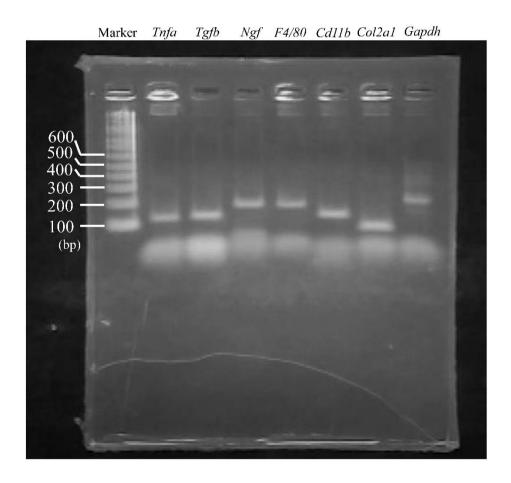
## **Supplementary material 1**

To confirm successful amplification of quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR) products, amplified products from cDNA samples extracted from intact discs were examined by electrophoresis on a 3% agarose gel stained with ethidium bromide and visualized using FAS-IV (Nippon Genetics Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan). A 100-bp DNA ladder (Product no. 3407A, Takara Bio, Shiga, Japan) was used as the size standard. Single bands appear at the predicted product size (Supplemental Figure 1).



Supplemental Figure 1 Agarose gel electrophoresis of qPCR products