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Complete Arabis alpina chloroplast genome sequence and insight into its polymorphism $\stackrel{\sim}{\sim}$

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ABSTRACT

The alpine plant Arabis alpina (alpine rock-cress) is a thoroughly studied species in the fields of perennial plant flowering regulation, phylogeography, and adaptation to harsh alpine climatic conditions. We report the complete A. alpina chloroplast genome sequence obtained through de novo assembly of Illumina paired-end reads produced by total DNA sequencing. The A. alpina cp circular genome is 152,866 bp in length and built of two inverted repeats of 26,933 bp separated by unique regions: a large single copy of 82,338 bp and a small single copy of 17,938 bp. The genome contains 131 genes, some of them being duplicated in the inverted repeats. Seventy-nine unique protein-coding genes were annotated, together with 29 tRNA genes and 4 ribosomal RNA genes. Sequencing and mapping of 23 additional A. alpina DNA samples enabled to gain insight into the intraspecies polymorphism of the sequenced cp genome. Genetic variability among genomes was detected as 44 indels, most of them being located in noncoding regions, and 130 single-nucleotide polymorphisms, 37 of them corresponding to mutations in coding regions. A. alpina chloroplast genome sequence will be helpful in population studies or investigations of chloroplast functions of this alpine plant species.

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1. Introduction

Chloroplasts are organelles specific to the green lineage where photosynthesis takes place. They provide essential energy for plants and algae (Gray, 1989; Howe et al., 2003). Some essential metabolic pathways are also located in this cellular compartment (Tetlow et al., 2009). Chloroplasts are derived from an ancestral

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endosymbiosis event between a cyanobacteria and a nonphotosynthetic host cell (Dyall et al., 2004). This organelle has its own genome, the plastome, which has evolved from the genome of the bacterial ancestor. The chloroplast genome still encodes part of the plastid protein components; the rest of the genes have been transferred to the nucleus during evolution (Martin et al., 1998). The plastome is a circular double-stranded DNA molecule present in multiple copies per organelle (Green, 2011). Its structure is conserved in higher plants and built most of the time of two inverted repeats (IRA and IRB of 20 to 28 kb in size) separated by two unique sequences named small single-copy (SSC, 16–27 kb) region and large single-copy (LSC, 80–90 kb) region. A comparison of available higher plant plastome sequences reveals a significant conservation in terms of gene order, gene content (~130 genes) and genome organization (Palmer and Stein, 1986); GC content (30%–40%); and genome size, with few exceptions (120–160 kb) (Chumley et al., 2006). Chloroplast genome sequencing has contributed to the study of the primary function of this compartment, the photosynthetic process (Leister and Schneider, 2003). Chloroplast DNA sequences are also widely used in the reconstruction of evolutionary relationships among plants and population genetics. These studies include phylogeny (Nie et al., 2012) and phylogeography (Pouget et al., 2013; Fan et al., 2013; Hodel and Gonzales, 2013) that look at the geographical distribution of species in relation with their genealogy (Hickerson et al., 2010).

The alpine plant Arabis alpina (alpine rock-cress) is a thoroughly studied species in the fields of perennial plant flowering regulation (Wang et al., 2009; Bergonzi et al., 2013), phylogeography (Koch et al., 2006; Assefa et al., 2007; Ehrich et al., 2007; Ansell et al., 2008, 2011; Karl et al., 2012), and adaptation to harsh alpine climatic conditions (Manel et al., 2010; Poncet et al., 2010; Zulliger et al., 2013). A. alpina is an arctic-alpine plant of the Brassicaceae family. Arctic-alpine plants are species growing naturally in the tundra of arctic regions and in mountains at southern latitudes. These regions represent a similar environment where plants have to face harsh climatic conditions. A. alpina has been recently studied looking for nuclear regions involved in adaptation to such an environment (Poncet et al., 2010; Zulliger et al., 2013). Alpine plants are often exposed to stress in the forms of UV, high light, wind, dryness, etc., and need to be adapted in order to maintain, for example, their photosynthetic activity in such environmental conditions (Körner, 2003). The photosynthetic apparatus is built of multiproteic complexes whose components are encoded by the nucleus and the plastome. A coordinate expression of nuclear and chloroplast genes is essential for the photosynthetic process to occur in chloroplasts. The A. alpina plastome sequence has not been reported so far. Five chloroplast genomes from plants of the Brassicaceae family are available in sequence databases (Arabidopsis thaliana, Arabis hirsuta, Brassica napus, Capsella bursa-pastoris, Draba nemorosa), but few data have been deposited for A. alpina. The only plastome sequences available for this species came from phylogeographic studies (Koch et al., 2006; Ansell et al., 2011; Karl et al., 2012), where the trnL-trnF region of the chloroplast genome was amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and sequenced in order to acquire phylogenetic data about A. alpina populations.

The first published cp genome sequence was from *Nicotiana tabaccum* (Shinozaki et al., 1986). Timeconsuming procedures were required at that time to purify plastome DNA and to sequence generated fragments (Sato et al., 1999; Lee et al., 2006; Yukawa et al., 2006). PCR-based approaches using conserved primers to amplify plastome DNA regions have been subsequently developed, and these helped to gain new sequenced plastid genomes (Doorduin et al., 2011). These strategies have evolved recently with the emergence of nextgeneration sequencing (NGS) technologies opening the possibility to sequence chloroplast genomes more easily and at a lower cost (Yang et al., 2013; Wang and Messing, 2011). In order to gain a complete plastome sequence, genome assembly has been performed through, for example, contig building followed by PCR finishing (Zhang et al., 2011; Uthaipaisanwong et al., 2012; Pan et al., 2012) and/or assisted assembly based on a reference genome (Zhang et al., 2012; Nie et al., 2012; Huotari and Korpelainen, 2012; Wu et al., 2012; Hand et al., 2013).

We report the sequencing and de novo assembly of the complete *A. alpina* chloroplast genome. In this approach, an assembly software builds plastome fragments from sequencing reads only according to their sequence identity and paired-end relationships, if available. Detection of *A. alpina* plastome polymorphisms was performed through the study of 24 complete cp genomes sequenced from field-sampled individuals.

2. Materials and methods

2.1. Sampling

For chloroplast genome assembly, a reference *A. alpina* leaf sample was collected in the French Alps (individual 22 in Table 1). For polymorphism detection, 23 additional *A. alpina* leaf samples were collected

in the French Alps from 12 locations (Table 1). Fresh leaves were immediately dried in silica gel. Plant material was stored in silica gel until DNA extraction was performed.

2.2. DNA extraction and sequencing

For each plant sample, DNA was extracted from 20 mg dried material ground into a fine powder with the Gentra Puregene Tissue Kit (Qiagen) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Two rounds of purification were performed to obtain pure DNA suitable for sequencing (A260/A280 > 1.8). DNA quality was checked using agarose gel electrophoresis, and quantification was performed using a NanoDrop Spectrophotometer (Thermo Fischer Scientific Inc.).

Total DNA samples were sequenced using Illumina technology on HiSeq2000 sequencer by DNAVision (www.dnavision.com). DNA quantities were estimated using PicoGreen (Invitrogen). Shearing of DNA was performed using a Covaris ultrasonicator (Covaris Inc.) to produce 300 bp fragments, and fragmentation quality was checked on a Bioanalyzer 2100 (Agilent Technologies). Paired-end libraries were prepared using the Mate Pair Library Preparation Kit (Illumina Inc.) and sequenced as 100 base reads. Libraries were sequenced using multiplexing on HiSeq2000 flow cell lanes (Illumina Inc.).

2.3. Chloroplast genome assembly

Prior to contig assembly of reads from the reference individual, sequence filtering was performed, and only paired-end sequences were selected at each step. After multiplexing tag removal of raw sequences, quality filtering was performed. Sequences with average Phred quality lower than 25 were discarded, and low-quality bases were trimmed from extremities (Phred score <20). Reads shorter than 75 bases were removed in line with the size limit of the assembler used.

Reads were aligned on available Brassicaceae chloroplast genomes using BLAST software (Altschul et al., 1990), and each sequence giving a positive hit was retained from the data set as paired-end reads. The pool of reads enriched in plastome sequences was then submitted to a filtering step to reduce read redundancy. Clustering was performed using SEED 1.4.1 (Bao et al., 2011) with no mismatch, and three overhanging residues set up. The resulting processed data set was subjected to DNA fragment assembly using the WGS 6.1 assembler (wgs-assembler.sourceforge.net) (Myers et al., 2000). The default overlapper ovl was used. Software's default error rate gave good results with our data set. UtgErrorLimit was set up to 2.5 for Illumina sequences as suggested by the WGS developers.

2.4. Genome annotation and sequence alignments

Annotation of *A. alpina* chloroplast genome was performed on the Dual Organellar GenoMe Annotator (DOGMA) website (http://dogma.ccbb.utexas.edu) (Wyman et al., 2004). Each annotated gene was manually checked for start and stop codons or intron junctions to correct errors and ensure accurate

Site	Latitude	Longitude	Individuals
1	44.91643	6.41438	1,2
2	45.06387	6.38575	3,4
3	45.02676	6.38934	5,6
4	44.68557	6.98228	7,8
5	45.32995	5.84870	9,10
6	45.38354	5.81684	11,12
7	45.28696	5.78151	13,14
8	45.39815	5.89182	15,16
9	44.89122	5.43102	17,18
10	45.15070	5.61149	19,20
11	44.87973	5.52271	21,22
12	45.01837	5.57010	23,24

Table 1			
Location	of	sampling	sites

annotation of the genome. The annotated GenBank format sequence file was used to draw the circular map using GenomeVx (http://wolfe.ucd.ie/GenomeVx) (Conant and Wolfe, 2008). A complete chloroplast genome comparison was performed with mVISTA program in LAGAN mode (http://genome.lbl.gov/vista/ mvista) (Dubchak and Ryaboy, 2006) using GenBank format files as input. ClustalW2 enabled the alignment of complete chloroplast genome sequences (http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalw2), and the tree output file was drawn using the R (R Development Core Team, 2011) package Pegas (http://cran.rproject.org/) (Paradis, 2010).

2.5. Polymorphism detection and analysis

Sequences obtained from DNA samples were processed as mentioned above for quality. Reads shorter than 50 bases were filtered and discarded. Processed sequences were then mapped on the *A. alpina* plastome using BWA 0.5.9 as paired-end sequences (Li and Durbin, 2009). The maximum insert size between paired-end read extremities was fixed to 500, and only the best match was selected. Variant calling was performed using SAM tools 0.1.13 (Li et al., 2009). Single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNP) were filtered according to the following criteria: biallelic sites were selected, only variants supported by more than 95% of mapped reads were retained, and mapping quality equal to or higher than 50 (Phred score). For each individual mapping, significant indels were selected to represent the majority at the mapped position.

3. Results and discussion

3.1. A. alpina chloroplast genome assembly

The high number of chloroplasts per leaf cell, together with the multiple copies of plastome per chloroplast, leads to a significant proportion of cpDNA in total leaf DNA. In the sample used in this work, plastome reads represented 11.4% of the high-quality reads available, which themselves corresponded to 77% of the raw sequences. The obtained filtered data set of $9.5.10^6$ cp sequences was submitted to genome assembly but led to several contigs only partially covering the genome (81 kb). An additional step to reduce read redundancy by selecting unique sequences led a pool of 75,704 cp sequences corresponding to a 47× coverage of the *A. alpina* cp genome. Assembly of these reads generated 135 kb of contigs, therefore significantly enhancing contig assembly. Contig alignment and scaffolding based on paired-end data enabled to gain a complete circular *A. alpina* cp genome sequence (Fig. 1) (GenBank accession number: HF934231).

Having sequenced total DNA from 23 other *A. alpina* samples, a similar approach was conducted with sequences obtained from three other individuals from different locations. Independent de novo assembly for the three samples (Table 1, individuals 6, 9, and 24) led to a similar genome sequence assembly, except for some individual polymorphisms (see below). The assembly process is therefore reproducible from one individual to the other. The organization of the assembled genome is conserved when compared with other Brassicaceae cp genome using whole genome alignment (Fig. 1). Annotation of the *A. alpina* cp genome was successfully performed (Fig. 1). The assembled sequence enabled the consistent identification of start and stop codons or splicing junctions in agreement with data available from other plant species. Altogether, these results are in favor of an accurate *A. alpina* genome assembly using WGS 6.1. Other assemblers such as SOAP (Luo et al., 2012) or MIRA (http://sourceforge.net/apps/mediawiki/mira-assembler) generated partial genome assembly with contigs similar to what have been obtained with WGS 6.1 (data not shown). However, the overall assembly efficiency was lower in the conditions used.

3.2. Features of A. alpina chloroplast genome

The *A. alpina* plastome is 152,866 bp in length and has a GC content of 36.45% (Table 2). Available Brassicaceae cp genomes are in the range of 152,860 to 154,490 bp, and the *A. alpina* plastome size is therefore consistent with data from plants of the same family. The average GC content in Brassicaceae plastomes is $36.4 \pm 0.1\%$, very close to the value measured for *A. alpina*. As in other angiosperms, the



lockwise, while genes drawn inside the outer circle are transcribed counterclockwise. Gray

Fig. 1. Arabis alpina chloroplast genome map. Genes drawn outside of the outer circle are transcribed clockwise, while genes drawn inside the outer circle are transcribed counterclockwise. Gray boxes correspond to exons and white boxes to introns. The thick lines of the inner circle indicate the inverted repeats (IRA and IRB) separating the unique sequences SSC and LSC. GenomeVx was used to draw the map (Conant and Wolfe, 2008).

Chloroplast
152866
36.45
58
87
8
36
18

Table 2General features of Arabis alpina plastome.

A. alpina cp genome is a circular DNA molecule with quadripartite organization (Fig. 1): two identical inverted repeats (IRA and IRB) of 26,933 bp (35%) and two unique sequences (the SSC region is 17,938 bp long (11%), and the LSC region is 82,338 bp long (54%)). *A. alpina* cp genome contains a total of 131 predicted genes (Table 3). Among them, 87 correspond to protein-encoding genes, 8 being duplicated in the IR region (*ndhB*, *rpl2*, *rpl23*, *rps7*, *rps12*, *ycf1*, *ycf2*, *ycf15*). A set of 29 tRNA genes was detected, covering all families of amino acids. Seven of them are present in two copies because of their duplication in the IR regions. Genes encoding tRNA are spread throughout the genome: 20% in IRs, 3% in SSC, and 77% in LSC. Four genes encoding rRNA were identified in the IRs regions (*rrn4.5*, *rrn5*, *rrn16*, *rrn23*) and are therefore duplicated in the genome. Ribosomal RNA genes are located in the IR in all plastomes sequenced so far. Out of the 131 genes, 18 are interrupted by introns: 11 protein-coding genes and 7 tRNA genes. The *clpP* and *ycf3* genes contain two introns. Trans-splicing occurs for the *rps12* gene. Its 5' exon is located in the LSC region, and the 3' exon is present in two copies because of its localization in the IR regions. An *A. alpina* cp genome analysis revealed that protein coding sequences, tRNA and rRNA represent 58% of the genome, divided in 86.7%, 3.1%, and 10.2%, respectively. Intergenic spacers, introns, and pseudogenes correspond to 42% of the genome.

3.3. Comparison with other Brassicaceae cp genomes

The availability of multiple complete Brassicaceae cp genomes provided the opportunity to compare the *A. alpina* plastome with these genomes (Fig. 2). Alignments and global sequence identity in a range of 93%–97% indicated a high conservation of cp genome sequences in this plant family. As shown in Fig. 2, IR appeared more conserved than unique sequences, as detected previously in other plant families (Doorduin et al., 2011). Variations were more abundant in noncoding regions than in coding regions. In size, the *A. alpina* cp genome is one of the smallest genomes of the Brassicaceae. Genome alignments revealed two deletions in the *A. alpina*

Table 3

Genes	present	in	the	Arabis	al	pina	ch	loro	plast	genome.
-------	---------	----	-----	--------	----	------	----	------	-------	---------

Photosystem I	psaA, psaB, psaC, psaI, psaJ
Photosystem II	psbA, psbB, psbC, psbD, psbE, psbF, psbH, psbI, psbJ, psbK, psbL, psbM, psbN, psbT, psbZ
Cytochrome b6/f	petA, petB, petD, petG, petL, petN
ATP synthase	atpA, atpB, atpE, atpF, atpH, atpI
Rubisco	rbcL
NADH oxidoreductase	ndhA, ndhB (2), ndhC, ndhD, ndhE, ndhF, ndhG, ndhH, ndhI, ndhJ, ndhK
Large subunit ribosomal proteins	rpl 2 (2), rpl14, rpl16, rpl20, rpl22, rpl 23 (2), rpl 32, rpl33, rpl36
Small subunit ribosomal proteins	rps2, rps3, rps4, rps7 (2), rps8, rps11, rps12 (2), rps14, rps15, rps18, rps19
RNA polymerase	rpoA, rpoB, rpoC1, rpoC2
Other proteins	matK, accD, cemA, clpP, ccsA
Proteins of unknown function	ycf1 (2), ycf2 (2), ycf3, ycf4, ycf15 (2)
Ribosomal RNAs	rrn4.5 (2), rrn5 (2), rrn16 (2), rrn23 (2)
Transfer RNAs	trnA-UGC (2), trnC-GCA, trnD-GUC, trnE-UUC, trnF-GAA, trnG-UCC, trnH-GUG, trnI-CAU (2),
	trnI-GAU (2), trnK-UUU, trnL-CAA (2), trnL-UAA, trnL-UAG, trnfM-CAU, trnM-CAU, trnN-GUU
	(2), trnP-UGG, trnQ-UUG, trnS-GCU, trnS-UGA, trnT-GGU, trnR-UCU, trnR-ACG (2), trnS-GGA,
	trnT-UGU, trnV-UAC, trnV-GAC (2), trnW-CCA, trnY-GUA



Fig. 2. Graphic view of the alignment of the six available Brassicaceae chloroplast genomes. VISTA identity plot of sequence identity between the *Arabis alpina*, *Arabidopsis thaliana* (NC_00922), *Arabis hirsuta* (NC_009268), *Draba nemorosa* (NC_009272), *Brassica napus* (NC_016734), *Capsella bursa-pastoris* (NC_009270) plastomes. Sequence identity varying between 50% and 100% are drawn on the y axis of the plot. The x axis corresponds to the coordinates on the *Arabis alpina* chloroplast genome. Arrows indicate the annotated genes and their transcriptional direction.

plastome. The *rps16* gene was not detected during the annotation step, which is also the case for *D. nemorosa*. The chloroplast protein synthesis apparatus is very similar to the bacterial machinery. Many ribosomal proteins are homologous to those of *Escherichia coli*. The RPS16 protein is essential for *E. coli* viability (Persson et al., 1995) and is involved in 30S ribosomal subunit assembly (Held and Nomura, 1975). This gene is also

absent from the *Populus alba* and *Medicago truncatula* cp genomes (Ueda et al., 2008). In these species, Ueda et al. (2008) have shown a dual targeting of the nuclear RPS16 product to the mitochondria and the chloroplast. Such a feature is not specific to these species since in *A. thaliana*, for example, whose plastome contains the *rps16* gene, the nuclear *rps16* gene encodes a protein with the ability to be targeted into the two plant organelles (Ueda et al., 2008). It is therefore likely that in *A. alpina*, the absence of cp *rps16* gene is rescued by the import into the chloroplast of a nuclear *rps16* gene product. Another deletion of 444 bp in the *A. alpina* plastome was detected in comparison with the *A. thaliana*, *C. bursa-pastoris*, and *B. napus* cp genomes. The deletion is shared by the *D. nemorosa* and *A. hirsuta* plastomes and is located in the intergenic region between the *psbE* and *petL* genes.

A phylogenetic tree based on the whole Brassicaceae cp genome sequence alignment indicated a phylogenetic position of *A. alpina* in a group together with *A. hirsuta* and *D. nemorosa* (Fig. 3) that is closer to this latter species, which shares the *rps16* gene deletion.

3.4. Polymorphic loci detection

In order to investigate intraspecies polymorphisms, 23 additional *A. alpina* total DNA samples were sequenced, and reads were mapped on the assembled *A. alpina* plastome as a reference. These samples represent local variability analysis of plants sampled in the French Alps in an area of approximately 80 km². Significant coverage throughout the genome was obtained for each individual; the lowest coverage for a SNP in this study was 53×. Forty-four indels were detected: only one was located in a putative coding region (*ycf1* position 126648). The 24 individuals' genome mapping also yielded a total of 130 SNPs, 37 of them being located in protein coding regions. These SNPs were shared by at least two individuals. Out of the 130 SNPs detected, 32% corresponded to transitions and 68% to transversions. The transition–transversion ratio (R) was therefore 0.47, indicating no bias between transition and transversion for the detected mutations. The transition–transversion bias has been documented in *Drosophila* and mammals sequence analysis (Chen et al., 2009; Seplyarskiy et al., 2012). It was considered as being a consequence of the chemical basis of mutations. However, Keller et al. (2007) showed that this bias does not apply, for example, to grasshopper pseudogenes.



Fig. 3. Complete chloroplast genome phylogeny of Brassicaceae. Plastome sequences were aligned using ClustalW2 (http://www.ebi. ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalw2), and a tree was drawn using the R package Pegas (Paradis, 2010).

Some transition-transversion bias has been detected in chloroplast genes (Morton et al., 1997; Guhamajumdar and Sears, 2005) but was not detected in cp genomes from the Lemnoideae family (Wang and Messing, 2011) or *A. alpina* in this work. Mutations detected in the *A. alpina* cp genome were mainly located in the unique regions, LSC and SSC, with an average of one SNP per 808 bp. As mentioned above for interspecies sequence comparison, IR regions appeared more conserved than the unique region of the cp genome. SNPs are more abundant in noncoding regions in agreement with a higher evolution rate in such sequences. Table 4 summarizes the localization of SNPs that were found in coding regions. Out of the 37 positions detected, 35% correspond to synonymous substitutions. A significant rate of nonsynonymous mutations was therefore measured, leading to functional variants of different chloroplast proteins. All mutations in genes encoding photosynthetic proteins were synonymous (Table 4), which could reflect a selective pressure on these sequences encoding functional polypeptides of photosystems. Nonsynonymous substitutions occur, for example, in ribosomal protein or RNA polymerase subunit genes.

4. Conclusion

Using NGS, the *A. alpina* chloroplast genome was sequenced, revealing the structure and organization of the plastome of this alpine plant. Through complete chloroplast genome sequencing, new potential markers, including indels and SNPs, were identified. These data will represent a valuable source of markers

Table 4

List of SNPs identified in Arabis alpina plastome genes.

Position	Protein	Base change	Amino acid	Function
6543	psbK	T/C	A/A	Photosystem II
11245	atpF	G/T	H/Q	ATP synthase
14350	rps2	C/G	E/D	Small subunit ribosomal protein
15306	rpoC2	A/G	F/C	RNA polymerase
16295	-	G/A	N/N	
16474		G/A	P/A	
17307		A/C	I/R	
20512	rpoC1	T/C	L/L	RNA polymerase
22005	•	C/T	G/S	
24729	rpoB	T/C	K/K	RNA polymerase
34855	psbZ	C/T	F/F	Photosystem II
39586	psaA	C/T	L/L	Photosystem I
47964	ndhK	A/C	S/A	NADH oxidoreductase
58892	ycf4	G/A	A/T	Protein of unknown function
59442	cemA	G/T	W/L	Chloroplast envelope membrane protein
60485	petA	C/A	V/V	Cytochrome B6/f
66051	rps18	A/C	I/I	Small subunit ribosomal protein
66267		G/T	T/T	
66674	rpl20	G/T	L/I	Large subunit ribosomal protein
66794		T/C	S/G	
69066	clpP	A/G	F/F	Protease
71867	psbB	C/T	S/S	Photosystem II
76906	rpoA	C/T	R/K	RNA Polymerase
78533	rps8	C/T	D/N	Small subunit ribosomal protein
81021	rps3	G/T	G/G	Small subunit ribosomal protein
81699	rpl22	C/T	C/Y	Large subunit ribosomal protein
81890		G/T	F/L	
85215	ycf2	G/T	C/F	Proteins of unknown function
108838	ndhF	T/A	I/M	NADH oxidoreductase
110679		A/C	Y/D	
113079	ccsA	T/G	F/L	Cytochrome c biogenesis protein
118680	ndhA	G/A	N/N	NADH oxidoreductase
121810	rps15	T/C	R/G	Small subunit ribosomal protein
125941	ycf1	G/A	S/L	Protein of unknown function
125954	-	C/T	E/K	
126332		T/C	T/A	
149991	ycf2	C/A	C/F	Protein of unknown function

in future studies about *A. alpina* populations. We found more polymorphic sites in noncoding regions that also contained most of the indels, with selective pressure being usually higher in coding regions. Polymorphism data are therefore available for genome regions having different evolutionary rates that could help to analyze both recent and more ancient diversifications. In addition, complete cp genome sequence also provides data about functional protein variability in chloroplasts.

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