 DNA markers were generated with 34 random primers. The highest genetic similarity (0.80) was observed between Oltu58 (*M. nigra*) and Olur90 (*M. nigra*) genotypes. The genotypes Oltu3 (*M. alba*) and Oltu18 (*M. rubra*) were the most distant (0.36). We found that the RAPD technique is a useful tool to discriminate mulberry genotypes at both the intra- and interspecific level. This type of information will aid in accurate identification of useful genotypes for breeding programs.

Key words: *Morus alba*; *Morus nigra*; *Morus rubra*; RAPD; Genetic relationship

