**Table S1.** Information of the five polymorphic microsatellite loci for the mandarinfish, *Synchiropus splendidus*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Locus | Repeat motif (n) | Primer sequence(5’–3’) | Dye | Ta (°C) | Size range(bp) |
| A28 | (ATAG)6 | GCAGGTCTTTGTTTACGTTGTCGGCATGTTTCCTGAATACCAT | FAM | 56 | 97-121 |
| A29 | (ACAG)20 | GCGGATGGAGAAGCAGTGGTTAGAGGTAGCATTTGAGT | NED | 55 | 313-395 |
| A20 | (CA)20 | GTAGATGCTGTACTTGAAGTCGTGTGTCATCAGTCCACAGATTCCACC | VIC | 53 | 269-321 |
| B20 | (CACG)11 | GCAGTTAGCAGAGAATGAGTCTGGTCTGAATGCTCCGCATCAGT | FAM | 55 | 108-152 |
| B59 | (TG)18 | GAGGTTTGTCGTGCGGTCAACACAGTCTACAAGGTCTTACA | VIC | 52 | 85-122 |