

Confirmation of Parentage of the Pear Cultivar 'Niitaka' (*Pyrus pyrifolia*) Based on Self-incompatibility Haplotypes and Genotyping with SSR Markers

Hoy-Taek Kim and Ill-Sup Nou*

Department of Horticulture, Suncheon National University, Suncheon 57922, Korea

*Corresponding author: nis@sunchon.ac.kr

Abstract

The parentage of the horticulturally important pear cultivar 'Niitaka' was confirmed by determining its *S*-genotypes based on the *S-RNase* and *PpSFBB*⁷ genes, and genotyping using simple sequence repeat (SSR) markers. Previous reports suggested that the cultivars 'Amanogawa' and 'Imamuraaki' were the parents of 'Niitaka', although the cultivars 'Chojuro' and 'Shinchu' were also examined as candidate parents, along with two other cultivars. In the present study, the *S*-genotype of 'Niitaka' was determined to be S^3S^9 . The *S*⁹-*RNase* of 'Niitaka' was found to be likely inherited from the parent 'Amanogawa' (S^1S^9) and the *S*³-*RNase* from 'Chojuro' (S^3S^5) or 'Shinchu' (S^3S^5). Based on the *S*-genotypes, the cultivar 'Imamuraaki' (S^1S^6) had no contribution to the parentage of 'Niitaka' (S^3S^9). A total of 67 polymorphic SSR markers were used to further confirm the parentage of 'Niitaka'. Discrepancies were found at several SSR loci between 'Niitaka' and the cultivars 'Imamuraaki' and 'Shinchu', whereas 'Niitaka' inherited alleles from 'Amanogawa' and 'Chojuro' at all SSR loci. Therefore, our findings established that 'Amanogawa' and 'Chojuro' are the parents of pear cultivar 'Niitaka', and not 'Imamuraaki' as previously reported.

Additional key words: parent-offspring relationship, PCR-CAPS, SFBB, *S-RNase*

Introduction

Pear (*Pyrus* spp.) is an important fruit tree worldwide and has been cultivated in more than 50 countries. In Korea, pear breeding began in the late 1920s by the National Institute of Horticultural and Herbal Science (NIHHS) of the Rural Development Administration (RDA). The goals of this breeding program include improving fruit quality in terms of fruit size, acidity, sugar content, flesh firmness and core ratio; developing disease and pest resistance for black spot, scab and mites; and developing labor-saving varieties by inducing self-compatibility (Shin et al., 2002). Korean pear cultivars 'Chuwangbae', 'Hanareum', 'Josengwhangkeum', 'Shincheon' and 'Sooyoung' were bred using 'Niitaka' as a parent because 'Niitaka' ripens in mid-October at Suwon and has a high yield potential, producing large fruit with an attractive appearance and good storability (Kim et al., 1986; Hwang et al., 2002, 2005a, 2005b;

OPEN ACCESS



Korean J. Hortic. Sci. Technol. 34(3):453-460, 2016
<http://dx.doi.org/10.12972/kjhst.20160046>

pISSN : 1226-8763
 eISSN : 2465-8588

Received: March 4, 2016

Revised: April 19, 2016

Accepted: April 25, 2016

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Shin et al., 2007). The 'Niitaka' cultivar was developed in 1915 by a breeding program in Japan (Kikuchi, 1927). Identifying the parent-offspring relationships of pear cultivars is important for current efforts to improve breeding efficiencies; however, some Japanese pear cultivars, including 'Housui' (Ishimizu et al., 1998), 'Kisui' (Hiratsuka et al., 1998), 'Tanzawa' (Castillo et al., 2001), 'Oharabeni' (Kim et al., 2007) and 'Niitaka' (Takasaki et al., 2004), exhibit discrepancies from their reported pedigrees in terms of skin type and self-incompatibility traits.

'Housui' (syn. 'Hosui') is a hybrid cultivar that was reported to be developed through a cross between 'Ri-14' and 'Yakumo' in 1954 (Kajiura et al., 1974). However, 'Housui' has russet skin and an S^3S^5 genotype for self-incompatibility. The reported parents, 'Ri-14' (S^1S^2) and 'Yakumo' (S^1S^4 and/or S^2S^4), have smooth skin and a different genetic makeup for self-incompatibility (Ishimizu et al., 1998). Kimura et al. (2003) used 20 SSR markers to confirm that 'Ri-14' and 'Yakumo' were not the parents of 'Housui'. The parents of 'Housui' were found to be 'Kousui' (female parent) and 'Hiratsuka 1 gou' (syn. 'I-33') (male parent) by Sawamura et al. (2004) using 61 SSR markers.

Similarly, 'Niitaka' was reportedly derived from a cross between the pear cultivars 'Amanogawa' and 'Imamuraaki' (Kikuchi, 1927). The S -genotypes of 'Amanogawa' and 'Imamuraaki' are S^1S^9 and S^1S^6 , respectively (Kim et al., 2002; Takasaki et al., 2004), and the S -genotypes of any offspring of a cross between these cultivars would have to be S^1S^6 or S^6S^9 . However, the S -genotype of 'Niitaka' is S^3S^9 , leading Takasaki et al. (2004) to suggest that 'Amanogawa' and 'Imamuraaki' may not be the parents of 'Niitaka'. Two other cultivars, 'Chojuro' and 'Shinchu', have been suggested as candidate parents of 'Niitaka', because they were used as genetic resources during the breeding of 'Niitaka' in 1915 and have S^3 - $RNase$ (Kajiura and Sato, 1990; Washio et al., 2006). Here, to determine the parents of 'Niitaka', we analyze the S -genotypes of seven pear cultivars based on markers specific for S - $RNase$ and $SFBB'$ and determine their SSR genotypes using 65 apple (*Malus* spp.) SSR markers and 42 pear SSR markers.

Materials and Methods

Plant Materials and DNA Isolation

Young leaves of six pear cultivars, 'Amanogawa', 'Imamuraaki', 'Chojuro', 'Shinchu', 'Niitaka' and 'Housui', and the pear line '126-29' (an offspring from a cross between 'Niitaka' and 'Housui'), were collected at the National Institute of Fruit Tree Science (Ibaraki, Japan). The leaves were frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C . Genomic DNA was extracted from the leaves by the method of Yamamoto et al. (2006) and used for genotyping with SSR markers and PCR-CAPS analysis of S -genes.

S - $RNase$ PCR-CAPS Analysis

PCR was performed using the S - $RNase$ -specific primers FTQQYQ and PSprI, as described by Kim et al. (2007). The amplified S - $RNase$ fragments were digested with the haplotype-specific restriction enzymes *SfcI* (S^1), *XbaI* (S^2), *PpuMI* (S^3 and S^5), *AlwNI* (S^5), *MluI* (S^6 and S^7) and *BstBI* (S^9) and analyzed by agarose gel electrophoresis as described by Kim et al. (2002) and Takasaki et al. (2004).

PpSFBB^x PCR-CAPS Analysis

PpSFBB^y fragments were amplified using the primers PpFBXf7 and PpFBXr3 and subjected to CAPS (cleaved amplified polymorphic sequence) analysis (Kakui et al., 2007). Derived CAPS (dCAPS) analysis was performed to detect *PpSFBB*^y (Neff et al. 1998). *PpSFBB*^y fragments were amplified with the 1 bp-mutated primer GdCAPSS2g1-Rsa and reverse primer PpFBXr11. PCR products were digested with *TaqI* (*S*¹), *RasI* (*S*²), *HpyCH4IV* (*S*³), *AflIII* (*S*⁵), *DdeI* (*S*⁶) and *HaeIII* (*S*⁹). *TaqI* and *SmaI* digestions were incubated for 3 h at 65°C and 30°C, respectively, and the other endonucleases were incubated for 3 h at 37°C. The digested fragments were separated on 2% agarose gels in TAE buffer, stained with ethidium bromide and visualized under UV illumination.

SSR Analysis

Genotyping was conducted using 107 SSR markers, including 65 SSR markers derived from apple and 42 SSR markers from pear (Yamamoto et al., 2004). Genomic DNA was isolated using the DNeasy Plant Mini Kit (QIAGEN, Germany). PCR amplification was performed according to the method of Yamamoto et al. (2002) with one modification; the forward primers were labeled with a FAM fluorescent dye. PCR products were separated by capillary electrophoresis on a POP-4 polymer using a Genetic Analyzer 3100 (PE Applied Biosystems, USA). The size of the amplified bands was calculated using an internal DNA standard (GeneScan-400HD ROX, PE Applied Biosystems) and GeneScan software (PE Applied Biosystems).

Results and Discussion

Analysis of *S*-genotypes using *S-RNase* from the Style and *SFBB*^x from Pollen

We identified the *S*-genotypes of the seven pear cultivars (Fig. 1) using a previously developed PCR-RFLP system (Fig. 1) (Kim et al., 2007). *S-RNase* PCR fragments (around 450 bp corresponding to *S*³ or *S*⁵ *RNase* and 1,300 bp corresponding to *S*² or *S*⁹ *RNase*) were obtained from 'Niiitaka' and the other pear cultivars. 'Niiitaka' was digested with the *S*³ and *S*⁵ allele-specific restriction endonuclease, *PpuMI*, producing a 450-bp PCR fragment, but this was not sufficient to determine whether its corresponding *S* allele was *S*³ or *S*⁵. However, when the *S*⁵ allele-specific restriction endonuclease, *AlwNI*, was used, it was unable to digest the target allele, indicating that only the *S*³ allele was present in that locus in 'Niiitaka' (lane 5; Fig. 1C, 1D, and 1F). The presence of the *S*³ allele was confirmed in 'Chojuro' (lane 3), 'Shinchi' (lane 4), 'Housui' (lane 6) and '162-29' (lane 7) when digested with the *S*³ and *S*⁵ allele-specific restriction endonuclease, *PpuMI* (Castillo et al., 2001; Kim et al., 2002).

To determine the other *S*-allele, the 1,300-bp PCR fragments of 'Niiitaka' were digested with the *S*² and *S*⁹ allele-specific restriction endonucleases, *XbaI* and *BstBI*, respectively (Fig. 1B and 1F). The PCR fragments of 'Niiitaka' (lane 5) were cleaved with the *S*⁹ allele-specific restriction endonuclease, but not with the *S*² allele-specific enzyme, indicating that 'Niiitaka' contained the *S*⁹ allele at that locus. The cultivar 'Amanogawa' (lane 1) was also confirmed to have the *S*⁹-*RNase* using the *S*⁹ allele-specific restriction endonuclease *BstBI* (Takasaki et al., 2004). Therefore, we concluded that the *S*-genotype of 'Niiitaka' must be *S*³*S*⁹. The *S*-genotypes of the cultivars were determined as follows: 'Amanogawa' (*S*¹*S*⁹), 'Imamuraaki' (*S*¹*S*⁶), 'Chojuro' (*S*²*S*³), 'Shinchi' (*S*³*S*⁵), 'Niiitaka' (*S*³*S*⁹), 'Housui' (*S*³*S*⁵) and '162-29' (*S*³*S*⁵).

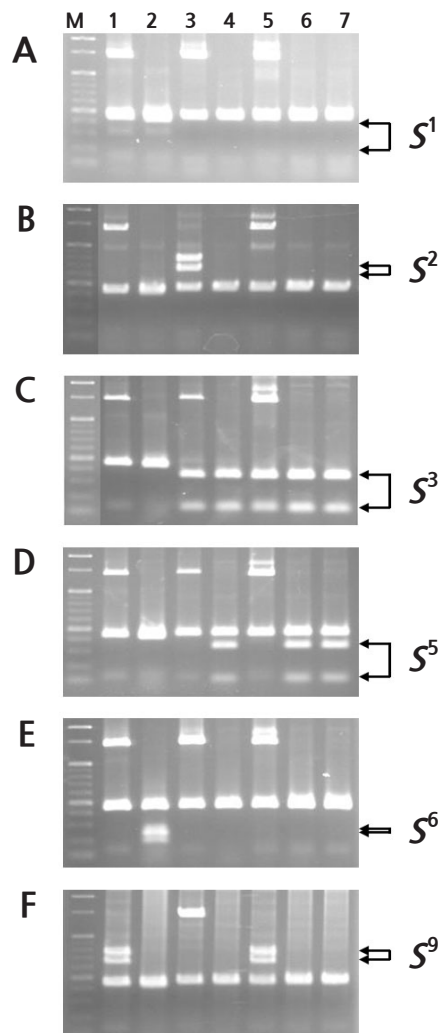


Fig. 1. PCR-RFLP analysis for identification of *S*-genotypes of seven Japanese pear cultivars using *S*-*RNase* genes. The *S*-*RNase* fragments were amplified by PCR using FTQQYQ and PSpI primers and digested with *S* allele-specific restriction enzymes; (A) *Sfcl* (S^1), (B) *Xba*I (S^2 and S^4), (C) *Ppu*MI (S^3 and S^5), (D) *Alu*NI (S^5), (E) *Mlu*I (S^6 and S^7) and (F) *Bst*BI (S^9). The pear cultivars examined were lane 1: Amanogawa (S^1S^9), lane 2: Imamuraaki (S^1S^6), lane 3: Chojuro (S^2S^3), lane 4: Shinchu (S^3S^5), lane 5: Niiitaka (S^3S^9), lane 6: Housui (S^3S^5) and lane 7: 162-29 (S^3S^5). The digested fragments are indicated by arrows.

The S^9 allele specific to the 1,300-bp fragment was detected in 'Niiitaka' and 'Amanogawa', suggesting that the S^9 allele in 'Niiitaka' was derived from 'Amanogawa' (S^1S^9). The S^3 allele was also detected in 'Niiitaka'; however, neither the S^1 nor S^6 allele of the previously reported male parent 'Imamuraaki' was found in 'Niiitaka' (S^3S^9). Therefore, we concluded that 'Imamuraaki' is not a parent of 'Niiitaka'. Furthermore, our results suggest 'Chojuro' (S^2S^3) and 'Shinchu' (S^3S^5) as possible candidates for the parent that contributed the S^3 allele of 'Niiitaka'.

The recent identification of the *S* locus F-box brothers (*SFBB*) in Japanese pear and apple suggested that these multiple F-box genes are pollen-specific candidate genes for the *S* haplotypes. These *S* haplotypes exhibit pollen-specific expression, polymorphisms and linkage to the *S* locus (Sassa et al., 2007). In Japanese pear, three *SFBB*s were identified from a single *S* haplotype and were found to be homologous to other haplotype genes of the same group (i.e., α -, β - and γ -groups; Kakui et al., 2007).

We also determined the *S*-genotypes of the seven pear cultivars using the PCR-CAPS/dCAPS method based on the *PpSFBB^x* genes (Fig. 2A-2F). The 1,245-bp *S³-PpSFBB^x* PCR fragments of 'Niiitaka' (*S³S⁹*) (lane 5), 'Shinchi' (*S³S⁵*) (lane 4), 'Housui' (*S³S⁵*) (lane 6) and '162-29' (*S³S⁵*) (lane 7) were not cleaved with *HpyCH4IV* (Fig. 2C). The *PpSFBB^x* fragments of 'Shinchi' (lane 4), 'Housui' (lane 6) and '162-29' (lane 7) were cleaved by the *S⁵*-specific restriction endonuclease *AflII*, but 'Niiitaka' (lane 5) was not cleaved by this enzyme (Fig. 2D). The *S⁹-PpSFBB^x* PCR fragments of 'Niiitaka' (lane 5) and Amanogawa (*S¹S⁹*) were cleaved by *HaeIII* (Fig. 2F). Based on these polymorphisms of the *PpSFBB^x* genes, the *S*-genotype of 'Niiitaka' was concluded to be *S³S⁹* and the *S*-genotypes of 'Shinchi', 'Housui' and '162-29' were concluded to be *S³S⁵*, which correlates to the results of the *S-RNase* analysis. Therefore, we suggest that PCR-CAPS/dCAPS analysis of both *PpSFBB^x* and *S-RNase* genes can be used to determine the *S*-genotypes of Japanese pear, identify cultivars with highly diverse *S*-genotypes and reveal obscure relationships between parents and progeny. However, the *S*-genotype alone cannot perfectly describe the parent-offspring relationships or be used to identify new potential parents.

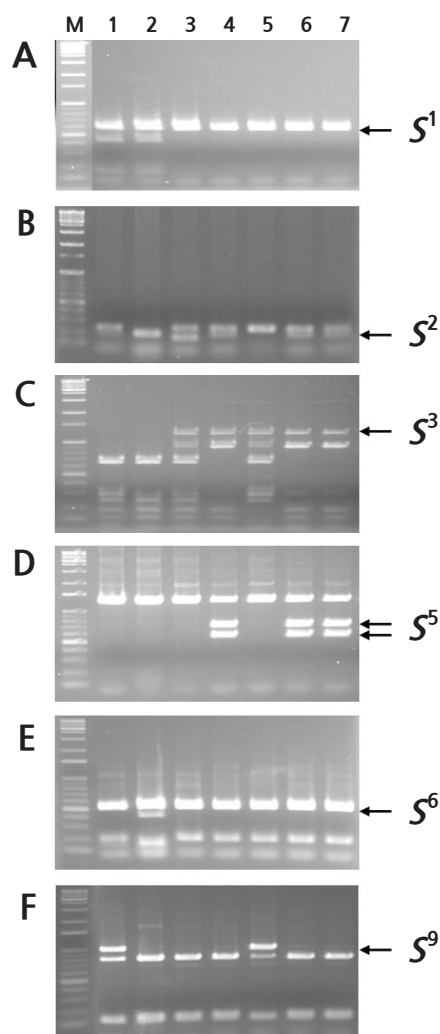


Fig. 2. PCR-CAPS and dCAPS analysis of *PpSFBB^x* genes. Amplified *PpSFBB^x* genes were digested with six restriction endonucleases; *TaqI* (A), *RsaI* (B), *HpyCH4IV* (C), *AflII* (D), *DdeI* (E) and *HaeIII* (F). Arrows show the representative *S* haplotype-specific fragments. The pear cultivars examined were lane 1: Amanogawa (*S¹S⁹*), lane 2: Imamuraaki (*S¹S⁶*), lane 3: Chojuro (*S²S³*), lane 4: Shinchi (*S³S⁵*), lane 5: Niiitaka (*S³S⁹*), lane 6: Housui (*S³S⁵*) and lane 7: 162-29 (*S³S⁵*).

SSR Analysis

To determine the parentage of the pear cultivar 'Niitaka', 107 SSR markers were tested. Among them, 67 SSR markers contained one or two alleles represented by discrete fragments and 14 SSRs contained three or more alleles, whereas 26 SSRs did not amplify. The 67 polymorphic SSR markers were used to determine the parentage of 'Niitaka' (Table 1). Sixteen alleles from ten SSR markers, NZ28f4, CH01h01, CH01f07a, CH04h02, CH03d02, CN444542, NH004a, NH014a, NH015a and TsuENH008, amplified in the previously reported parent 'Imamuraaki' but were not found in 'Niitaka', indicating that 'Imamuraaki' is not the male parent of 'Niitaka'. Based on similar discrepancies at seven SSR markers, the cultivar 'Shinchu' was also ruled out as a parent of 'Niitaka'.

Table 1. Parentage analysis of 'Niitaka' using 39 apple SSR markers and 28 pear SSR markers.

Cultivar	S-genotype	SSR genotype (bp)											
		NZ02b1	NZ05g8	NZ28f4	CH01h01	CH02b03b	CH02b10	CH02d11	CH01f07a	CH01g05	CH02c09	CH02c11	CH02d08
Amanogawa	S ¹ S ⁹	247/252	101/101	97/99	108/117	88/90	119/130	123/139	<u>195/200</u>	134/134	240/254	226/226	201/201
Imamuraaki	S ¹ S ⁶	247/252	101/106	97/107	108/108	88/90	119/130	115/123	200/200	130/134	240/254	226/234	201/201
Chojuro	S ² S ³	252/252	106/117	97/99	70/117	90/92	113/113	98/115	199/204	130/134	229/240	<u>214/218</u>	201/201
Shinchu	S ³ S ⁵	252/252	117/117	97/99	70/110	90/92	113/119	98/115	199/204	132/134	229/247	218/221	201/201
Niitaka	S ³ S ⁹	252/252	101/117	99/99	70/117	90/90	113/119	115/123	<u>195/199</u>	130/134	229/240	<u>214/226</u>	201/201
Housui	S ³ S ⁵	252/252	101/101	99/107	108/108	83/90	119/130	98/115	176/199	132/134	229/254	224/234	201/215
162-29	S ³ S ⁵	252/252	101/117	99/99	70/108	90/90	119/119	115/123	199/199	132/134	229/254	214/224	201/201

Cultivar	S-genotype	SSR genotype (bp)											
		CH02h11a	CH03a09	CH03d11	CH03g06	CH04a12	CH04d02	CH04e05	CH04g04	CH04h02	CH05c07	MS06c09	CH03a08
Amanogawa	S ¹ S ⁹	105/105	111/116	95/105	135/147	165/165	131/155	184/192	163/175	<u>155/172</u>	132/134	<u>107/127</u>	152/152
Imamuraaki	S ¹ S ⁶	105/111	111/116	95/95	135/135	157/165	125/155	184/204	159/175	155/170	132/134	107/111	152/153
Chojuro	S ² S ³	109/136	111/113	<u>97/101</u>	135/135	137/165	155/155	<u>194/214</u>	159/175	182/184	116/134	111/111	153/153
Shinchu	S ³ S ⁵	109/132	111/113	97/105	135/147	144/165	121/155	182/214	165/175	170/182	116/128	111/111	153/153
Niitaka	S ³ S ⁹	105/109	111/113	<u>95/101</u>	135/143	165/165	131/155	184/ <u>194</u>	159/163	<u>172/182</u>	116/134	<u>111/127</u>	152/152
Housui	S ³ S ⁵	109/109	116/116	113/115	135/147	165/165	125/125	204/204	159/159	172/182	116/128	111/111	152/152
162-29	S ³ S ⁵	109/109	111/116	101/113	135/147	165/165	125/131	184/204	159/159	172/172	116/116	111/111	152/152

Cultivar	S-genotype	SSR genotype (bp)											
		CH03d02	CH04g07	CH05d04	CH01f12	CH04c07	CH04f06	CH05d03	CH05d11	CH05a03	CN493139	AU223657	Hi04a08
Amanogawa	S ¹ S ⁹	<u>184/204</u>	171/189	183/183	151/169	106/121	176/176	169/182	175/183	197/202	140/140	236/257	204/204
Imamuraaki	S ¹ S ⁶	184/188	189/208	183/189	161/169	106/119	176/176	169/169	178/183	197/202	140/149	245/257	204/204
Chojuro	S ² S ³	175/184	171/171	183/183	<u>152/156</u>	100/119	159/176	169/173	178/183	<u>205/205</u>	140/140	236/253	204/216
Shinchu	S ³ S ⁵	173/175	171/171	183/183	151/152	100/100	159/178	165/173	183/188	207/220	140/147	253/255	204/216
Niitaka	S ³ S ⁹	<u>175/204</u>	171/189	183/183	<u>156/169</u>	119/121	176/176	169/182	175/178	<u>197/205</u>	140/140	253/257	204/204
Housui	S ³ S ⁵	173/178	171/208	183/183	149/157	106/106	159/178	169/169	178/178	197/202	140/147	236/253	204/204
162-29	S ³ S ⁵	178/204	171/171	183/183	156/157	106/119	176/178	169/169	178/178	197/202	140/140	253/253	204/204

Cultivar	S-genotype	SSR genotype (bp)											
		CN444542	Hi04e04	AT000174	BGT23b	BGA35	HGA8b	KA4b	KU10	NH001c	NH002b	NH004a	NH005b
Amanogawa	S ¹ S ⁹	<u>115/121</u>	228/228	150/150	196/206	136/136	147/164	90/90	249/249	120/124	173/183	<u>81/118</u>	330/350
Imamuraaki	S ¹ S ⁶	112/112	228/228	150/150	196/206	136/136	147/164	90/90	249/287	120/122	173/183	81/126	326/351
Chojuro	S ² S ³	109/112	228/228	150/161	196/206	128/136	147/164	90/102	249/249	120/122	175/175	104/112	330/352
Shinchu	S ³ S ⁵	109/114	228/228	150/150	196/226	128/136	147/164	90/102	236/249	107/120	175/175	104/112	330/353
Niitaka	S ³ S ⁹	<u>109/121</u>	228/228	150/150	196/206	136/136	147/164	90/102	249/249	122/124	175/183	<u>104/118</u>	330/354
Housui	S ³ S ⁵	109/114	228/228	150/161	196/226	136/136	147/164	90/102	249/249	124/124	177/177	81/118	346/350
162-29	S ³ S ⁵	109/114	228/228	150/161	196/226	136/136	147/164	90/102	249/249	122/124	177/183	118/118	350/350

Table 1 (Continued)

Cultivar	S-genotype	NH007b	NH008b	NH009b	NH011b	NH013a	NH014a	NH015a	NH017a	NB105a	NB109a	NB113a	NH023a
Amanogawa	S ¹ S ⁹	126/144	176/176	151/159	188/188	205/205	71/78	99/135	85/87	150/156	146/146	143/143	137/137
Imamuraaki	S ¹ S ⁶	126/126	176/183	145/151	188/244	205/215	78/92	99/99	87/89	150/172	146/146	143/149	133/137
Chojuro	S ² S ³	126/154	176/196	163/163	178/186	201/205	71/88	98/135	<u>95/108</u>	146/160	182/182	145/149	133/176
Shinchi	S ³ S ⁵	154/154	180/196	163/163	186/244	201/217	79/88	104/135	85/95	146/160	182/182	145/149	137/176
Niitaka	S ³ S ⁹	126/144	176/196	151/163	186/188	201/205	71/88	135/135	<u>87/108</u>	150/160	146/182	143/145	137/176
Housui	S ³ S ⁵	154/154	196/200	163/163	186/186	201/217	71/88	98/135	85/95	146/146	146/182	143/149	137/196
162-29	S ³ S ⁵	144/154	196/196	163/163	186/186	201/205	71/88	99/135	95/108	146/160	146/182	143/149	137/137

Cultivar	S-genotype	NH025a	NH027a	NH029a	NH036b	NB125a	NB141b	TsuENH008
Amanogawa	S ¹ S ⁹	82/82	115/135	80/88	164/185	235/235	128/130	<u>155/158</u>
Imamuraaki	S ¹ S ⁶	82/82	115/135	80/80	181/185	235/237	130/142	155/162
Chojuro	S ² S ³	<u>76/94</u>	143/143	80/80	180/185	<u>264/277</u>	130/134	155/165
Shinchi	S ³ S ⁵	82/94	143/143	77/80	179/185	260/260	128/130	163/165
Niitaka	S ³ S ⁹	<u>76/82</u>	135/143	80/88	185/185	<u>235/264</u>	130/130	<u>158/165</u>
Housui	S ³ S ⁵	82/98	143/143	80/80	179/185	233/235	130/130	163/165
162-29	S ³ S ⁵	82/98	143/143	80/80	179/185	235/264	130/130	165/165

Underlined values indicate that specific alleles of 'Niitaka' may have been transmitted from 'Amanogawa' or 'Chojuro'

In humans, the probability of parentage is calculated based on the allele frequency (Hashiyada et al., 1997; Katsumata et al., 2001). According to the criteria for human parentage, an allele frequency of 0.9911 indicates an extremely high probability that an individual is a parent, whereas an allele frequency of 0.9999 shows a definitive parent-offspring relationship. In cultivated pears, it is very difficult to evaluate allele frequency, because it varies according to cultivar and species; however, the parent-offspring relationship of eight pear cultivars was determined with 15 to 20 SSR loci and the probability of parentage ranged from 0.9911 to 0.9999 (Kimura et al., 2003). Recently, Sawamura et al. (2008) analyzed the parent-offspring relationship of 55 Japanese pear cultivars using 18 SSR markers and determined that the reported parents of ten hybrid cultivars, including 'Niitaka', were incorrect due to discrepancies at three or more SSR loci.

In this study, we used 67 SSR markers, which should give a high level of confidence in parentage determination. Seven specific alleles of 'Amanogawa' were identified in 'Niitaka' by the SSR markers CH01f07a, CH04h02, MS06c09, CH03d02, CN444542, NH004a and TsuENH008. Eight specific alleles of 'Chojuro' were also found in 'Niitaka' using the SSR markers CH02c11, CH03d11, CH04e05, CH01f12, CH05a03, NH017a, NH025a and NB125a. Therefore, we conclude that 'Niitaka' was produced from a cross between 'Amanogawa' and 'Chojuro'. Based on the SSR analysis, we also confirmed that 'Niitaka' and 'Housui' are the parents of '162-29'.

Acknowledgments: We thank Prof. Toshiya Yamamoto of NARO Institute of Fruit Tree Science, Japan for providing pear plant materials. This research was supported by the Golden Seed Project (Center for Horticultural Seed Development, No. 213003-04-4-SB110), Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA), Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF), Rural Development Administration (RDA) and Korea Forest Service (KFS).

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