

Development and characterization of nine polymorphic microsatellite markers in the Chilean kelp *Lessonia nigrescens*

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Abstract

A total of nine microsatellite loci were isolated and characterized in the Chilean kelp *Lessonia nigrescens* Bory. Using two different enriched libraries, we observed 1–14 alleles per locus in two samples of 21 kelp individuals each. The observed heterozygosities ranged from 0.05 to 0.80 and all loci are in Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium for one or both samples. Seventeen samples collected from different sites showed high allele diversity along the species distribution. The variation detected at these markers is currently being used for the study of populations of *Lessonia nigrescens* at different geographical scales.