Additional file 1: Table of PCR primer sequences, annealing temperatures ($T_a$), cycle numbers and product sizes used for cloning the candidate 'housekeeping' genes.

| **Target gene** | **Primer name** | **Type** | **Primer sequence (5'-3')** | **$T_a$ used for PCR ($^oC$)** | **No. cycles** | **Product size (bp)** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18S rRNA | 18S rRNA Forward | 'Core PCR' | GCGGCGACGACTCTTTCGAATGTC | 54.0 | 35 | 768 |
| 18S rRNA | 18S rRNA Reverse | 'Core PCR' | AGTTCCGACCGTAAACGATG | | | |
| *rpl8* | *rpl8* Forward | 'Core PCR' | CTCCGTCTTCAAAGCCCATGT | 54.0 | 35 | 708 |
| *rpl8* | *rpl8* Reverse | 'Core PCR' | TGTTCCTCGCAGTCTGCCAG | | | |
| *ef1a* | *ef1a* Forward 1 | 'Core PCR 1' | GTGACAACGTTGGCTTCAACG | 54.8 | 25 | 377 |
| *ef1a* | *ef1a* Reverse 1 | 'Core PCR 1' | CCTCATGTCACGCACAGCAAA | | | |
| *ef1a* | *ef1a* Forward 2 | 'Core PCR 2' | AGGCTGGTATCTCCAAGAACG | 54.0 | 25 | 564 |
| *ef1a* | *ef1a* Reverse 2 | 'Core PCR 2' | CGTTGAAGCCAACGTTGTCAC | | | |
| *ef1a* | *ef1a* 5'-RACE | '5'-RACE' | GGTCTGTCCGTTCTTGGAGATACCAGC | 68.0 | 30 | 470 |
| *ef1a* | *ef1a* 3'-RACE | '3'-RACE' | GCAAGAAGCTTGAGGACAACC | 55.0 | 40 | 494 |