

Additional File 11. Sex determination by PCR.

DNA was extracted with the DNA Purification System Kit (High pure PCR template preparation kit (Roche). The sex chromosome genes *zinc finger protein X-linked (ZFX)* and *zinc finger protein Y-linked (ZFY)* located on the X and Y chromosomes respectively, were amplified by PCR as previously described by Weiss and Johnston (1999).

Briefly, the PCR mix contain the forward primer ZF_F and two reverse primers specific of the X (ZFX_R) and Y (ZFY_R) chromosomes. Thus, one amplicon of 488 base pairs (bp) (X chromosome specific) is amplified in XX females and two amplicons of 488 and 340 bp (Y chromosome specific) in XY males.

Primer	Forward sequence (5'-3')
ZF_F	ATTGTTCTAAGTCGCCATATTCTCT
ZFX_R	GAACACACTACTGAGCAAAATGTATA
ZFY_R	CATCTTTACAAGCTTGTAGACACACT

The PCR reaction was performed with 2.5µl of 10x Reaction Buffer (Biotools) with a final concentration of 1x, 0.3µM of each of the three primers, 1mM of dNTPs, 2mM of MgCl²⁺, 0.6 U of DNA Polimerase (Biotools) and 50ng of DNA in a final volume of 25ul.

The thermal cycling profile was initiated with 95 °C enzyme activation incubation for 3 minutes. Next 35 cycles of 94 °C for 15 seconds (s), 60.1 °C for 30 s and 72 °C for 30 s. After cycling a final elongation was run 7 minutes at 72 °C. Sex discrimination was performed by electrophoresis in agarose gels at 2.5%.