



Development and characterization of microsatellite markers of the eastern keelback mullet (*Liza affinis*)

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ABSTRACT. Twenty-four polymorphic microsatellite loci were isolated and characterized for *Liza affinis* using a (GT)₁₃-enriched genomic library. The number of alleles per locus ranged from 3 to 9, with a mean number of 6.250. The observed and expected heterozygosities ranged from 0.417 to 1.000 and from 0.550 to 0.861, with an average of 0.859 and 0.779, respectively. Deviation from Hardy-Weinberg proportions was detected at three loci. Evidence of null alleles was found at two loci. These markers will be useful in further studies investigating the genetic variation and population structure of this species, and may provide insights into the maintenance and efficient management of eastern keelback mullet resources.

Key words: *Liza affinis*; Microsatellite loci; Population structure; Genetic diversity