

**Table S1:** RT-PCR primers

Gene	Sequence of the selected primer pair	Length of amplicon (nucleotide)
<i>Hox A5</i>	Forward: 5'-CCCTTCAATCTCGTTTAGT-3' Reverse: 5'-TCTCATCAAGTCACCTCTA-3'	171
<i>Hox A7</i>	Forward: 5'-ACAACAAATCACAGGTCAAA-3' Reverse: 5'-AGCAAAGGAGCAAGAAGTC-3'	119
<i>Hox C10</i>	Forward: 5'-CGAAGCGAAAGAGGAGATA-3' Reverse: 5'-AGCGTCTGGTGTTTAGTAT-3'	102
<i><math>\beta</math> actin</i>	Forward: 5'-AATCGTGCGTGACATTAAG-3' Reverse: 5'-GAAGGAAGGCTGGAAGAG-3'	178