

STUDY ON GENETIC VARIABILITY OF LOXAH (*Polymerodes*
comosa) BY USING RAPD - PGR TECHNIQUE

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**STUDY ON GENETIC VARIABILITY OF LOKAN (*Polymesoda expansa*) BY USING
RAPD-PCR TECHNIQUE**

By

Anitha Sivanathan

Research Report submitted in partial fulfillment of
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PROJEK PENYELIDIKAN I DAN II

Adalah ini diakui dan disahkan bahawa laporan penyelidikan bertajuk: Study on genetic variability of Lokan (*Polymesoda expansa*) by using RAPD-PCR technique oleh Anitha Sivanathan, no. matrik: UK 6734 telah diperiksa dan semua pembetulan yang disarankan telah dilakukan. Laporan ini dikemukakan kepada Jabatan Sains Biologi sebagai memenuhi sebahagian daripada keperluan memperolehi Ijazah Sarjana Muda Sains (Sains Biologi), Fakulti Sains dan Teknologi, Kolej Universiti Sains dan Teknologi Malaysia.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	ii
LIST OF TABLES	vi
LIST OF FIGURES	vii
LIST OF SYMBOLS	ix
LIST OF APPENDICES	x
ABSTRACT	xi
ABSTRAK	xii
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Objectives	2
CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1 Taxonomy and Morphology	3
2.2 Life Cycle	7
2.3 Habitat and Ecological Distribution	8
2.4 Genetic Variation	9
2.5 Molecular Genetic Marker	10
2.6 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)	11
2.7 Random Amplified Polymorphic DNA (RAPD)	14

CHAPTER 3 METHODOLOGY

3.1	Collection of Samples	16
3.2	DNA Extraction	16
3.3	Agarose Gel Electrophoresis	18
3.4	Measurement of DNA Purity and Quantity	19
3.5	Screening of RAPD Primers	20
3.6	DNA Amplification of Selected RAPD Primers	23
3.7	Data Analysis	23

CHAPTER 4 RESULTS

4.1	Purity and Quantity of Genomic DNA	25
4.2	Screening of RAPD Primers	30
4.3	Genetic Variability of <i>P. expansa</i>	32
4.3.1	RAPD Profiles	32
4.4	Data Analysis	41
4.4.1	Similarity Index	41
4.4.2	Genetic Distances Analysis	44

CHAPTER 5 DISCUSSION

5.1	Purity and Quantity of Genomic DNA	49
5.2	Screening of RAPD Primers	51
5.3	Genetic Variability of <i>P. expansa</i>	52
5.3.1	RAPD Profiles	52
5.4	Data Analysis	54

5.4.1 Similarity Index	54
5.4.2 Genetic Distances Analysis	54
CHAPTER 6 CONCLUSION	57
REFERENCES	59
APPENDICES	63
CURRICULUM VITAE	67

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
3.1 Code, sequence, nucleotide length and G+C content of primers used in the Random Amplified Polymorphic DNA (RAPD) analysis	22
4.1 Purity and quantity of genomic DNA samples of <i>P. expansa</i> taken from Pulau Semut population	26
4.2 Purity and quantity of genomic DNA samples of <i>P. expansa</i> taken from Pulau Dua population	26
4.3 Total number of fragments, polymorphic fragments, proportion of polymorphism and size range of fragments of RAPDs <i>P. expansa</i> from Pulau Semut population	39
4.4 Total number of fragments, polymorphic fragments, proportion of polymorphism and size range of fragments of RAPDs <i>P. expansa</i> from Pulau Dua population	39
4.5 Total number of fragments, polymorphic fragments, proportion of polymorphism and size range of fragments of RAPDs <i>P. expansa</i> from both Pulau Semut and Pulau Dua populations	40
4.6 Similarity indices among <i>P. expansa</i> individuals in Pulau Semut population	41
4.7 Similarity indices among <i>P. expansa</i> individuals in Pulau Dua population	42
4.8 Similarity indices among <i>P. expansa</i> individuals in both Pulau Semut and Pulau Dua populations	43

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		Page
2.1	The classification of <i>Polymesoda expansa</i> (Peter and Sivasothi, 2001)	4
2.2	The Lokan, <i>Polymesoda expansa</i> collected from Pulau Semut population	5
2.3	Three major steps in Polymerase Chain Reaction (Park and Moran, 1995)	13
4.1	Genomic DNA extracted using Promega Wizard TM Genomic DNA Purification Kit on 0.8% agarose gel and stained with 0.5 µg/mL ethidium bromide. Samples taken from Pulau Semut population. Lane labeled: M (Marker: λ Hind III) and 1-6 (sample 1-6)	28
4.2	Genomic DNA extracted using Promega Wizard TM Genomic DNA Purification Kit on 0.8% agarose gel and stained with 0.5 µg/mL ethidium bromide. Samples taken from Pulau Dua population. Lane labeled: M (Marker: λ Hind III) and 1-6 (sample 1-6)	29
4.3	RAPD banding patterns for primer screening. Lane 1-10 represent primer OPA-01 to primer OPA-10 respectively.	31
4.4	Banding patterns of RAPD fragments of <i>P. expansa</i> from Pulau Semut population using primer OPA-03. Lane M is a marker 100 bp ladder plus. Individuals 1-6, left to right and C is control	33
4.5	Banding patterns of RAPD fragments of <i>P. expansa</i> from Pulau Semut population using primer OPA-04. Lane M is a marker 100 bp ladder plus. Individuals 1-6, left to right and C is control	34

4.6	Banding patterns of RAPD fragments of <i>P. expansa</i> from Pulau Semut population using primer OPA-09. Lane M is a marker 100 bp ladder plus. Individuals 1-6, left to right and C is control	35
4.7	Banding patterns of RAPD fragments of <i>P. expansa</i> from Pulau Dua population using primer OPA-03. Lane M is a marker 100 bp ladder plus. Individuals 1-6, left to right and C is control	36
4.8	Banding patterns of RAPD fragments of <i>P. expansa</i> from Pulau Dua population using primer OPA-04. Lane M is a marker 100 bp ladder plus. Individuals 1-6, left to right and C is control	37
4.9	Banding patterns of RAPD fragments of <i>P. expansa</i> from Pulau Dua population using primer OPA-09. Lane M is a marker 100 bp ladder plus. Individuals 1-6, left to right and C is control	38
4.10	Dendrogram showing genetic relationship between individuals of the clam (<i>P. expansa</i>) collected in Pulau Semut population. UPGMA cluster analysis based on the genetic distance generated from Nei and Li's indices.	45
4.11	Dendrogram showing genetic relationship between individuals of the clam (<i>P. expansa</i>) collected in Pulau Dua population. UPGMA cluster analysis based on the genetic distance generated from Nei and Li's indices.	46
4.12	Dendrogram showing genetic relationship between 12 individuals of the clam (<i>P. expansa</i>) collected in both Pulau Semut and Pulau Dua populations. UPGMA cluster analysis based on the genetic distance generated from Nei and Li's indices.	47
4.13	UPGMA cluster analysis based on the genetic distance generated from Nei and Li's indices of different <i>P. expansa</i> populations.	48

LIST OF SYMBOLS

bp	base pair
C	Cytosine
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid
dNTP	2'-deoxynucleoside-5'-triphosphate(s)
G	Guanine
NTSYS-pc	Numerical Taxonomy and Multivariate Analysis System-personal computer
OD	Optical Density
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
RAPD	Random Amplified Polymorphic DNA
RFLP	Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism
SAHN	Sequential, Agglomerative, Hierarchical and Nested Clustering
TBE	Tris-Borate-EDTA buffer
TE	10 mM Tris-Cl, 1 mM EDTA
UPGMA	Unweighted Paired-Group Method of Arithmetic
VDS	Video Documentation System
w/v	weight/volume

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix		Page
Appendix A	Genetic distance of RAPD markers in Pulau Semut population of <i>P. expansa</i>	64
Appendix B	Genetic distance of RAPD markers in Pulau Dua population of <i>P. expansa</i>	65
Appendix C	Genetic distance of RAPD markers in two populations of <i>P. expansa</i>	66

ABSTRACT

Genetic variability of the mangrove clam's *Polymesoda expansa* was detected using Random Amplified Polymorphic DNA-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RAPD-PCR) technique. The clams were collected from Pulau Semut and Pulau Dua populations of Setiu Wetland, Terengganu. The aims of this study were to assess the degree of polymorphism and establish the genetic database on the genetic variability of *P. expansa*. The genomic DNA was successfully extracted using the Promega WizardTM Genomic DNA Purification Kit. Three primers were chosen from 1st BASE (OPA-01 to OPA-10); OPA-03, OPA-04 and OPA-09 based on the number and intensity of the fragments produced and used for amplification and yielded a total of 79 RAPD fragments with 63 polymorphic fragments (79.75%) with the size ranging from 200 to 2000 bp from combination of both populations. The highest level of polymorphisms were detected in samples from Pulau Dua population (81.40%) and followed by Pulau Semut population (77.78%). The dendrogram constructed from combination of both populations revealed two main clusters of *P. expansa* population. The effectiveness of RAPD analysis for the study of genetic variability in clam's *P. expansa* was demonstrated and this approach very useful for identification and phylogenetic study.

KAJIAN KEPELBAGAIAN GENETIK LOKAN (*Polymesoda expansa*) DENGAN MENGGUNAKAN TEKNIK RAPD-PCR

ABSTRAK

Kepelbagaian genetik Lokan bakau, *Polymesoda expansa* dikesan dengan menggunakan teknik polimorfisme DNA rawak teramplifikasi-tindakbalas berantai polimerase (RAPD-PCR). Lokan dikumpul dari populasi-populasi Pulau Semut dan Pulau Dua di Setiu Wetland, Terengganu. Tujuan kajian ini dijalankan adalah untuk menentukan darjah polimorfik dan menubuhkan pangkalan data kepelbagaian genetik bagi *P. expansa*. Genomik DNA dieksrak dengan Promega WizardTM Genomic DNA Purification Kit. Tiga pencetus telah dipilih dari 1st BASE (OPA-01 hingga OPA-10); OPA-03, OPA-04 dan OPA-09 berdasarkan nombor dan intensiti fragmen yang terbentuk dan digunakan untuk amplifikasi dan menghasilkan sejumlah 79 jalur segmen RAPD dengan 63 jalur polimorfik (79.75%) yang berjulat antara 200 hingga 2000 bp daripada gabungan kedua-dua populasi. Paras polimorfik yang tinggi dikesan daripada sampel dari Pulau Dua populasi (81.40%) dan diikuti oleh Pulau Semut populasi (77.78%). Dendrogram daripada gabungan kedua-dua populasi menghasilkan dua kluster utama populasi *P. expansa*. Keberkesanan RAPD analisis untuk kajian kepelbagaian genetik bagi lokan *P. expansa* telah tercapai dan ini sangat berguna untuk kajian indentiti dan filogenetik.