

**Additional file 1.** Investigated Asian and African cichlids.

| Major groups and species                      | Origin of samples   | 2n | 5S rDNA number and position      | Chromosomal arm  | Reference       | 45S rDNA number and position | Chromosomal arm | References |
|---|---|----|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| <b>Etroplinae</b>                             |   |    |                                  |                  |                 |                              |                 |            |
| <i>Etroplus maculatus</i>                     | Petshop, Botucatu, SP, Brazil   | 46 | 2t/a(i)                          | L                | This work       | 2m/sm(t)                     | S               | [24]       |
| <b>Pseudocrenilabrinae</b>                    |   |    |                                  |                  |                 |                              |                 |            |
| <u>Tilapiines</u>                             |   |    |                                  |                  |                 |                              |                 |            |
| <i>Oreochromis aureus</i>                     | TAF-UMD, USA  | 44 | 2t/a(p)                          | CC               | This work       | 2t/a(t)                      |                 |            |
| <i>Oreochromis mossambicus*</i>               | TAF-UMD, USA; Gaoyao Aquac. Germplasm Conserv. Station                      | 44 | 2t/a(i); 4t/a(i)+2t/a(t)         | L; 4L+2S         | This work, [68] | 3t/a(t); 6t/a(t)             | S; S            | [68, 24]   |
| <i>Oreochromis niloticus*</i>                 | Tietê river, Botucatu, SP, Brazil; Aquac. Facility, Dalhousie Univ., Canada | 44 | 4t/a(i)+2t/a(p); 4t/a(i)+4t/a(p) | 4L+2S; 4L+2S+2CC | This work, [25] | 6t/a(t)                      | S               | [24, 26]   |
| <i>Oreochromis tanganica</i>                  | TAF-UMD, USA  | 44 | 2t/a(p)                          | CC               | This work       |                              |                 |            |
| <i>Oreochromis urolepis hornorum</i>          | Gaoyao Aquac. Germplasm Conserv. Station                                    | 44 | 4t/a(i)+2t/a(t)                  | 4L+2S            | [68]            | 6t/a(t)                      | S               | [25]       |
| <i>Tilapia mariae</i>                         | TAF-UMD, USA  | 40 | 2t/a(i)                          | L                | This work       | 2t/a(t)                      | S               | [24]       |
| <i>Tilapia mamfe</i>                          | TAF-UMD, USA  | 44 | 2m/sm(p)+4t/a(p)                 | CC               | This work       | 2t/a(t)                      | S               | This work  |
| <u>Hemicromines</u>                           |   |    |                                  |                  |                 |                              |                 |            |
| <i>Hemichromis bimaculatus</i>                | Petshop, Botucatu, SP, Brazil   | 44 | 2t/a(p)                          | CC               | This work       | 2t/a(t)                      | S               | [24]       |
| <u>Haplochromines</u>                         |   |    |                                  |                  |                 |                              |                 |            |
| <i>Astatotilapia burtoni</i>                  | TAF-UMD, USA  | 40 | 2m/sm(p)                         | CC               | This work       | 2t/a(t)                      | S               | [24]       |
| <i>Gephyrochromis moorii</i>                  | Petshop, Botucatu, SP, Brazil   | 44 | 2m/sm(p)+2t/a(p)                 | CC               | This work       |                              |                 |            |
| <i>Haplochromis venustus</i>                  | TAF-UMD, USA  | 44 | 2m/sm(p)                         | CC               | This work       |                              |                 |            |
| <i>Haplochromis livingstonii</i>              | TAF-UMD, USA  | 44 | 2m/sm(p)                         | CC               | This work       |                              |                 |            |
| <i>Astatotilapia latifasciata<sup>#</sup></i> | Petshop, Botucatu, SP, Brazil   | 44 | 2m/sm(p)+13t/a(p)                | CC               | This work       | 4t/a(t); 6t/a(t)             | S; S            | [24, 69]   |
| <i>Labeotropheus trewavasae</i>               | TAF-UMD, USA  | 44 | 2m/sm(p)                         | CC               | This work       | 2t/a(t)                      | S               | [24]       |
| <i>Melanochromis auratus</i>                  | TAF-UMD, USA  | 44 | 2m/sm(p)                         | CC               | This work       | 2t/a(t)                      | S               | [24]       |
| <i>Placidochromis electra</i>                 | TAF-UMD, USA  | 44 | 2m/sm(p)                         | CC               | This work       | 6t/a(t)                      | S               | This work  |
| <i>Metriaclima gold zebra</i>                 | TAF-UMD, USA  | 44 | 2m/sm(p)                         | CC               | This work       | 2t/a(t)                      | S               | [24]       |
| <i>Metriaclima lombardoi</i>                  | TAF-UMD, USA  | 44 | 2m/sm(p)                         | CC               | This work       | 2t/a(t)                      | S               | [24]       |
| <i>Metriaclima callainos</i>                  | TAF-UMD, USA  | 44 | 2m/sm(p)                         | CC               | This work       |                              |                 |            |

|                                |              |    |          |    |           |         |   |           |
|--------------------------------|--------------|----|----------|----|-----------|---------|---|-----------|
| <i>Metriaclima benetos</i>     | TAF-UMD, USA | 44 | 2m/sm(p) | CC | This work |         |   |           |
| <i>Pseudotropheus</i> sp       | TAF-UMD, USA | 44 | 2m/sm(p) | CC | This work |         |   |           |
| <i>Pseudotropheus tropheus</i> | TAF-UMD, USA | 44 | 2m/sm(p) | CC | This work |         |   |           |
| <i>Pseudotropheus zebra</i>    | TAF-UMD, USA | 44 | 2m/sm(p) | CC | This work | 4t/a(t) | S | This work |

2n, diploid number; t/a, telo/acrocentric; m/sm, meta/submetacentric; L, long arm; S, short arm; CC, closely associated to centromeric region; (p), proximal; (i), interstitial; (t), terminal. The (\*) indicates species with polymorphism for 5S rDNA sites, and (#) species with polymorphism for 45S rDNA. The polymorphic conditions are separated by (;).