

Table S1. Statistical evaluation of number of 5S and 45S rDNA loci in karyotypes

Taxonomy		5S rDNA						45S rDNA					
		N	minimum	maximum	average	s.d.	median	N	minimum	maximum	average	s.d.	median
vertebrate	fish	800	1	54	4.24	4.67	2.00	892	1	54	3.45	3.91	2.00
	mammals	44	2	18	2.77	2.50	2.00	263	1	42	5.51	6.31	3.00
	amphibians	30	2	28	4.33	3.59	2.00	133	1	12	2.43	1.33	2.00
	reptiles	13	2	74	18.18	25.10	2.00	175	1	7	2.14	0.50	2.00
	lampreys							3	4	18	9.33	6.18	6.00
	cartilaginous fish	2	4	4	4.00	0.00	4.00	8	2	16	5.00	4.37	3.75
	birds	8	2	2	2.00	0.00	2.00	83	2	13	2.78	1.85	2.00
invertebrate	arthropods	112	1	40	6.46	7.79	2.25	1057	1	30	3.14	2.65	2.00
	mollusks	50	2	10	3.58	2.31	2.00	80	2	9	3.13	1.84	2.00
	annelid							10	2	6	2.55	0.91	2.00
	flatworm	6	4	5	3.50	1.12	4.00	14	2	8	3.39	2.02	2.00
	thorny-head-worms							2	4	4	4.00	0.00	4.00
	cnidaria	3	2	2	2.00	0.00	2.00	8	2	5	2.63	1.11	2.00

Groups used for further statistical analyses (Tables S2, S3 and S4) are highlighted

s.d. - standard deviation