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A panel of microsatellite markers to discriminate and study interactions between *Haemonchus contortus* and *Haemonchus placei*

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Highlights

1. Identification of two new microsatellite loci with distinct alleles for *Haemonchus contortus* and *Haemonchus placei*
2. Validation of panel of 5 microsatellite markers to discriminate individual worms of the two species from diverse geographical origins based on multilocus genotypes

Abstract

Haemonchus contortus and *Haemonchus placei* are two closely related economically important parasites of ruminants. Their close morphological similarity, common occurrence as co-infections and ability to hybridize makes definitive diagnosis and epidemiological studies in field populations challenging. In this paper, we describe the development of a panel of microsatellite markers that can be used to discriminate and study the genetics of these two parasite species in co-infections and mixed field populations. We have identified two additional microsatellites (Hp52 and Hp53), in addition to three previously reported microsatellites (Hcms3561, Hcms53265 and Hcms36) that have a discrete set of alleles

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