

1 **Molecular study of *Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata* (Siphonaptera:**
2 **Ctenophthalmidae: Stenoponiinae) from the Canary Islands: taxonomy and**
3 **phylogeny.**

4 Zurita, A.¹, Callejón, R.¹, De Rojas, M.¹, Gómez López, M.S.² and Cutillas, C.^{1*}

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6 ¹ Department of Microbiology and Parasitology. Faculty of Pharmacy. University of
7 Sevilla. Profesor García González 2. 41012 Sevilla. Spain.

8 ² Department of Microbiology and Parasitology. Faculty of Pharmacy. University of
9 Barcelona. Avda. Joan XXIII. 08028 Barcelona. Spain.

10

11 Corresponding author:

12 Dr. C. Cutillas

13 Department of Microbiology and Parasitology

14 Faculty of Pharmacy

15 University of Seville

16 Prof. García González 2

17 41012 Sevilla

18 , Spain

19 Phone: +34 95 4556773

20 Fax: +34 95 4628162

21 e-mail: cutillas@us.es

22 **RUNNING HEAD:** *Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata*: a molecular study

23 **ABSTRACT**

24 In the present work, we carried out a comparative molecular study of *Stenoponia*
25 *tripectinata tripectinata* isolated from *Mus musculus* from the Canary Islands, Spain. The
26 Internal Transcribed Spacers 1 and 2 (ITS1, ITS2) and 18S ribosomal RNA partial gene
27 and cytochrome c-oxidase 1 (*coxI*) mitochondrial DNA partial gene sequences of this
28 subspecies were determined to clarify the taxonomic status of this subspecies and to
29 assess inter-population variation and inter-specific sequence differences. In addition, we
30 have carried out a comparative phylogenetic study with other species of fleas using
31 Bayesian, Maximum Parsimony, Maximum Likelihood and Neighbor-Joining analysis. A
32 geographical signal was detected between the *coxI* partial gene sequences of *S. t.*
33 *tripectinata* isolated from *M. musculus* from different islands and those isolated from
34 *Apodemus sylvaticus* from the Iberian Peninsula. Our results assess the monophyletic
35 origin of Stenoponiinae and a different genetic lineage from Ctenophthalmidae. Thus, the
36 elevation of subfamily Stenoponiinae to family level (Stenoponiidae) is suggested.

37

38 **Keywords:** *Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata*, ribosomal RNA, cytochrome c-oxidase
39 1, Canary Islands, Siphonaptera.

40

41 Introduction

42 Fleas (Insecta, Siphonaptera) form a distinct group of wingless bloodsucking insects with
43 complete metamorphosis. About 2574 species belonging to 16 families and 238 genera
44 were described (Bitam *et al.*, 2010). Lewis (1998) recognized 15 families considering
45 Ctenophthalmidae, while Medvedev (1998) treated Hystrichopsyllidae as a large family
46 that includes Hystrichopsyllinae and the subfamilies that were traditionally placed within
47 Ctenophthalmidae. This family (*sensu* Lewis, 1993a) consists of nine subfamilies and 17
48 described tribes, with 42 genera and 664 species. Roughly one quarter of flea species are
49 placed within this group, and Ctenophthalmidae has been traditionally the “catchall”
50 family for fleas that have been difficult to assign to other families (Whiting *et al.*, 2008).
51 These authors reconstructed deep level evolutionary relationships for fleas (Insecta:
52 Siphonaptera) based on 28S, 18S, COII and EFI- α sequences and found, in their analysis,
53 that this family was paraphyletic. The current arrangement of Ctenophthalmidae is clearly
54 in a state of disarray; however, if one assesses the phylogeny based on the subfamily, five
55 natural groupings may be observed: Ctenophthalminae, Doratopsyllinae, Neopsyllinae,
56 Stenoponiinae and the Rhadinopsyllinae (Whiting *et al.*, 2008). These authors concluded
57 that the catchall group Ctenophthalmidae is clearly an unnatural grouping of fleas, and
58 elevating each of its constituent subfamilies to family level would be a closer reflection
59 of their phylogeny. Furthermore, Ctenophthalmidae has been generally associated with
60 insectivorous hosts (Soricidae) as the main hosts, but members of this family have been
61 reported parasitizing rodents (Muridae) (Acosta, 2005).

62 The Holarctic subfamily Stenoponiinae are all very large and darkly pigmented fleas with
63 a striking genal comb spanning most of the lateral portion of the head. Species from the
64 Nearctic (*Stenoponia americana*), Palearctic (*Stenoponia tripectinata medialis*), and the
65 Oriental (*Stenoponia sidimi*) regions parasitize murid rodents.

66 The genus *Stenoponia* (Ctenophthalmidae) Hopkins & Rothschild, 1962, is a Holarctic
67 genus of 16 species and 14 subspecies which includes *Stenoponia tripectinata*
68 *tripectinata*, the vector of plague in Asia Minor and European Russia (Lewis, 1993b). To
69 date, *S. tripectinata* has been documented in Turkey, Greece, Romania, Italy, France and
70 the Iberian Peninsula (Sánchez & Gómez, 2012). Furthermore, Sánchez & Gómez (2012)
71 reported, for the first time the geographical and host distribution of *S. t. tripectinata*
72 parasitizing *Mus musculus* on the Canary Islands, Spain.

73 The specific differentiation of fleas has been carried out according to morphological
74 characteristics based on the shape and structure of their complex genitalia and the
75 presence and the distribution of setae, spines and ctenidia on the body (Dunnet & Mardon,
76 1999; Whiting, 2002). Nevertheless, the phenotype is conditioned by different factors:
77 host, ambient conditions, feeding, etc., and many species and subspecies of fleas were
78 reported based on a new host or on the presence or absence of putative “specific”
79 morphological and biometrical characters. All these difficulties and this incertitude, in
80 discriminating among flea species, claims for the need of adding molecular data to the
81 observation of morphological characters to study the taxonomy of the group.

82 Among the different molecular markers used in systematics, the Internal Transcribed
83 Spacer regions 1 and 2 (ITS1 and ITS2) ribosomal DNA (rDNA) remains a valuable
84 marker, in particular arthropods to discriminate between species (Marrugal *et al.*, 2013;
85 Monje *et al.*, 2014) or also within species (Essig *et al.*, 1999; Marcilla *et al.*, 2002) and it
86 has been revealed to be informative to establish phylogenetic relationships at the genus
87 level (Zagoskin *et al.*, 2014). Vobis *et al.* (2004) carried out a molecular phylogeny of
88 isolates of *Ctenocephalides felis* based on analysis of the ITS1 and ITS2. These regions
89 have also been used to differentiate populations within mite species (de Rojas *et al.*, 2007).

90 Furthermore, mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) has remained as evaluable marker for
91 population, biogeographic and phylogenetic studies. It is also used for taxonomic
92 purposes, where determinate fragments are used as mtDNA sequence tags or bar-code for
93 species diagnostics (Hebert *et al.*, 2003). It remains, however, that while mtDNA
94 sequences are very useful markers, their use is not without complication. Ballard &
95 Whitlock (2004) argued that mtDNA evolution is non-neutral with sufficient regularity to
96 question its utility as a marker for genomic history. Direct selection (selection on mtDNA
97 itself) and indirect selection (selection arising from disequilibrium with other maternally
98 transmitted genes) is sufficiently common to impose caution when making phylogenetic
99 inferences based on mtDNA data alone. Thus, Hurst & Jiggins (2005) concluded that
100 mtDNA is inappropriate as a sole marker in studies of the recent history of arthropods
101 and, potentially, other invertebrates.

102 In the present work, we carried out a comparative molecular study of *S. t. tripectinata*
103 isolated from *M. musculus* from different islands from the Canary Islands, Spain. To this
104 end, the ITS1, ITS2 and 18S of the rDNA and a fragment of the cytochrome c-oxidase 1
105 (*cox1*) gene of the mitochondrial DNA of this subspecies were sequenced in order to
106 clarify the taxonomic status of this subspecies and to assess inter-population variation and
107 inter-specific sequence differences. Based on the sequences produced here, together with
108 data of additional flea species retrieved from public databases, we also carried out a
109 comparative phylogeographic analysis Bayesian, Maximum Parsimony, Maximum
110 Likelihood and Neighbor-Joining inference.

111 **Material and Methods**

112 Collection of samples

113 Rodents were captured using live traps on all the islands. Fleas were collected from mice
114 (*M. musculus*) from different islands of the Canary Islands (Gran Canaria, La Palma, El
115 Hierro, La Gomera and Tenerife) (Spain) (Table 1). Fleas were collected manually and
116 kept in an Eppendorf tube with 70 % ethanol until required for subsequent identification
117 and sequencing. Specific identification was based on morphological characteristics
118 (Jordan 1958; Hopkins & Rothschild, 1962; Beaucournu & Launay, 1990). For details
119 concerning host distribution on each island of the Canarian Archipelago and distribution
120 of *S. t. tripectinata* in different biotopes (Laurisilva, Pine forest, etc) see Sánchez &
121 Gómez (2012).

122 Molecular study

123 Single fleas were frozen in liquid nitrogen and pulverized in a mortar. Genomic DNA was
124 isolated using the DNeasy Blood and Tissue Kit (Qiagen) according to the manufacturer's
125 protocol. The ITS1 region was amplified by PCR using a thermocycler (Perkin Elmer)
126 and the PCR mix and PCR conditions were applied as previously described by Marrugal
127 *et al.* (2013). Primers were NC5 (Gasser *et al.*, 1996) and ITS1rev (Marrugal *et al.*, 2013).
128 For the ITS2 region the PCR mix used was the same as for the ITS1 region and the
129 conditions were: 94 °C at 5 min (denaturing), 35 cycles at 94 °C at 60 s (denaturing),
130 55 °C at 60 s (annealing), 72 °C at 60 s (primer extension), followed by 10 min at 72 °C.
131 Forward and reverse primers for ITS2 region were senITS2 (Vobis *et al.*, 2004) and ITS2R,
132 respectively (Vobis *et al.*, 2004). In the case of 18S partial gene region, the PCR mix was:
133 5µl 10× PCR buffer, 1µl 10 Mm dNTP mixture (0.2 mM each), 2µl 50 mM MgCl₂, 5µl
134 primer mix (1 mM each), 5µl template DNA, 0.5µl *Taq* DNA polymerase (2.5 units) and

135 autoclaved distilled water to 50 μ l. The PCR conditions and primers (18SF and 18SR)
136 were defined by Kaewmongkol *et al.* (2011). *Cox1* mtDNA partial gene was amplified
137 using PCR conditions designed for amplification of *cox1* from fleas' isolates by
138 Kaewmongkol *et al.* (2011). The cycling conditions consisted of a pre-PCR step of 96 $^{\circ}$ C
139 for 2 min, followed by 40 cycles of 94 $^{\circ}$ C for 30 s, 50 $^{\circ}$ C for 30 s and an extension of
140 72 $^{\circ}$ C for 60 s with a final extension of 72 $^{\circ}$ C for 7 min. Forward and reverse primers for
141 the *cox1* were: LCO1490 and HCO2198 (Folmer *et al.*, 1994), respectively.

142 The rDNA intra-individual variation was determined by sequencing four to seven clones
143 of one individual per geographical population of *S. t. tripectinata*. The PCR products were
144 eluted from the agarose by using the WIZARD[®] SV Gel and PCR Clean-Up System
145 (Promega) and transformation was carried out as cited by Cutillas *et al.* (2009). Plasmids
146 were purified using a Wizard Plus SV (Promega) and sequenced by Stab Vida (Portugal)
147 with a universal primer (M13).

148 All the phylogenetic analyses were performed on the rDNA and mtDNA datasets, and
149 sequences were aligned using the Clustal W program version 2.0 (Larkin *et al.*, 2007).
150 The intra-population variation was determined for the rDNA and mtDNA by sequencing
151 three individuals from each island. Furthermore, all the sequences were aligned and
152 compared with each other using the CLUSTAL W program. Alignments were manually
153 adjusted.

154 Phylogenetic relationships were analyzed using four different methods: Neighbor-Joining
155 (NJ) and Maximum Parsimony (MP) trees were generated from methods using the MEGA
156 5 program from Tamura *et al.* (2011), Maximum Likelihood (ML) using the PHYML
157 package from Guindon & Gascuel (2003) and Bayesian inferences (B) were performing
158 from Mr Bayes-3.1.2. For the Bayesian analysis, we ran three independent runs of four

159 Markov chains for 10 million generations, sampling every 500 generations. The Bayesian
160 posterior probabilities are percentage converted. For ML inference, the JMODELTEST
161 (Posada, 2008) program was also used to determine the best fit substitution model for the
162 parasite data (18S, ITS1, ITS2 and *cox1*). Models of evolution were chosen for
163 subsequent analysis according to the Akaike Information Criterion (Huelsenbek and
164 Rannala, 1997; Posada and Buckley, 2004). Best-fit nucleotide substitution models
165 included general time-reversible model with gamma-distributed rate variation and a
166 proportion of invariable sites, GTR+I+G (18S), Hasegawa-Kishino-Yano, HKY85+I+G
167 (ITS1), GT+G (ITS2) and GTR+G (*cox1*). Support for the topology was examined using
168 bootstrapping (heuristic option) (Felsenstein, 1985) over 1,000 replications.

169 The phylogenetic and phylogeographic analysis, based on ITS1, ITS2, 18S and *cox1*
170 sequences was carried out using sequences obtained from GenBank (appendix 1).
171 Phylogenetic trees based on 18S rRNA and *cox1* mtDNA were rooted including two
172 outgroup species representing members of the Order Mecoptera: *Microchorista philpotti*
173 and *Boreus elegans (cox1)* and *Nannochorista dipteroides* and *Boreus coloradensis* (18S)
174 (appendix 1), whereas phylogenetic trees based on ITS1 and ITS2 sequences were
175 constructed using different outgroup species representing members of Order Diptera
176 (*Anopheles farauti*, *Anopheles lesteri*, *Anopheles anthropophagus*, *Muscina stabulans*
177 and *Philornis seguyi*). No ITS sequences of Order Mecoptera were found in public
178 database.

179 **Results**

180 No morphological differences were observed between individuals of *S. t. tripectinata*
181 isolated from *Mus musculus* from different islands. ITS1 sequences of the ribosomal DNA
182 (rDNA) of different populations of *S. t. tripectinata* were 1204-1209 base pairs (bp) in
183 length (Table 1), while the ITS2 sequences of *S. t. tripectinata* were 332 bp in length
184 (Table 1). Furthermore, the *cox1* and 18S partial gene sequences of *S. t. tripectinata* were
185 677 bp and 1095-1098 bp in length, respectively (Table 1). All the sequences (ITS1, ITS2,
186 18S and *cox1* partial gene) of *S. t. tripectinata* isolated from *M. musculus* from different
187 islands were deposited in GenBank database (Table 1).

188 ITS1 and ITS2

189 The intra-individual, intra-population and inter-population similarities of *S. t. tripectinata*
190 isolated from *M. musculus* are shown in Table 2 (ITS1) and Table 3 (ITS2). No ITS1
191 sequences of others species of family Ctenophthalmidae were found in GenBank. Thus,
192 no molecular comparative analysis between them could be performed.

193 The phylogenetic analysis based on ITS1 and ITS2 sequences showed a substantial length
194 variation in the alignment which compromised inferences of positional homology.
195 Furthermore, *Anopheles* spp. seemed to be a poor outgroup due to long-branch problems
196 affecting root-placement.

197 18S rRNA partial gene

198 The intra-population and inter-population similarities were of 100 %. Furthermore, the
199 inter-specific similarity was of 99.6 % (*S. t. tripectinata*-*S. t. medialis*), 99.8 % (*S. t.*
200 *tripectinata*-*S. americana*) and 99.9 % (*S. t. tripectinata*-*S. sidimi*). The Bayesian,
201 Maximum Parsimony, Neighbor-Joining and Maximum Likelihood analysis

202 reconstructed a similar topology. The phylogenetic tree (Fig. 1) constructed for the 18S
203 rRNA partial gene sequences of *S. t. tripectinata* with those sequences from GenBank of
204 species belonging to the family Ctenophthalmidae, Leptopsyllidae and Ceratophyllidae
205 revealed the individuals of *S. t. tripectinata* clustering together with *S. t. medialis*, *S.*
206 *americana* and *S. sidimi* (Fig. 1). Subfamily Stenoponiinae appeared related with family
207 Ceratophyllidae and Leptopsyllidae and separated, in polytomy, from Ctenophthalmidae
208 (Fig. 1).

209 *Cox1* mtDNA partial gene

210 The intra-population and inter-population similarities are shown in Table 4. When
211 sequences of this *cox1* mtDNA partial gene of *S. t. tripectinata* isolated from different
212 islands were compared with those obtained in GenBank from the Iberian Peninsula (see
213 appendix 1) we noticed that both populations displayed slight differences (98.9 % to
214 99.7 %) (Table 4). Based on the *cox1* mtDNA partial gene sequences, a restriction map
215 was constructed. Three endonucleases located at position 200 (*Mse1*, *Ase1* and *Vsp1*)
216 differentiated, clearly, both geographical regions (the Canary Islands and the Iberian
217 Peninsula).

218 The phylogenetic tree topology of *S. t. tripectinata* from different geographical origins
219 showed all the individuals from the Canary Islands clustered together, and separated from
220 those individuals from the Iberian Peninsula (Fig. 2). Furthermore, all the individuals of
221 *S. t. tripectinata* appeared as a compact group and separated, in polytomy, with the
222 remaining species belonging to different families of Siphonaptera: Ctenophthalmidae,
223 Pygiopsillidae, and Pulicidae (Fig. 2).

224 Discussion

225 Fleas are holometabolous insects with an uncertain taxonomic classification. This is due
226 to the extreme morphological specialization and the use of the quetotaxy, and the complex
227 genitalia as the main differential diagnostic criteria. Nevertheless, phenotypic characters
228 are influenced by different external factors and there might be synonymies among the
229 described Siphonaptera species reflecting an accepted species being found in a different
230 host and determined as a new species when host species and external factors influence
231 results in a flea with different morphological characteristics. Thus, Marrugal *et al.* (2013)
232 found in *C. felis*, collected from dogs from different geographical locations, four
233 populations with different morphological characteristics which did not correspond with
234 molecular differences. These authors concluded that ITS1 region is a useful tool to
235 approach different taxonomic and phylogenetic questions in *Ctenocephalides* species and
236 they found clear molecular differences between *C. felis* and *C. canis*. In addition, they
237 detected some specific recognition sites for endonucleases in order to differentiate both
238 species.

239 In the present work, *S. t. tripectinata* isolated from *M. musculus* from different islands
240 from the Canary Islands was studied by amplification and sequencing of ribosomal (ITS1
241 and ITS2, and 18S rRNA partial gene) and mitochondrial (*cox1* partial gene) DNA
242 markers.

243 The differences in length in the ITS1 sequences of *S. t. tripectinata* were due to the
244 presence or absence of nucleotides not only among different populations from different
245 islands but also among different clones of the same individual (intra-individual variation).
246 Nevertheless, the range of percentages of variation observed between different
247 populations was higher than those observed intra-individually (Tables 1 and 2).

248 The ITS2 sequences were markedly shorter than ITS1. This difference in the length of
249 ITS1 and ITS2 sequences was also observed in triatomines by Bargues *et al.* (2006). The
250 intra-population and inter-population similarity was nearly 100 % and the highest
251 differences were observed between individuals from La Palma (99.4 %). At the inter-
252 population level, it is to be noted that in all sequences analysis (ITS1, ITS2, 18S and *coxI*
253 partial gene), *S. t. tripectinata* populations from the Canary Islands appeared without any
254 particular geographical pattern. ITS2 sequences evolve following the so-called concerted
255 evolution (Smith, 1976) through a process known as molecular drive (Dover, 2002).
256 Molecular drive, involving genomic turnover mechanisms and population dynamic
257 processes, make it possible to homogenize and fix a particular repeat variant within each
258 single reproductive unit. This leads to a lower degree of divergence within than between
259 populations and/or species. This phenomenon clearly explains the lack of nucleotide
260 variation within analyzed populations of *S. t. tripectinata* from different islands of the
261 Canary Islands (see Tables 2, 3 and 4). This result seems to be consistent with other
262 studies of Dipteran species that suggested that ITS2 cannot be utilized in differentiation
263 of geographical populations of some blowfly species (Zaidi *et al.*, 2011).

264 ITS1 and ITS2 sequences of different species of genus *Stenoponia* were not available in
265 GenBank, thus, we could not confirm that the approach employed here is useful to
266 distinguish species within this genus as cited by other authors for the genus
267 *Ctenocephalides* (Marrugal *et al.*, 2013; Vobis *et al.*, 2004).

268 The phylogenetic analysis was carried out considering different outgroups (Diptera) but
269 we had problems in performing a multiple alignment correctly. Thus, to address this
270 problem and the absence of other ITS sequences that affects *Stenoponia* genus, 18S rRNA
271 partial gene was sequenced and compared.

272 Whiting *et al.* (2008) based on 28S, 18S, COII and EF1- α markers reported the monophily
273 of Stenoponiinae and Rhadinopsyllinae and placed both subfamilies as sister groups but
274 with limited support. In our results, the 18S partial gene tree topology showed
275 Rhadinopsyllinae clustered together with all the subfamilies and tribes included in family
276 Ctenophthalmidae while Stenoponiinae clustered with Ceratophyllidae and
277 Leptopsyllidae.

278 Furthermore, *coxI* mtDNA partial gene sequences clustered all the populations from the
279 Canary Islands and from the Iberian Peninsula with high support. Nevertheless, island
280 populations showed a lower polymorphism than those from the Iberian Peninsula
281 population. Island populations have shown to have lower levels of genetic variation than
282 those populations from mainland (Dietzen *et al.*, 2006). These two geographical lineages
283 (Iberian Peninsula and Canary Islands) could have arisen due to the existence of
284 geographical barriers.

285 The *coxI* partial gene phylogenetic tree showed subfamily Stenoponiinae clustering all
286 the species of *Stenoponia* from different geographical origins and in polytomy with
287 Pygiopsyllidae, Ctenophthalmidae and Pulicidae.

288 This seems to suggest a new status for subfamily Stenoponiinae that was not related with
289 family Ctenophthalmidae, and the suggestion of a new family: Stenoponiidae including
290 species of the genus *Stenoponia*. Unfortunately, 18S partial gene and *coxI* partial gene
291 phylogenetic trees did not resolve at higher taxonomic levels. Furthermore, no other ITS1
292 sequences of *Stenoponia*, and related genera molecular data are available in GenBank for
293 intra-generic comparisons.

294 In conclusion, ITS1 and ITS2 sequences were used as molecular markers to characterize
295 *S. t. tripectinata*, while 18S rRNA partial gene and *coxI* mtDNA partial gene assess the

296 monophyletic origin of Stenoponiinae and a different genetic lineage from
297 Ctenophthalmidae. Thus, the elevation of subfamily Stenoponiinae to family level
298 (Stenoponiidae) would be considered. Nevertheless, we must be expecting since the
299 molecular studies in Siphonaptera are scarce and the number of sequences of
300 Siphonaptera in GenBank is low. Thus, the lack of knowledge of mitochondrial and
301 ribosomal genomics for this group is a major limitation for phylogenetic studies.
302 Furthermore, *cox1* sequences revealed two different genetic lineages: the Canary Islands
303 and the Iberian Peninsula, both being separated by specific restriction endonucleases.

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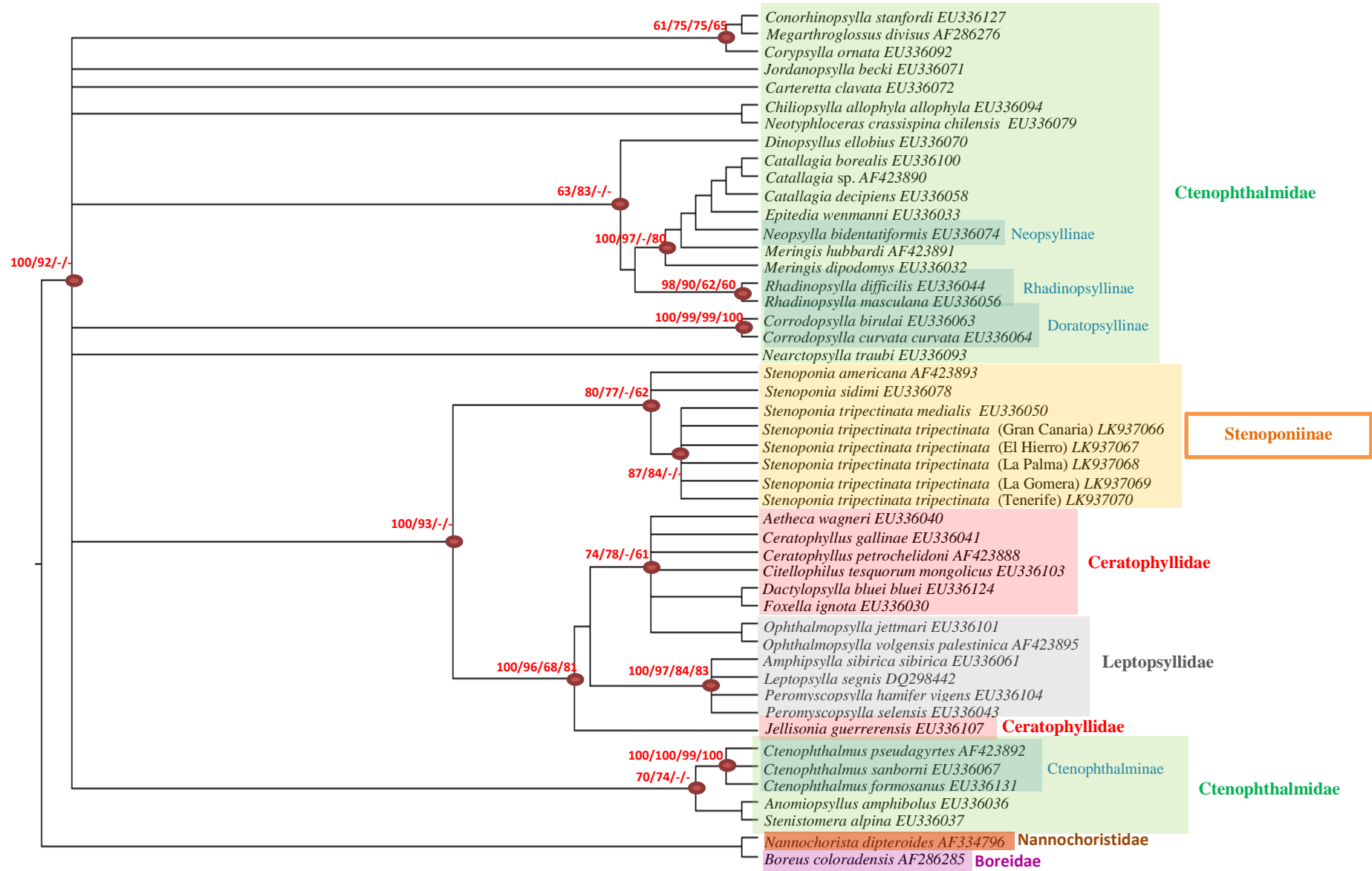
418 Figure captions

419 Figure 1. Phylogenetic tree of *Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata* from different
420 geographical origins (see Table 1) based on 18S partial gene of ribosomal RNA inferred
421 using the Bayesian (B), Maximum Likelihood (ML), Maximum Parsimony (MP) and
422 Neighbor-Joining (NJ) methods and Bayesian topology. The percentage of replicate trees
423 in which the associated taxa clustered together in the bootstrap test (1.000 replicates) is
424 shown onto the branches (B/ML/MP/NJ). Bootstrap values lower than 60 % are not
425 shown. The Bayesian Posterior Probabilities (BPP) are percentage converted.

426 Figure 2. Phylogenetic tree of *Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata* from different
427 geographical origins (see Table 1) based on cytochrome c-oxidase 1 (*coxI*) partial gene
428 of mitochondrial DNA inferred using the Bayesian (B), Maximum Likelihood (ML),
429 Maximum Parsimony (MP) and Neighbor-Joining (NJ) methods and Bayesian topology.
430 The percentage of replicate trees in which the associated taxa clustered together in the
431 bootstrap test (1.000 replicates) is shown onto the branches (B/ML/MP/NJ). Bootstrap
432 values lower than 60 % are not shown. The Bayesian Posterior Probabilities (BPP) are
433 percentage converted.

434 Figure 3. Specific restriction endonucleases observed in the *coxI* sequences of *Stenoponia*
435 *tripectinata tripectinata* from the Canary Archipelago and the Iberian Peninsula.

Figure 1



0.2

Figure 2

FIGURE 2

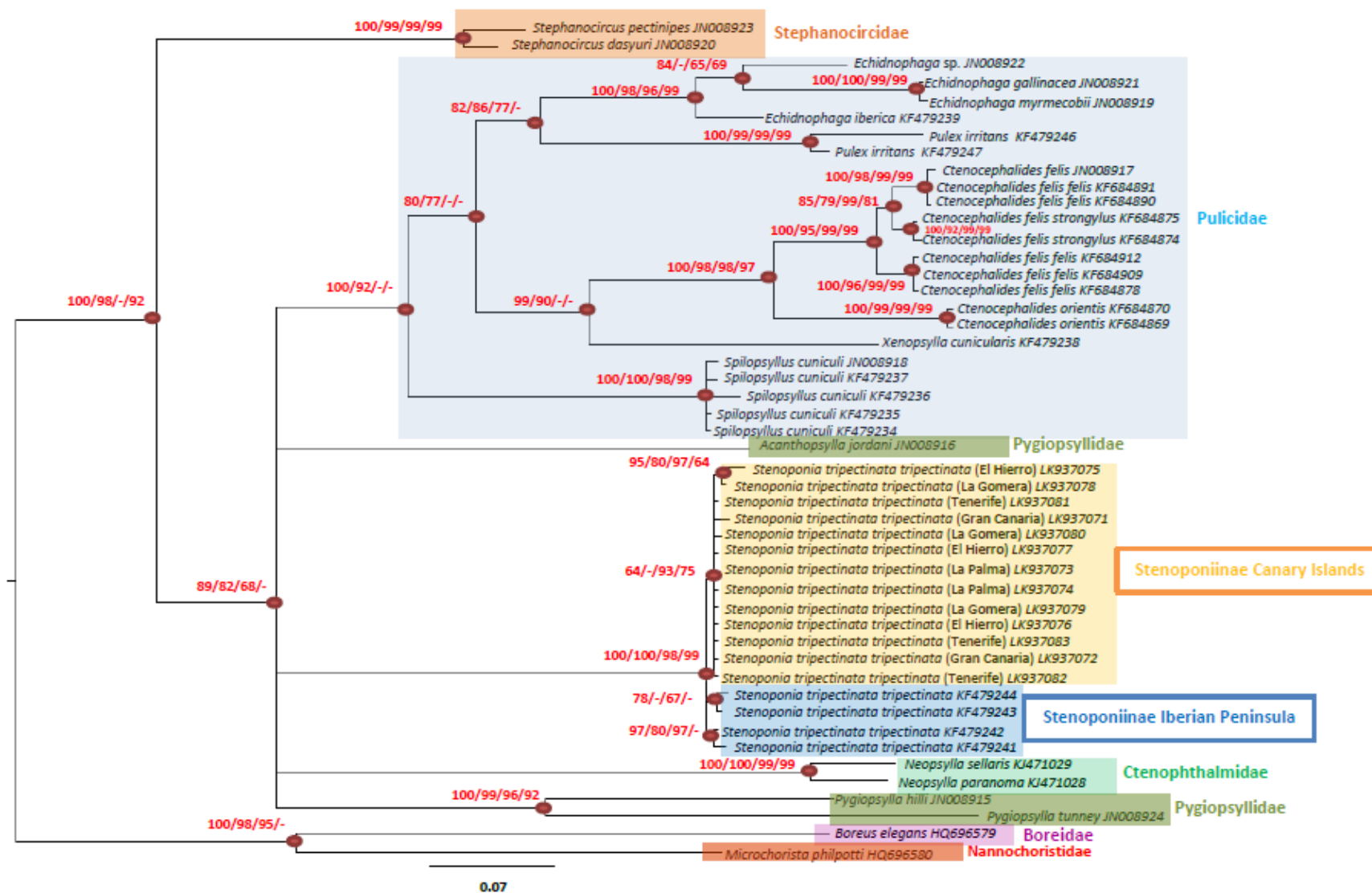


FIGURE 3

Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata (the Canarian archipelago)

AseI **at|taat** 209
MseI **t|taa** 209
VspI **at|taat** 209

181 ATTTTAATTGGAGGATTTGGAAATTG**ATTAAT**TCCTTTAATACTTGGAGCTCCTGATATA
181 190 200 210 220 230
181 TAAATTAACCTCCTAAACCTTTAACT**TAATTA**AGGAAATTATGAACCTCGAGGACTATA

S. t. tripectinata (the Iberian Peninsula)

181 ATTTTAATTGGAGGATTTGGAAATTG**ATTAGT**TCCTTTAATACTTGGAGCTCCTGATATA
181 190 200 210 220 230
181 TAAATTAACCTCCTAAACCTTTAACT**TAATCA**AGGAAATTATGAACCTCGAGGACTATA

Table 1. GenBank accession numbers of ITS1, ITS2, *cox1* partial gene and *18S* partial gene sequences of individuals of *Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata* isolated of *Mus musculus* from the Canary Islands (Spain).

ITS1 <i>S. t. tripectinata</i>			
Island	Number of base pairs (bp)	G+C %	Accession number
Gran Canaria	1205	52.4	LK937051
Gran Canaria	1205	52.5	LK937052
Gran Canaria	1205	52.6	LK937053
Gran Canaria (Clone 1)	1205	52.5	LN847260
Gran Canaria (Clone 2)	1205	52.5	
Gran Canaria (Clone 3)	1205	52.6	
Gran Canaria (Clone 4)	1205	52.3	
La Palma	1204	52.4	LK937054
La Palma	1205	52.7	LK937055
La Palma	1205	52.5	LK937056
El Hierro	1207	52.3	LK937057
El Hierro	1209	52.5	LK937058
El Hierro	1205	52.5	LK937059
La Gomera	1205	52.5	LK937060
La Gomera	1205	52.6	LK937061
La Gomera	1205	52.6	LK937062
Tenerife	1205	52.5	LK937063
Tenerife	1205	52.5	LK937064
Tenerife	1207	52.5	LK937065
ITS2 <i>S. t. tripectinata</i>			
Island	Number of base pairs (bp)	G+C %	Accession number
Gran Canaria	332	48.2	LK937035
Gran Canaria	332	48.2	LK937036
Gran Canaria	332	48.2	LK937037
Gran Canaria	332	48.2	LK937038
Gran Canaria (Clone 1)	332	48.2	LN847258
Gran Canaria (Clone 2)	332	48.2	
Gran Canaria (Clone 3)	332	48.2	
Gran Canaria (Clone 4)	332	48.2	
Gran Canaria (Clone 5)	332	48.2	
Gran Canaria (Clone 6)	332	48.2	
Gran Canaria (Clone 7)	332	47.9	
La Palma	332	48.2	LK937039
La Palma	332	47.9	LK937040
La Palma	332	48.2	LK937041
El Hierro	332	48.2	LK937042
El Hierro	332	48.2	LK937043
El Hierro	332	48.3	LK937044
La Gomera	332	48.2	LK937045
La Gomera	332	48.2	LK937046
La Gomera	332	48.2	LK937047
Tenerife	332	48.2	LK937048
Tenerife	332	48.2	LK937049
Tenerife	332	48.2	LK937050
<i>cox1 S. t. tripectinata</i>			
Island	Number of base pairs (bp)	G+C %	Accession number
Gran Canaria	677	28.8	LK937071
Gran Canaria	677	28.6	LK937072
La Palma	677	29	LK937073
La Palma	677	28.8	LK937074
El Hierro	677	28.8	LK937075
El Hierro	677	28.8	LK937076
El Hierro	677	28.8	LK937077
La Gomera	677	28.6	LK937078
La Gomera	677	28.9	LK937079
La Gomera	677	28.8	LK937080
Tenerife	677	28.8	LK937081
Tenerife	677	28.8	LK937082
Tenerife	677	28.8	LK937083
18S <i>S. t. tripectinata</i>			
Island	Number of base pairs (bp)	G+C %	Accession number
Gran Canaria	1095	50.4	LK937066
La Palma	1098	50.5	LK937068
El Hierro	1096	50.5	LK937067
La Gomera	1096	50.5	LK937069
Tenerife	1096	50.5	LK937070

Table 2. Intra-individual, intra-population (*) and inter-population similarity observed in ITS1 sequences in *Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata* populations isolated from different islands from the Canary Islands (Spain).

ITS1	GRAN CANARIA	EL HIERRO	LA GOMERA	LA PALMA	TENERIFE
GRAN CANARIA	Intra-individual 99.6-100% Intra-population (*) 99.2-99.8				
EL HIERRO	99-100%	99.2-99.8%*			
LA GOMERA	98.9-99.9%	99-99.9%	99.2-99.8%*		
LA PALMA	99.9-100%	99.2-99.8%	99-99.8%	99.2-99.6%*	
TENERIFE	99.6-100%	99.4-100%	99.3-99.9%	99.4-99.6%	100%*

Table 3. Intra-individual, intra-population (*) and inter-population similarity observed in ITS2 sequences in *Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata* populations isolated from different islands from the Canary Islands (Spain).

ITS2	GRAN CANARIA	EL HIERRO	LA GOMERA	LA PALMA	TENERIFE
GRAN CANARIA	Intra-individual 99.7-100% Intra-population (*) 100%				
EL HIERRO	100%	100% (*)			
LA GOMERA	100%	100%	100% (*)		
LA PALMA	99.7-100%	99.7-100%	99.7-100%	99.4-99.7% (*)	
TENERIFE	100%	100%	100%	99.7-100%	100% (*)

Table 4. Intra-population (*) and inter-population similarity observed in *cox1* mtDNA partial gene sequences in *Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata* populations isolated from different islands from the Canary Islands (Spain) and the Iberian Peninsula.

COX1	GRAN CANARIA	EL HIERRO	LA GOMERA	LA PALMA	TENERIFE	<i>Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata</i> KF479241	<i>Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata</i> KF479242	<i>Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata</i> KF479243	<i>Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata</i> KF479244
GRAN CANARIA	99.7% (*)								
EL HIERRO	99.7-100%	100% (*)							
LA GOMERA	99.6-100%	99.9-100%	99.7-99.9% (*)						
LA PALMA	99.6-100%	99.9-100%	99.7-100%	99.9% (*)					
TENERIFE	99.7-100%	100%	99.9-100%	99.9-100%	100% (*)				
<i>Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata</i> KF479241	99.1-99.4%	99.4%	99.2-99.4%	99.2-99.4%	99.4%	-			
<i>Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata</i> KF479242	99.4-99.7%	99.4%	99.2-99.4%	99.6-99.7%	99.7%	99.7%	-		
<i>Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata</i> KF479243	99.2-99.6%	99.6%	99.4-99.6%	99.4-99.6%	99.6%	99.2%	99.6%	-	
<i>Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata</i> KF479244	98.9-99.2%	99.2%	99.1-99.2%	99.1-99.2%	99.2%	99.2%	99.2%	99.7%	-

Appendix

List of taxa used in the analysis, including GenBank accession numbers and host information.

Specie	Family	Host	Accession number	Gen Region
<i>Aetheca wagneri</i>	Ceratophyllidae	<i>Peromyscus maniculatus</i>	EU336040	18S
<i>Ceratophyllus gallinae</i>	Ceratophyllidae	Woodpecker nest	EU336041	18S
<i>Ceratophyllus petrochelidoni</i>	Ceratophyllidae	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	AF423888	18S
<i>Citellophilus tesquorum mongolicus</i>	Ceratophyllidae	<i>Citellus dauricus dauricus</i>	EU336103	18S
<i>Dactylopsylla bluei bluei</i>	Ceratophyllidae	<i>Thomomys bottae</i>	EU336124	18S
<i>Foxella ignota</i>	Ceratophyllidae	<i>Thomomys</i> sp.	EU336030	18S
<i>Jellisonia guerrerensis</i>	Ceratophyllidae	<i>Oryzomys alfaroi</i>	EU336107	18S
<i>Amphipsylla sibirica sibirica</i>	Leptopsyllidae	<i>Clethrionomys rutilus</i>	EU336061	18S
<i>Peromyscopsylla hamifer vicens</i>	Leptopsyllidae	<i>Microtus</i> sp.	EU336104	18S
<i>Peromyscopsylla selensis</i>	Leptopsyllidae	<i>Peromyscus maniculatus</i>	EU336043	18S
<i>Leptopsylla segnis</i>	Leptopsyllidae	Unknown	DQ298442	18S
<i>Ophthalmopsylla jettmari</i>	Leptopsyllidae	<i>Citellus dauricus dauricus</i>	EU336101	18S
<i>Ophthalmopsylla volgensis palestina</i>	Leptopsyllidae	<i>Jaculus jaculus</i>	AF423895	18S
<i>Stenoponia americana</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Peromyscus leucopus</i>	AF423893	18S
<i>Stenoponia sidimi</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Clethrionomys rufocans</i>	EU336078	18S
<i>Stenoponia tripectinata medialis</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Gerbillus dasyurus</i>	EU336050	18S
<i>Catallagia borealis</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Clethrionomys gapperi</i>	EU336100	18S
<i>Catallagia decipiens</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Microtus</i> sp.	EU336058	18S
<i>Neopsylla bidentatiformis</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Cricetulus triton</i>	EU336074	18S
<i>Ctenophthalmus pseudagyrtis</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Condylura cristata</i>	AF423892	18S
<i>Ctenophthalmus sanborni</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Habromys lophurus</i>	EU336067	18S
<i>Megarhroglossus divisus</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i>	AF286276	18S
<i>Conorhinopsylla stanfordi</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Glaucomys volans</i>	EU336127	18S
<i>Rhadinopsylla difficilis</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	Vole nest	EU336044	18S
<i>Rhadinopsylla masculana</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Gerbillus dasyurus</i>	EU336056	18S
<i>Jordanopsylla becki</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Neotoma lepida</i>	EU336071	18S
<i>Carteretta clavata</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Peromyscus eremiens</i>	EU336072	18S
<i>Corypsylla ornata</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Scapanus orarius</i>	EU336092	18S
<i>Anomiopsyllus amphibolus</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Peromyscus eremicus</i>	EU336036	18S
<i>Stenistomera alpina</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Neotoma lepida</i>	EU336037	18S
<i>Chiliopsylla allophyla allophyla</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	Unknown	EU336094	18S
<i>Ctenophthalmus formosanus</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Eothenomys melanogaster</i>	EU336131	18S
<i>Neotyphloceras crassispina chilensis</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Abrocoma bennetti</i>	EU336079	18S
<i>Dinopsyllus ellobius</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Mastomys natalensis</i>	EU336070	18S
<i>Corrodopsylla birulai</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Sorex araneus</i>	EU336063	18S
<i>Corrodopsylla curvata curvata</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Sorex</i> sp.	EU336064	18S
<i>Catallagia</i> sp.	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Scapanus orarius</i>	AF423890	18S
<i>Epitedia wenmanni</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Thomomys bottae</i>	EU336033	18S

<i>Meringis dipodomys</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Dipodomys merriami</i>	EU336032	18S
<i>Meringis hubbardi</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Perognathus parvus</i>	AF423891	18S
<i>Nearctopsylla traubi</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Scapanus townsendii</i>	EU336093	18S
<i>Nannochorista dipteroides</i>	Nannochoristidae	Unknown	AF334796	18S
<i>Boreus coloradensis</i>	Boreidae	Unknown	AF286285	18S
<i>Echidnophaga</i> sp.	Pulicidae	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	JN008922	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Echidnophaga gallinacea</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	JN008921	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Echidnophaga myrmecobii</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	JN008919	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Echidnophaga iberica</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	KF479239	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Pulex irritans</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Meles meles</i>	KF479246	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Pulex irritans</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Meles meles</i>	KF479247	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Spilopsyllus cuniculi</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Felis silvestris catus</i>	JN008918	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Spilopsyllus cuniculi</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	KF479234	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Spilopsyllus cuniculi</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	KF479235	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Spilopsyllus cuniculi</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	KF479236	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Spilopsyllus cuniculi</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	KF479237	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Ctenocephalides felis</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	JN008917	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Xenopsylla cunicularis</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	KF479238	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Ctenocephalides felis felis</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	KF684891	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Ctenocephalides felis felis</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	KF684890	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Ctenocephalides felis felis</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	KF684912	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Ctenocephalides felis felis</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	KF684909	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Ctenocephalides felis felis</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	KF684878	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Ctenocephalides felis strongylus</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	KF684875	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Ctenocephalides felis strongylus</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	KF684874	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Ctenocephalides orientis</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	KF684870	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Ctenocephalides orientis</i>	Pulicidae	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	KF684869	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Acanthopsylla jordani</i>	Pygiopsyllidae	<i>Antechinus flavipes</i>	JN008916	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Pygiopsylla tunney</i>	Pygiopsyllidae	<i>Perameles bougainville</i>	JN008924	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Pygiopsylla hilli</i>	Pygiopsyllidae	<i>Bettongia penicillata</i>	JN008915	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Stephanocircus pectinipes</i>	Stephanocircidae	<i>Rattus fuscipes</i>	JN008923	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Stephanocircus dasyuri</i>	Stephanocircidae	<i>Rattus fuscipes</i>	JN008920	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Neopsylla sellaris</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	KJ471029	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Neopsylla paranoma</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	KJ471028	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Apodemus sylvaticus</i>	KF479241	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Apodemus sylvaticus</i>	KF479242	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Apodemus sylvaticus</i>	KF479243	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata</i>	Ctenophthalmidae	<i>Apodemus sylvaticus</i>	KF479244	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Boreus elegans</i>	Boreidae	Unkonwn	HQ696579	<i>Cox1</i>
<i>Microchorista philpotti</i>	Nannochoristidae	Unknown	HQ696580	<i>Cox1</i>

Appendix 2. Alignment (by CLUSTALW) of the different ITS1 clones nucleotide sequences of *Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata* from *Mus musculus* from Gran Canaria. Polymorphism is remarked by bold letter. The ITS1 clones sequence data have been deposited in GenBank database under the following Accession Numbers: LN847260, LN847261 and LN847262.

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CLONE1      TGTTGTCTGACGACGACATTGAAATTGAACGACGTATTACGATGGACGGCGTTCTCATTG 60
CLONE2      TGTTGTCTGACGACGACATTGAAATTGAACGACGTATTACGATGGACGGCGTTCTCATTG 60
CLONE3      TGTTGTCTGACGACGACATTGAAATTGAACGACGTATTACGATGGACGGCGTTCTCATTG 60
CLONE4      TGTTGTCTGACGACGACATTGAAATTGAACGACGTATTACGATGGACGGCGTTCTCATTG 60
*****

CLONE1      ATCGCCGACCGGAGTACGTCGATGGAACGGGACTCTTCTAGAGGACCGAGCGCCTCCCGC 120
CLONE2      ATCGCCGACCGGAGTACGTCGATGGAACGGGACTCTTCTAGAGGACCGAGCGCCTCCCGC 120
CLONE3      ATCGCCGACCGGAGTACGTCGATGGAACGGGACTCTTCTAGAGGACCGAGCGCCTCCCGC 120
CLONE4      ATCGCCGACCGGAGTACGTCGATGGAACGGGACTCTTCTAGAGGACCGAGCGCCTCCCGC 120
*****

CLONE1      CGTGTACGGCTTCGTGCTCTACCGCGGGGAAAATATGGAACGGGACTCTTCTCGAGGACC 180
CLONE2      CGTGTACGGCTTCGTGCTCTACCGCGGGGAAAATATGGAACGGGACTCTTCTCGAGGACC 180
CLONE3      CGTGTACGGCTTCGTGCTCTACCGCGGGGAAAATATGGAACGGGACTCTTCTCGAGGACC 180
CLONE4      CGTGTACGGCTTCGTGCTCTACCGCGGGGAAAATATGGAACGGGACTCTTCTCGAGGACC 180
*****

CLONE1      GAGCGCCTCCCGCCGCGTACGGCTTCGTGCTGTATCGGCGGGAAAATATGGAACGGGATT 240
CLONE2      GAGCGCCTCCCGCCGCGTACGGCTTCGTGCTGTATCGGCGGGAAAATATGGAACGGGATT 240
CLONE3      GAGCGCCTCCCGCCGCGTACGGCTTCGTGCTGTATCGGCGGGAAAATATGGAACGGGATT 240
CLONE4      GAGCGCCTCCCGCCGCGTACGGCTTCGTGCTGTATCGGCGGGAAAATATGGAACGGGATT 240
*****

CLONE1      CATAACGGGCACATAGCCCCGAAGACCGAGCGCTTCGACGGAGAGATTTTATTATTCTCT 300
CLONE2      CATAACGGGCACATAGCCCCGAAGACCGAGCGCTTCGACGGAGAGATTTTATTATTCTCT 300
CLONE3      CATAACGGGCACATAGCCCCGAAGACCGAGCGCTTCGACGGAGAGATTTTATTATTCTCT 300
CLONE4      CATAACGGGCACATAGCCCCGAAGACCGAGCGCTTCGACGGAGAGATTTTATTATTCTCT 300
*****

CLONE1      GTCGCTATATGCACATCTGTTCTGTGTGGGAACGGTGTGCGCACACTGCTACGTATCATCC 360
CLONE2      GTCGCTATATGCACATCTGTTCTGTGTGGGAACGGTGTGCGCACACTGCTACGTATCATCC 360
CLONE3      GTCGCTATATGCACATCTGTTCTGTGTGGGAACGGTGTGCGCACACTGCTACGTATCATCC 360
CLONE4      GTCGCTATATGCACATCTGTTCTGTGTGGGAACGGTGTGCGCACACTGCTACGTATCATCC 360
*****

CLONE1      GATGCGTGAGCGAATAGTGGAGCTTCGCTTAGTTGCGTTCTCTCAAATGATTCCAGACGT 420
CLONE2      GATGCGTGAGCGAATAGTGGAGCTTCGCTTAGTTGCGTTCTCTCAAATGATTCCAGACGT 420
CLONE3      GATGCGTGAGCGAATAGTGGAGCTTCGCTTAGTTGCGTTCTCTCAAATGATTCCAGACGC 420
CLONE4      GATGCGTGAGCGAATAGTGGAGCTTCGCTTAGTTGCGTTCTCTCAAATGATTCCAGACGT 420
*****

CLONE1      GCGGGATCGTATCCGTCTAGTCCTAGTACTGTTTTCGTAACGGGAAAGGTACACCGACGG 480
CLONE2      GCGGGATCGTATCCGTCTAGTCCTAGTACTGTTTTCGTAACGGGAAAGGTACACCGACGG 480
CLONE3      GCGGGATCGTATCCGTCTAGTCCTAGTACTGTTTTCGTAACGGGAAAGGTACACCGACGG 480
CLONE4      GCGGGATCGTATCCGTCTAGTCCTAGTACTGTTTTCGTAACGGGAAAGGTACACCGACGG 480
*****

CLONE1      TACGACGCAACAACCCCGCGTCGTTTGCTACGTATCATCCGATGCGTGAGCGAATAGTG 540
CLONE2      TACGACGCAACAACCCCGCGTCGTTTGCTACGTATCATCCGATGCGTGAGCGAATAGTG 540
CLONE3      TACGACGCAACAACCCCGCGTCGTTTGCTACGTATCATCCGATGCGTGAGCGAATAGTG 540
CLONE4      TACGACGCAACAACCCCGCGTCGTTTGCTACGTATCATCCGATGCGTGAGCGAATAGTG 540
*****

CLONE1      GAGCTTCGCTTAGTTGCGTTCTCTTAAATGATATGAAGCGCGCAACATCGTTCGTGTCT 600
CLONE2      GAGCTTCGCTTAGTTGCGTTCTCTTAAATGATATGAAGCGCGCAACATCGTTCGTGTCT 600
CLONE3      GAGCTTCGCTTAGTTGCGTTCTCTTAAATGATATGAAGCGCGCAACATCGTTCGTGTCT 600
CLONE4      GAGCTTCGCTTAGTTGCGTTCTCTTAAATGATATGAAGCGCGCAACATCGTTCGTGTCT 600
*****

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CLONE1 CGCCGAGTACCAGCGCTATGGGAAAAT**CTG**GACTCGCCTAGTACCGTAAAGGGAAAATCG 660
CLONE2 CGCCGAGTACCAGCGCTATGGGAAAAT**CTG**GACTCGCCTAGTACCGTAAAGGGAAAATCG 660
CLONE3 CGCCGAGTACCAGCGCTATGGGAAAAT**CTG**GACTCGCCTAGTACCGTAAAGGGAAAATCG 660
CLONE4 CGCCGAGTACCAGCGCTATGGGAAAAT**TGT**GACTCGCCTAGTACCGTAAAGGGAAAATCG 660

CLONE1 TATCGCGGCCAGTACTGTATGTTGGGAAAATCTTGACAGTTCGCTGTTATAACCAGCGCG 720
CLONE2 TATCGCGGCCAGTACTGTATGTTGGGAAAATCTTGACAGTTCGCTGTTATAACCAGCGCG 720
CLONE3 TATCGCGGCCAGTACTGTATGTTGGGAAAATCTTGACAGTTCGCTGTTATAACCAGCGCG 720
CLONE4 TATCGCGGCCAGTACTGTATGTTGGGAAAATCTTGACAGTTCGCTGTTATAACCAGCGCG 720

CLONE1 TGATGGGCATAGCTTCCGTTGACGGTTGCGTCGCCAAAAATCTGCAAAATATTCGAGTCA 780
CLONE2 TGATGGGCATAGCTTCCGTTGACGGTTGCGTCGCCAAAAATCTGCAAAATATTCGAGTCA 780
CLONE3 TGATGGGCATAGCTTCCGTTGACGGTTGCGTCGCCAAAAATCTGCAAAATATTCGAGTCA 780
CLONE4 TGATGGGCATAGCTTCCGTTGACGGTTGCGTCGCCAAAAATCTGCAAAATATTCGAGTCA 780

CLONE1 CACGGGACTCCGCTCATTGCGGATCCCGGGCGGATGGTTCGTCTGTGGAACCTCAGCTAC 840
CLONE2 CACGGGACTCCGCTCATTGCGGATCCCGGGCGGATGGTTCGTCTGTGGAACCTCAGCTAC 840
CLONE3 CACGGGACTCCGCTCATTGCGGATCCCGGGCGGATGGTTCGTCTGTGGAACCTCAGCTAC 840
CLONE4 CACGGGACTCCGCTCATTGCGGATCCCGGGCGGATGGTTCGTCTGTGGAACCTCAGCTAC 840

CLONE1 AGGCCGTGATCGCGGGCATCCTGTAGCGAAAAGTGAACGTTCTCGCTTGATTGCGACGTT 900
CLONE2 AGGCCGTGATCGCGGGCATCCTGTAGCGAAAAGTGAACGTTCTCGCTTGATTGCGACGTT 900
CLONE3 AGGCCGTGATCGCGGGCATCCTGTAGCGAAAAGTGAACGTTCTCGCTTGATTGCGACGTT 900
CLONE4 AGGCCGTGATCGCGGGCATCCTGTAGCGAAAAGTGAACGTTCTCGCTTGATTGCGACGTT 900

CLONE1 TCAAATAAAACGGCCGTTACTCGCAACGATTAATTTTCGTTTCGGGTAGGCAACATGTCCC 960
CLONE2 TCAAATAAAACGGCCGTTACTCGCAACGATTAATTTTCGTTTCGGGTAGGCAACATGTCCC 960
CLONE3 TCAAATAAAACGGCCGTTACTCGCAACGATTAATTTTCGTTTCGGGTAGGCAACATGTCCC 960
CLONE4 TCAAATAAAACGGCCGTTACTCGCAACGATTAATTTTCGTTTCGGGTAGGCAACATGTCCC 960

CLONE1 CCAGACCTCGAAAGTCTTCGGGAAACCAGACAGCACGGCATCCGTTTCGGCTACGTGATT 1020
CLONE2 CCAGACCTCGAAAGTCTTCGGGAAACCAGACAGCACGGCATCCGTTTCGGCTACGTGATT 1020
CLONE3 CCAGACCTCGAAAGTCTTCGGGAAACCAGACAGCACGGCATCCGTTTCGGCTACGTGATT 1020
CLONE4 CCAGACCTCGAAAGTCTTCGGGAAACCAGACAGCACGGCATCCGTTTCGGCTACGTGATT 1020

CLONE1 CACGCAATCACACGGATTATTTGAT**CC**CACACTATATCTCCAATGTTGGAATATACGAGAC 1080
CLONE2 CACGCAATCACACGGATTATTTGAT**CC**CACACTATATCTCCAATGTTGGAATATACGAGAC 1080
CLONE3 CACGCAATCACACGGATTATTTGAT**CC**CACACTATATCTCCAATGTTGGAATATACGAGAC 1080
CLONE4 CACGCAATCACACGGATTATTTGAT**CC**CACACTATATCTCCAATGTTGGAATATACGAGAC 1080

CLONE1 CGAGCGTCTCGAGCCTGAGGCTTCGGCCGACGGTGTACTAATTGTAAGTGCGCAATCGTA 1140
CLONE2 CGAGCGTCTCGAGCCTGAGGCTTCGGCCGACGGTGTACTAATTGTAAGTGCGCAATCGTA 1140
CLONE3 CGAGCGTCTCGAGCCTGAGGCTTCGGCCGACGGTGTACTAATTGTAAGTGCGCAATCGTA 1140
CLONE4 CGAGCGTCTCGAGCCTGAGGCTTCGGCCGACGGTGTACTAATTGTAAGTGCGCAATCGTA 1140

CLONE1 CATATAATTCGAGCTCGGAGGGTCTCCTCGGGGACCGTCCGACCGAGACTTGTACAAAT 1200
CLONE2 CATATAATTCGAGCTCGGAGGGTCTCCTCGGGGACCGTCCGACCGAGACTTGTACAAAT 1200
CLONE3 CATATAATTCGAGCTCGGAGGGTCTCCTCGGGGACCGTCCGACCGAGACTTGTACAAAT 1200
CLONE4 CATATAATTCGAGCTCGGAGGGTCTCCTCGGGGACCGTCCGACCGAGACTTGTACAAAT 1200

CLONE1 TATAA 1205
CLONE2 TATAA 1205
CLONE3 TATAA 1205
CLONE4 TATAA 1205

Appendix 3. Alignment (by CLUSTALW) of the different ITS2 clones nucleotide sequences for *Stenoponia tripectinata tripectinata* from *Mus musculus* from Gran Canaria. Polymorphism is remarked by bold letter. The ITS2 clones sequence data have been deposited in GenBank database under the following Accession Numbers: LN847258 and LN847259.

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CLONE1      TATATTATTACCAGACTGTGCTTGCCCTCGGGCTCGCCAGCGAATGATGGGACTCTTCG 60
CLONE2      TATATTATTACCAGACTGTGCTTGCCCTCGGGCTCGCCAGCGAATGATGGGACTCTTCG 60
CLONE3      TATATTATTACCAGACTGTGCTTGCCCTCGGGCTCGCCAGCGAATGATGGGACTCTTCG 60
CLONE4      TATATTATTACCAGACTGTGCTTGCCCTCGGGCTCGCCAGCGAATGATGGGACTCTTCG 60
CLONE5      TATATTATTACCAGACTGTGCTTGCCCTCGGGCTCGCCAGCGAATGATGGGACTCTTCG 60
CLONE6      TATATTATTACCAGACTGTGCTTGCCCTCGGGCTCGCCAGCGAATGATGGGACTCTTCG 60
CLONE7     TATATTATTACCAGACTGTGCTTGCCCTCGGGCTCGCCAGCGAATGATGGGACTCTTCG 60
*****

CLONE1      CTTAATTGCGTCTCCCTAAATTATTCACCTCAACGTGTGAGCCAGTTCGGTTTGCAACGCG 120
CLONE2      CTTAATTGCGTCTCCCTAAATTATTCACCTCAACGTGTGAGCCAGTTCGGTTTGCAACGCG 120
CLONE3      CTTAATTGCGTCTCCCTAAATTATTCACCTCAACGTGTGAGCCAGTTCGGTTTGCAACGCG 120
CLONE4      CTTAATTGCGTCTCCCTAAATTATTCACCTCAACGTGTGAGCCAGTTCGGTTTGCAACGCG 120
CLONE5      CTTAATTGCGTCTCCCTAAATTATTCACCTCAACGTGTGAGCCAGTTCGGTTTGCAACGCG 120
CLONE6      CTTAATTGCGTCTCCCTAAATTATTCACCTCAACGTGTGAGCCAGTTCGGTTTGCAACGCG 120
CLONE7     CTTAATTGCGTCTCCCTAAATTATTCACCTCAACGTGTGAGCCAGTTCGGTTTGCAACGCG 120
*****

CLONE1      ACGTGCATAACGTTTCGTTGTCGGTACGCGGAAGTAGGGCGGATTGTGTGTCCTAGATTAA 180
CLONE2      ACGTGCATAACGTTTCGTTGTCGGTACGCGGAAGTAGGGCGGATTGTGTGTCCTAGATTAA 180
CLONE3      ACGTGCATAACGTTTCGTTGTCGGTACGCGGAAGTAGGGCGGATTGTGTGTCCTAGATTAA 180
CLONE4      ACGTGCATAACGTTTCGTTGTCGGTACGCGGAAGTAGGGCGGATTGTGTGTCCTAGATTAA 180
CLONE5      ACGTGCATAACGTTTCGTTGTCGGTACGCGGAAGTAGGGCGGATTGTGTGTCCTAGATTAA 180
CLONE6      ACGTGCATAACGTTTCGTTGTCGGTACGCGGAAGTAGGGCGGATTGTGTGTCCTAGATTAA 180
CLONE7     ACGTGCATAACGTTTCGTTGTCGGTACGCGGAAGTAGGGCGGATTGTGTGTCCTAGATTAA 180
*****

CLONE1      TTTCTTTGACTCTACGCCGTTTTATTTGACGAAAGTGTACCGAAACCCCGTACCCACAG 240
CLONE2      TTTCTTTGACTCTACGCCGTTTTATTTGACGAAAGTGTACCGAAACCCCGTACCCACAG 240
CLONE3      TTTCTTTGACTCTACGCCGTTTTATTTGACGAAAGTGTACCGAAACCCCGTACCCACAG 240
CLONE4      TTTCTTTGACTCTACGCCGTTTTATTTGACGAAAGTGTACCGAAACCCCGTACCCACAG 240
CLONE5      TTTCTTTGACTCTACGCCGTTTTATTTGACGAAAGTGTACCGAAACCCCGTACCCACAG 240
CLONE6      TTTCTTTGACTCTACGCCGTTTTATTTGACGAAAGTGTACCGAAACCCCGTACCCACAG 240
CLONE7     TTTCTTTGACTCTACGCCGTTTTATTTGACGAAAGTGTACCGAAACCCCGTACCCACAG 240
*****

CLONE1      ACAGCTTGCCGTCACAGCTTACGGAACGATCTGATGGTTCCCTCGTAAAAATGCGCTGGTAG 300
CLONE2      ACAGCTTGCCGTCACAGCTTACGGAACGATCTGATGGTTCCCTCGTAAAAATGCGCTGGTAG 300
CLONE3      ACAGCTTGCCGTCACAGCTTACGGAACGATCTGATGGTTCCCTCGTAAAAATGCGCTGGTAG 300
CLONE4      ACAGCTTGCCGTCACAGCTTACGGAACGATCTGATGGTTCCCTCGTAAAAATGCGCTGGTAG 300
CLONE5      ACAGCTTGCCGTCACAGCTTACGGAACGATCTGATGGTTCCCTCGTAAAAATGCGCTGGTAG 300
CLONE6      ACAGCTTGCCGTCACAGCTTACGGAACGATCTGATGGTTCCCTCGTAAAAATGCGCTGGTAG 300
CLONE7     ACAGCTTGCCGTCACAGCTTACGGAACGATCTGATGGTTCCCTCGTAAAAATGCGCTGGTAG 300
*****

CLONE1      ATATTTACAATATCGAACGCGCTCTCTCAATA 332
CLONE2      ATATTTACAATATCGAACGCGCTCTCTCAATA 332
CLONE3      ATATTTACAATATCGAACGCGCTCTCTCAATA 332
CLONE4      ATATTTACAATATCGAACGCGCTCTCTCAATA 332
CLONE5      ATATTTACAATATCGAACGCGCTCTCTCAATA 332
CLONE6      ATATTTACAATATCGAACGCGCTCTCTCAATA 332
CLONE7     ATATTTACAATATCGAACGCGCTCTCTCAATA 332
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