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Mapping of seven bovine cytokine genes involved in T-lymphocyte growth, differentiation and immune response

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Source/description: Radiolabelled cDNA fragments of *IL10*, *IL12A*, *IL12B*, *IL15*, *IL18*, *TNF*, and *TGFB1* were generated[1,2] and used as hybridization probes to isolate unique clones from the Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI)-42 bovine bacterial artificial chromosome (BAC) library (URL http://www.chori.org/bacpac/42frame-bovine.htm). Correspondence between clones and cytokine gene probes was confirmed by BLAST analysis of BAC sequence data[3] against published sequence in GenBank[4]. Positive BAC clones were used as a DNA source to generate probes for fluorescent *in situ* hybridization (FISH) and to develop microsatellite markers (Table 1). Microsatellite (ms) loci were identified and isolated by screening plasmid libraries[5] created by subcloning *Sau*3AI digested BAC DNA[6]. Microsatellites were sequenced on an ABI-377 (Perkin Elmer Corp., Foster City, CA, USA), and sequence data was queried against GenBank with BLAST to confirm singularity.

PCR conditions: Primer pairs for ms loci were designed with Primer verion 3 (Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, http://www.genome.wi.mit.edu/cgi-bin/primer/primer3_www.cgi). PCR amplifications were performed on a MJ Research PTC-200 thermocycler (MJ Research Inc., Watertown, MA, USA) as described previously.[7] Optimal annealing temperatures were determined for each marker by testing a range of annealing temperatures (48–62 °C).

Polymorphism and allele size: Amplification reactions were diluted in ddH_2O (1:5–1:25). A sample (1 μl) of diluted product was mixed with 9·7 μl of Hi-Di formamide and 0·3 μl of 400 HD size standard (both from Perkin Elmer Corp.), and this mixture was analysed on an ABI-3700 automated DNA sequencer with GeneScan software (Perkin Elmer Corp.). Allele sizes and frequencies in the USDA Meat Animal Research Center (MARC) reference population (Table 1) were determined with Genotyper software (Perkin Elmer Corp.).

FISH analyses: Biotinylated BAC probes were synthesized with a BioNick Labeling System (GibcoBRL, Gaithersburg, MD, USA) and purified through a G-50 fine Sephadex column (Eppendorf, Westbury, NY, USA). Approximately 200 ng of probe was co-precipitated in ethanol with 5 μg sonicated salmon sperm DNA and 10 μg bovine $C_{ot}1$ DNA (Applied Genetics Lab., Melbourne, FL, USA). This mixture was hybridized to R-banded metaphase preparations[8] to determine physical map assignments (Fig. 1). FITC and PI signals were detected with the 488 and 568-nm line, respectively, of an argon–krypton laser with a Zeiss LSM 410 confocal microscope. No chimerism was detected for the prepared probes based on detection of only one signal for each probe hybridized.

Chromosomal locations: Linkage analysis of genotypic data was performed[9] to existing linkage groups in the MARC database[10] using Cri-Map version 2.4[11]. The most current positions on the linkage map can be accessed at http://www.marc.usda.gov/cattle. For all loci, chromosome assignments by two-point linkage analysis (Table 1) corresponded to the physical assignments by FISH (Fig. 1). In addition, the map placement of *BB717* and *BB705* agreed with genetic mapping of *IL10*[12] and *TNF*[13], respectively. Comparative map alignment of the seven cytokine genes was in agreement with previously defined regions of conserved synteny between the bovine and human maps (http://bos.cvm.tamu.edu/htmls/BHM.html). Alignment of the bovine and mouse physical maps also agreed with the exception of the *IL15* assignment, which identified a conserved genomic segment shared by BTA17 and mouse chromosome 8. The cytokine gene associated ms markers will be potentially useful for identifying the genomic locations of disease related traits.

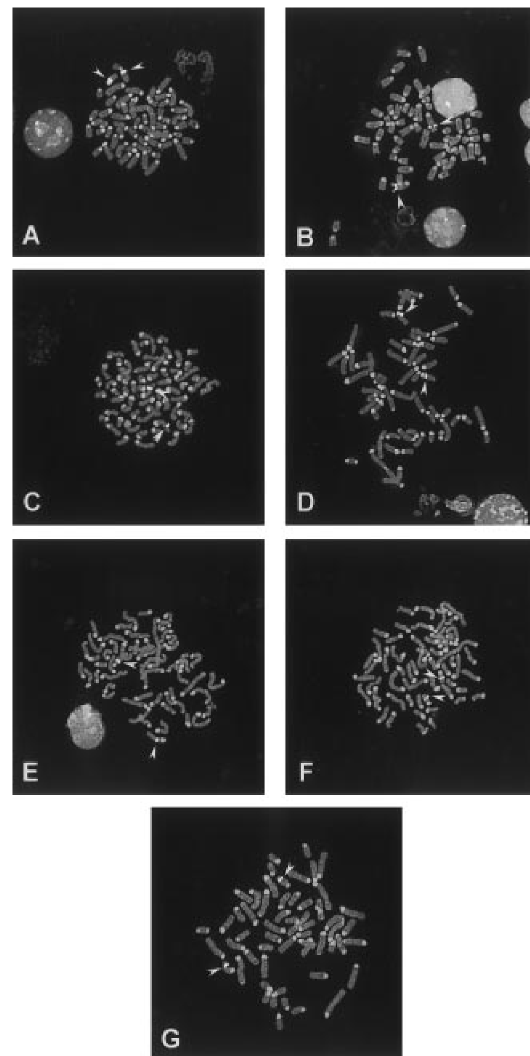

Fig. 1. FISH analyses of seven bovine cytokine loci with FITC hybridization signals derived from BAC DNA probes shown[14]. White arrowheads point to the location of the detected fluorescence probe signal in each panel. The panel displays the following: (A) BAC 45 K19* (*IL10*) probe to BTA16q1.2, (B) BAC 134 L14 (*IL12A*) probe to BTA1q3.4-q3.6, (C) BAC 135 O11 (*IL12B*) probe to BTA7q2.3-q2.4, (D) BAC 97 E15 (*IL15*) probe to BTA17q1.3-q1.4, (E) BAC 206 E9 (*IL18*) probe to BTA15q1.3-q1.4, (F) BAC 42J 20 (TNF) probe to BTA23q2.1-q2.2, (G) BAC 96 M1 (*TGFB1*) probe to BTA18q2.4-q2.5. *Indicates plate and well address of BAC clone in RPCI-42 library.

Table 1. Microsatellite markers developed from BAC clones containing cytokine genes

Locus[1]	Primer sequences (5′T3′) forward (top) reverse (bottom)	T_a(°C)	No. alleles	Allele (bp) min − max	Obs. Het.[5]	Chromosome	Meioses	Linkage analysis[2]		
								LOD	Rec. Frac.	Marker[3]
BB702 (*IL18*)	TAGCCACTGGACCATCAGG TGGCATTAGACCATGACAGC	58	7	186–198	0·64	15	284	43·56	0·03	*BMS1004*
BB704 (*IL12A*)	TTAAGCAGGGACGAACGTG AATTGCCAGGAAGATTGTGG	58	6	107–145	0·57	1	236	53·86	0·00	*BMS119*
BB705 (*TNF*)	GGGAGGTCTTTCCTACAGTGC CACAAAGAGTCAGACACAGTTTAGC	58	4	118–128	0·21	23	106	27·30	0·02	*BOLA-DRB1*
BB707 (*IL15*)	TTCTGCTTACAGCAAAGTGATTC GAATGGGTAAACATCAAGGTCC	60	8	158–170*	0·78	17	261	37·57	0·10	*BMS941*
BB710 (*TGFB1*)	GATCTGTGGGTTGAGTGTGTG AGATTTGTGCCTGCGTGTC	60	6	230–244	0·52	18	232	49·37	0·01	*BMS833*
BB712[4] (*IL18*)	CATGTAGGCATGGGCTTTG TCTACCATCTGAGCTACCAGGAA	60	3	327–336	0·36	15	155	33·05	0·.00	*BB702*
BB717 (*IL10*)	TGAGTCACCTGCAAGTTTGA GTCTGGTCCCAGTTTTGCA	58	5	152–164	0·29	16	121	20·19	0·08	*HUJ614*
BB719 (*IL12B*)	AAATGCCAGGACCTCACAG GCTAGGAGATGTTGCTGCTG	58	8	254–284	0·61	7	284	61·93	0·01	*INRA192*

[1]Ms sequences can be accessed in GenBank (Accession numbers AF205781–88). The human gene symbol for the cytokine gene present on the same BAC clone is listed below the ms marker name in parenthesis.
[2]Data presented only for the largest LOD scores from two-point linkage analysis with Cri-Map.
[3]Marker identified to have the largest LOD score with marker in locus column.
[4]Repeat motif is $(CAG)_n$, all other ms loci listed are $(GT)_n$.
[5]Marker heterozygosity observed in MARC reference population parents ($n = 28$).
*Some animals found to have a null (unamplified) allele.
T_a, Annealing temperature used to generate genotypes via PCR amplification.

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