

Evaluación de marcadores moleculares para el estudio poblacional de *Lecythis minor* Jacq. (Lecythidaceae)

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El bosque seco tropical es un ecosistema importante para distintos organismos debido a su alta diversidad. Dentro de la amplia diversidad de especies vegetales de este ecosistema se encuentra *Lecythis minor* (olla de mono), perteneciente a la familia Lecythidaceae, y que se distribuye en el norte de Suramérica en Venezuela y Colombia. Esta especie poco estudiada está empezando a ser utilizada en procesos de reforestación debido a su potencial económico, y su capacidad de bioacumular selenio orgánico en sus semillas y del cual se extrae un aceite. Hasta ahora en *L. minor* no se habían realizado estudios genéticos, ni poblacionales y se desconoce su estado de conservación, siendo necesario identificar marcadores moleculares que puedan ser utilizados para el estudio de la diversidad genética de esta especie. En este sentido, el objetivo de este trabajo fue evaluar marcadores moleculares para el estudio poblacional de *L. minor*. El material vegetal fue recolectado de poblaciones naturales de la especie distribuidas en los departamentos de Atlántico, Bolívar, Cesar, Magdalena y Sucre. Posteriormente, se seleccionó un set de 7 marcadores ISSR utilizados en *Berthotellia excelsa* y un grupo de 10 marcadores microsátélites desarrollados para *Lecythis pinosis* y *B. excelsa*, probando la transferibilidad de estos marcadores en *L. minor*, y se continuó identificando los loci polimórficos y las variantes alélicas, analizándose con los programas GenAlex 6.5 y Cervus. El 71 % de los marcadores ISSR probados, generaron bandas claras cuantificables. Por su parte 70 % de los marcadores SSR presentaron transferibilidad en *L. minor*. Los 5 marcadores ISSR amplificados, generaron un total de 31 bandas, de las cuales 25 fueron polimórficas. El número de bandas amplificadas osciló entre 3 y 11 con un promedio de 6,2 bandas. Todos los marcadores ISSR presentaron un alto porcentaje de bandas polimórficas que varió de 66,6% a 100%. El número de alelos efectivos osciló 1,5 y 1,91. El promedio de la diversidad genética de Nei fue de 0,425 y el promedio del índice de información de Shannon fue de 0,526. El contenido de información polimórfica osciló entre 0,218

y 0,416, con un promedio de 0,339. Mientras que los SSR transferidos con éxito registraron un número de alelos que osciló entre 2 a 5 y el número de alelos efectivos varió de 1,280 a 2,909. La heterocigosidad esperada presentó un rango entre 0,233 a 0,750. El índice de contenido de información polimórfica presentó un valor medio de 0,447. Los análisis de coordenadas principales PCA, realizados a partir de los marcadores utilizados en el estudio demuestran la capacidad de estos para detectar variabilidad genética entre los individuos estudiados, demostrando ser marcadores útiles para futuros trabajos. Asimismo, muestran una diferenciación que puede estar influenciada por efectos naturales como geográficos y biológicos, o antrópicos como la fragmentación del bosque seco; sin embargo, es necesario realizar un análisis con un tamaño muestral más grande. Finalmente, se obtuvo un set de 5 marcadores ISSR y 5 marcadores SSR polimórficos en *L. minor*, siendo estos los primeros reportados para la especie, convirtiéndose en una herramienta para futuros estudios en genética poblacional de *L. minor*.

Palabras clave: ISSR, SSR, diversidad genética, variabilidad genética.

ABSTRACT

The tropical dry forest is an important ecosystem for different organisms due to its high diversity. Within the wide diversity of plant species of this ecosystem is *Lecythis minor* (monkey pot), belonging to the Lecythydaceae family, and which is distributed in the north of South America in Venezuela and Colombia. This little-studied species is beginning to be used in reforestation processes due to its economic potential, and its ability to bioaccumulate organic selenium in its seeds and from which an oil is extracted. Until now, no genetic or population studies have been carried out on *L. minor* and its conservation status is unknown, making it necessary to identify molecular markers that can be used to study the genetic diversity of this species. In this sense, the objective of this work was to evaluate molecular markers for the population study of *L. minor*. The plant material was collected from natural populations of the species distributed in the departments of Atlántico, Bolívar, Cesar, Magdalena and Sucre. Subsequently, a set of 7 ISSR markers used in *Berthotellia excelsa* and a group of 10 microsatellite markers developed for *Lecythis pinosis* and *B. excelsa* were selected, testing the transferability of these markers in *L. minor*, and the polymorphic loci and the allelic variants, being analyzed with the GenAlex 6.5 and Cervus programs. 71% of the ISSR markers tested generated clear quantifiable bands. On the other hand, 70% of the SSR markers presented transferability in *L. minor*. The 5 amplified ISSR markers generated a total of 31 bands, of which 25 were polymorphic. The number of amplified bands ranged from 3 to 11 with an average of 6.2 bands. All ISSR markers presented a high percentage of polymorphic bands that ranged from 66.6% to 100%. The number of effective alleles ranged from 1.5 to 1.91. Nei's mean genetic diversity was 0.425 and Shannon's mean information index was 0.526. The polymorphic information content ranged from 0.218 to 0.416,

with an average of 0.339. While the successfully transferred SSRs registered a number of alleles that ranged from 2 to 5 and the number of effective alleles ranged from 1,280 to 2,909. The expected heterozygosity ranged from 0.233 to 0.750. The polymorphic information content index presented a mean value of 0.447. The PCA main coordinate analysis, carried out from the markers used in the study, demonstrate their ability to detect genetic variability among the studied individuals, proving to be useful markers for future work. Likewise, they show a differentiation that can be influenced by natural effects such as geographical and biological, or anthropic such as the fragmentation of the dry forest; however, an analysis with a larger sample size is necessary. Finally, a set of 5 ISSR markers and 5 polymorphic SSR markers were obtained in *L. minor*, these being the first reported for the species, becoming a tool for future studies in population genetics of *L. minor*.

KeyWords: ISSR, SSR, genetic diversity, genetic variability.

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