Nuclear and plastid phylogenomic analyses provide insights into the biogeography and reticulate evolution of the Sino-Japanese disjunctive *Diabelia* (Caprifoliaceae)

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Abstract: Understanding biological diversity and the mechanisms of Sino-Japanese

disjunctions are major challenges in eastern Asian biogeography. The Sino-Japanese

flora has been broadly studied as an ideal model, however, few studies have focused on

phylogeography and diversification at the genus level utilizing both nuclear and plastid

data. *Diabelia* (Caprifoliaceae) is an East Asian genus, with a disjunctive distribution

across the Sino-Japanese flora. However, relationships within *Diabelia* remain elusive,

with none of the previous studies having inferred a species phylogeny using nuclear

loci. In this study, we reconstructed the phylogenetic relationships among *Diabelia*

based on nuclear and plastid sequence data by using target enrichment and genome

skimming approaches, respectively. We found that the main clades within *Diabelia*

were discordant between nuclear and plastid trees. Both nuclear and plastid

phylogenetic analyses supported five main clades: *D. serrata*, *D. tetrasepala*, *D.

spathulata* var. *sanguinea*, *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* and *D. spathulata* var.

*spathulat*a. *Diabelia tetrasepala* was inferred to be the result of a hybridization event

from the species network analyses. Divergence time estimation and ancestral area

reconstructions showed that *Diabelia* originated in Japan during the early Miocene,

with subsequent gene flow between China, Japan and Korea. Overall, our results

support the division of *Diabelia* into five main clades and this research provides new

insights in the speciation process and taxonomy of *Diabelia*.

Keywords: *Diabelia;* Phylogenomic; Incongruence; Evolution; Hybridization
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1 Introduction

Understanding biological diversity and how different factors shaped the current biodiversity setting are major challenges for evolutionary biology (Jiang et al., 2016; Casebolt & Kowalewski, 2018; Wang et al., 2018; Martínez-Espinosa, 2021; Maguilla et al., 2021). The Sino-Japanese flora (SJFR) of East Asia was an important glacial sanctuary during the quaternary glacial period with the largest diversity of temperate plant species in the world (Qiu et a1., 2009; 2011; Zhao et al., 2019) and currently serves as a model system to study the genetic effects of geographic isolation on speciation. The SJFR extends widely over an area from Southwest China to the northernmost point of Japan, with complex topography and multiple climates (Qiu et a1., 2011; Lu et al., 2020). The eastern edge of the SJFR experienced dramatic plate changes during the Miocene and Pliocene, which may have played key roles in isolating ancient Japanese plant species from continental species (Ota, 1988). Studies investigating the mechanisms of disjunctive distributions have focused on vicariance and long-distance dispersal (Doyle et al., 2004; Baenfer et al., 2006; Bobo-Pinilla et al., 2018; Torres-Cambas et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2020; Nge et al., 2021).

Diabelia Landrein (Caprifoliaceae) is an East Asian endemic genus with a disjunctive distribution in China, Korea and Japan (Hara, 1983). *Diabelia* belongs to the subfamily Linnaeoideae (Landrein, 2010; Wang et al., 2015; Landrein and Farjon, 2020; Wang et al., 2021) and includes three species: *Diabelia serrata* with two sepals, *D. tetrasepala* with four big and one smaller sepal, and *D. spathulata* with five sepals (Fig. 1; Hara, 1983). The number of sepals in *Diabelia* range from two to five, with the intermediate sepal form observed in *D. tetrasepala* distributed in the sympatric areas of *D. serrata* and *D. spathulata* (Zhao et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2020). This intermediate form may be the result of hybridization. There have been several previous studies on the disjunctive distributions between China and Japan (e.g., Lu et al., 2020; Haq et al., 2020; Takano et al., 2020), with most studies focusing on species that are widely distributed in Japan. The disjunctive distribution of *Diabelia* dates back to the middle Oligocene, covering the long geological history of the formation of flora in China and

Japan (Yang et al., 2011; Shin et al., 2012; Zhao et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2020).

Overall, exploring the internal phylogenetic relationship and biogeographic

diversification of *Diabelia* is conducive for further inference of the disjunctive

distribution mechanisms of SJFR in East Asia.

There have been several previous molecular phylogenetic studies involving

Diabelia (Zhou et al., 2004; Landrein et al., 2012; Wang et al., 2015). However,

relationships within *Diabelia* remain controversial due to limited markers and

sampling. Zhou et al. (2004) conducted an Amplified Fragment Length Polymorphism

(AFLP) analysis including six *Diabelia* samples and found that *D. serrata* from China

was closely related to accessions of the same species from Japan. Using the nuclear

internal transcribed spacer (ITS) and plastid fragments (*rbcL, ndhF, matK, trnL* intron

and *trnL-F* intergenic spacer), Landrein et al. (2012) found a close relationship

between *D. serrata* and *D. spathulata*, with *Dipelta* Maxim being sister to *Diabelia*.

Wang et al. (2015) confirmed the same results of *Dipelta* sister to *Diabelia* based on

nine plastid markers.

Subsequent molecular phylogenetic studies have enriched sampling across the

SJFR to further investigate the phylogenetic relationship of *Diabelia*. Based on plastid

fragments from 37 *Diabelia* samples, Zhao et al. (2019) found the non-monophyly of

Diabelia species. Increasing the number of informative sites by using complete

plastomes, Wang et al. (2020) successfully recovered the monophyly of *D. serrata*

while the relationships of the other species remained unresolved. Overall, sufficient

informative molecular data and a large taxonomic sampling are essential for the

comprehensive reconstruction of phylogenetic relationships within *Diabelia*.

Organelle genes often exhibit phylogenetic patterns significantly different from

nuclear markers (Toews and Brelsford, 2012; Leducq et al., 2017; Ji et al., 2019; Yao et

al., 2019; Wang et al., 2020). Currently, target enrichment is emerging as the method of

choice to obtain target sequence for numerous nuclear orthologs of many complex taxa

(Wanke et al., 2017; Buys et al., 2019; Schneider et al., 2020; Granados Mendoza et al.,

2020; Wang et al., 2021). Many studies have applied this method to obtain data sets for

analyzing cyto-nuclear discordance, speciation, hybridization and polyploidy (e.g.,

Bogarin et al., 2018; Morales-Briones et al., 2018; 2021). Given that the species-level phylogeny of *Diabelia* was previously unknown, we obtained data through target enrichment and genome skimming of broadly sampled *Diabelia* across the SJFR to (1) explore robust intrageneric phylogenetic relationships and compare them against previous phylogenies, and (2) reconstruct the biogeography and evolution of the genus to offer a comprehensive phylogenetic framework for future studies.

2 Materials and Methods

2.1 Sampling

A data set of 47 accessions was analyzed including 42 *Diabelia* samples (including all three species of *Diabelia* and three varieties of *D. spathulata*) and five outgroup samples representing Linnaeoideae (*Abelia macrotera* var. *parvifolia*, *Dipelta floribunda*, *Kolkwitzia amabilis*, *Vesalea floribunda*, *Linnaea borealis*) (Landrein et al., 2012; Wang et al., 2015; Zhao et al. 2019; Wang et al., 2020). Voucher specimens have been deposited in the herbarium of the Institute of Tropical Agriculture and Forestry of Hainan University (HUTB), Haikou, China. Detailed information on the geographical distribution and voucher details for the 42 samples and the localities of the populations sampled in this study are shown in Table S1.

2.2 DNA extraction and sequencing

We used a modified CTAB method (Doyle & Doyle, 1987) to extract total genomic DNA from silica gel-dried tissue or herbarium accessions. The concentration of each extraction was checked with a Qubit 2.0 Fluorometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA). A total of 400 ng of DNA was sonicated with a Covaris S2 (Covaris, Woburn, MA) to produce fragments ~150-350 bp in length prior to library preparation. Libraries of genomic DNA were made following Weitemier et al. (2014). To ensure that genomic DNA was sheared approximately to the selected fragment size, all samples were evaluated on a 1.2% (w/v) agarose gel.

To obtain nuclear data we used a target enrichment approach (Weitemier et al.,

144 2014) and genome skimming for plastid data (Wang et al., 2020). Baits designed across

145 Dipsacales (Wang et al., 2021) were used to target 428 putatively single-copy genes.

146 Hybridization, enrichment and sequencing followed Wang et al. (2021). Plastid

147 sequencing followed Wang et al. (2020).

2.3 Read processing and assembly

Trimmomatic v.0.36 (Bolger et al., 2014) was used to remove adaptor sequences

and low-quality bases from the raw reads (ILLUMINACLIP: TruSeq_ADAPTER:

2:30:10 SLIDINGWINDOW: 4:5 LEADING: 5 TRAILING: 5 MINLEN: 25). HybPiper

v.1.3.1 (Johnson et al., 2016) was employed to assemble nuclear loci. Exons were

assembled individually to avoid chimeric sequences in multi-exon genes produced by

potential paralogy (Morales-Briones et al., 2018), in which exons longer than 150 bp

were set as a reference. Paralog detection was undertaken for all exons using the

'paralog_investigator' option in HybPiper. To obtain 'monophyletic outgroup'(MO)

orthologs (Yang and Smith, 2014), all assembled loci (with and without paralogs

detected) were processed following Morales-Briones et al. (2021).

For the plastome assemblies, clean reads were extracted from raw sequencing

reads by using SOAPfilter_v2.2 to remove adapter sequences and low-quality reads.

The resulting reads were then used as the input to assemble plastomes using MITObim

v1.8 (Hahn et al. 2013) following Wang et al. (2020).

2.4 Phylogenetic analyses

Nuclear data sets. We used concatenation and coalescent-based methods to

analyze the nuclear data. For concatenation analyses, sequence alignments of

individual nuclear exons were performed with MAFFT v.7.407 (Katoh & Standley,

2013) and aligned columns with more than 90% missing data were removed using

Phyutility (Smith and Dunn, 2008). A maximum likelihood tree from the concatenated

matrix was inferred with RAxML v.8.2.20 (Stamatakis, 2014) using a

partition-by-locus scheme and the GTRGAMMA substitution model for all partitions.

We assessed clade support with 100 rapid bootstrap replicates. In addition, Quartet

Sampling (QS; Pease et al., 2018) was used to distinguish strong conflict from weakly

supported branches with 1000 replicates. For coalescent species tree estimation,

ASTRAL-III v.5.7.1 (Zhang et al., 2018) was used to estimate a species tree based on

the individual exon trees constructed using RAxML with a GTRGAMMA model. We

used local posterior probabilities (LPP) to calculate branch support (Sayyari and

Mirarab, 2016).

Plastome data set. Complete plastomes were aligned using MAFFT v.7.407 (Katoh

and Standley, 2013). A ML tree was inferred with IQ-TREE v.1.6.1 (Nguyen et al.,

2015) under the extended model and 200 non-parametric bootstrap replicates for

branch support. Additionally, branch support was evaluated using QS with 1000

replicates.

2.5 Species network analysis

We used PhyloNet (Wen et al., 2018) to infer a maximum likelihood species

network with the InferNetwork_MPL command (Yu and Nakhleh, 2015). Due to

computational restrictions and given that we were primarily concerned with the

underlying network between different species, we reduced the 47-taxon data set to one

outgroup and 14 ingroup taxa to represent all major clades within *Diabelia*. Network

searches were undertaken using only nodes in the gene trees that had at least 50

percent bootstrap support, permitting up to five hybridization events, optimizing the

branch lengths and genetic probability of the returned species networks under the full

likelihood. The command 'CalGTProb' in PHYLONET was used to infer the

maximum likelihood of the concatenated RAxML, ASTRAL, and plastid trees, given

the individual gene trees to estimate the optimal number of hybridization events and

inspect whether the species network represented a better model than a purely

bifurcating tree. The bias-corrected Akaike information criterion (AICc; Sugiura, 1978),

Akaike information criterion (AIC; Akaike, 1973), and the Bayesian information

criterion (BIC; Schwarz, 1978) were used for model selection, with the best-fit-species

network having the lowest AICc, AIC and BIC scores.

2.6 Divergence time estimation

Divergence times were estimated with BEAST v.2.4.0 (Bouckaert et al., 2014).

Following Wang et al. (2021), we used nuclear loci for estimating node ages owing to

potential problems of recombination and incomplete concerted evolution. The root age

was set to 50 Ma (lognormal prior distribution 32.66 - 57.81 Ma) following Wang et al.

(2021). We selected the fruit fossil of *Diplodipelta* Manchester & Donoghue (offset 36

Ma, lognormal prior distribution 34.07 - 37.20 Ma, Bell & Donoghue, 2005) that could

confidently be placed in our tree as an internal calibration point. Dating analyses were

carried out using an uncorrelated lognormal relaxed clock under the GTR + G model

for each marker partitioned separately and a Yule tree prior. The MCMC chains were

run for 500,000,000 generations and sampling every 5000 generations. Tracer v.1.7

(Drummond et al., 2012) was used to check convergence with the first 10% of trees

removed as burn-in and to assess that all effective sample size (ESS) values were $\geq$

200. The produced tree files were combined using LogCombiner v1.8.2 and the

maximum clade credibility tree was generated in TreeAnnotator v1.8.4 (Drummond et

al., 2012) and visualized using FigTree 1.4.2.

2.7 Ancestral area reconstruction

The ancestral area of the genus was reconstructed using Statistical Dispersal-

Vicariance Analysis (S-DIVA) in RASP version 4.2 (Yu et al., 2015) based on Bayesian

Binary Method (BBM) with the nuclear concatenated data set. To prevent biased

inferences towards wide or unlikely distributions for the crown node of the ingroup

(only *Diabelia* species) due to the uncertainty in the root area of the outgroup, we

pruned the five outgroups for our ancestral state reconstructions. Three areas were

defined to cover the present distribution range of *Diabelia*: (A) Japan, (B) Korea and

(C) China. Distribution areas of all populations in this study were defined according to

field observations (Table S1). The BBM analyses ran for 500,000,000 generations

generations using 10 MCMC chains.

2.8 Analysis of character evolution

Morphological character states of *Diabelia* were coded from previous studies,

specifically from Hara (1983) and Landrein et al. (2020). In this study, four traits (the

number of sepals, the number of flowers, corolla colour and corolla shape) were scored

to infer the evolution of morphological characters. The number of sepals were scored

with the following: (0) Two sepals; (1) Five unequal sepals; (2) Five subequal sepals.

The number of flowers were scored with the following: (0) Single flower; (1) Flowers

paired; (2) Clusters of four-seven flowers. Corolla colour was scored with the

following: (0) Yellow; (1) Pale yellow; (2) Red; (3) White. Corolla shape was scored

with the following: (1) Tubular; (2) Bilabiate; (3) Infundibuliform. Ancestral character

state reconstructions were carried out using the maximum-likelihood RAxML trees

(nuclear and plastid data) in Mesquite v.3.51 (Maddison and Maddison, 2018). We

selected the one-parameter Markov k-state evolution model for the analysis of discrete

unordered characters.

2.9 Data accessibility

249   Raw Illumina data from target capture is available at the Sequence Read Archive

250 (SRA) under accession SUB9796722(see Table S1 for individual sample SRA

251 accession numbers). DNA alignments, phylogenetic trees and results from all analyses

252 and data sets can be found in the Dryad data repository.

3 Results

3.1 Exon assembly

The number of assembled exons per species (with > 75% of the target length)

(except the outgroups) ranged from 587 (*D. serrata* E314) to 989 (*D. spathulata* var.

sanguinea E301), with an average of 889 exons per sample (Table S2; Fig. S1). The

number of exons with paralog warnings (except the outgroups) ranged from 34 in *D.*

serrata E314 to 619 in *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* E301 (Table S2). The

concatenated alignment had a length of 392,600 bp, including 18,057

parsimony-informative sites, and a matrix occupancy of 86.7 % (Table 1). The plastid

alignment resulted in a matrix of 159,365 bp with 4,693 parsimony-informative sites

and a matrix occupancy of 98.2 % (Table 1).

3.2 Phylogenetic reconstruction

We performed phylogenetic analyses based on nuclear genes and plastomes (Figs.

2, 3, S2 and S3). All nuclear phylogenetic analyses recovered five main clades: *D.*

serrata, *D. tetrasepala*, *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea*, *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla*

and *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata*. However, the relationships of the five main groups

within *Diabelia* varied in the different analyses.

With respect to the nuclear concatenated ML tree, the phylogeny was recovered

with high support values (BS > 70; except for the placement of *D. spathulata* var.

stenophylla, BS = 56) along the five main branches (Fig. 2). *Diabelia serrata* forms a

clade with *D. serrata* var. *buchwalddi*; *D. tetrasepala* was monophyletic and sister to

all *D. serrata* accessions; *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* (including one sample of *D.*

spathulata), *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* and *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* formed

respective clades. *Diabelia spathulata* var. *spathulata* was *s*ister to the remainder of

Diabelia (Fig. 2). Within the QS analyses based on the nuclear ML tree, *Diabelia* was

shown to have strong QS support (1/ − /1; Fig. S2).

The coalescent species tree (Fig. 3) presented a largely congruent topology

compared to the nuclear ML tree with all five major groupings recovered, each being

respectively monophyletic. The main clades were maximally supported (LPP ≥ 0.93)

except for the placement of *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* (LPP = 0.44). The conflict

analyses revealed full QS support within *Diabelia* (1/ − /1; Fig. 3). The clade of *D.*

serrata had strong QS support with signal for a possible alternative topology

(0.92/0.38/1). The sister relationship of the clade of *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* and

D. serrata had counter QS support with signal for a possible alternative topology

(-0.22/0.21/0.99). *Diabelia tetrasepala* was sister to the clade of *D. serrata* + *D.*

spathulata var. *sanguinea*. The clade of *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* between China

and Japan had strong QS support with signal for a possible alternative topology

(0.9/0.2/1)

The phylogenetic relationships in the plastid ML tree of *Diabelia* (Fig. 2 and S3)

were also confirmed with strong QS support (1/ – /1). The clade of *D. spathulata* var.

sanguinea + *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* (Japan) was sister to the *D. serrata* + *D.*

tetrasepala clade, and the combined clade had strong BS support (98) and moderate

QS support (0.14/0.57/0.98). There were some observed differences between the

nuclear and plastid trees: *D. tetrasepala* was nested in *D. serrata* with strong BS

support (98); *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* was not monophyletic; *D. spathulata* var.

stenophylla from Zhejiang was *s*ister to the remainder of *Diabelia*, rather than *D.*

spathulata var. *spathulata*.

3.3 Species network analysis

The species network analyses (15-taxa data set) recovered topologies with one to

five reticulation events, which appear to be a better model than a strictly bifurcating

tree (Table 2; Fig. S4). Two reticulation events were inferred for the best network (Fig.

4). The best network showed that *D. tetrasepala* was the product of a hybridization

event involving *D. serrata* and *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata*. Another reticulation

event was observed indicating the clade of *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* + *D.*

spathulata var. *stenophylla* had genetic contributions from the lineage leading to *D.*

spathulata var. *sanguinea.*

3.4 Divergence time estimation

Our dating estimates based on the nuclear data suggested an early Miocene crown

age for *Diabelia* of 22.53 Ma (95% Highest Posterior Density (HPD): 17.89 - 27.73

Ma, node 1 in Fig. 5). The sister relationships of *D. serrata* and *D. tetrasepala*

diverged during the early Miocene 18.17 Ma (95% HPD: 14.07 - 22.41 Ma, node 4 in

Fig. 5). The crown age of *D. serrata* was dated to 14.88 Ma (95% HPD: 11.10 - 18.91

Ma, node 5 in Fig. 5). The split between *D. spathulata* and *D. spathulata* var.

sanguinea occurred between 3.90 and 9.41 Ma (node 7 in Fig. 5). The diversification

of *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* between Korea and Japan was estimated as 4.78 Ma

(95% HPD: 3.02 - 6.84 Ma, node 8 in Fig. 5). The divergence time of *D. spathulata* var.

stenophylla between China and Japan was 6.30 Ma (95% HPD: 3.90 - 9.41 Ma, node 6

in Fig. 5).

3.5 Ancestral area reconstruction

The reconstruction results of the ancestral distribution of *Diabelia* were presented

in Fig. 6. There were three dispersal events and three vicariance events identified

within the three defined biogeographic areas (Fig. 6). Our analyses revealed that the

ancestor of *Diabelia* was present throughout Japan (region A) in the early Miocene

(Fig. 6), followed by dispersal or vicariance events across Japan, Korea and China.

Migration events occurred primarily during the Neogene. *Diabelia spathulata* var.

spathulata from Korea was also suggested to have originated in Northeast Japan.

However, one vicariance and one dispersal event was detected for the ancestral nodes

of *D. spathulat*a var. *stenophylla* from China, indicating gene flow from Japan.

3.6 Character evolution

Character evolution with likelihood inference based on the inferred nuclear tree

indicated that all four selected morphological characters showed some level of

homoplasy in *Diabelia* (Figs. 7 - 8). Sepal number showed little homoplasy with our

results suggesting that the ancestral character state was most likely five subequal sepals,

with two independent shifts to five unequal sepals (four big and one smaller sepal) in

D. tetrasepala and to two sepals in *D. serrata* (Fig. 7). Flower number was similar to

sepal number by having little homoplasy, with the inferred ancestral character of paired

flowers (Fig. 7). The ancestral corolla colour of *Diabelia* was most likely white (Fig.

8). Corolla shape exhibited a high level of homoplasy, with the state "infundibuliform"

inferred to have originated twice, once in *D. spathulata* and the other in the clade of *D.*

tetrasepala (Fig. 8).

The results of character evolution based on the plastid tree are shown in Figs. S5

and S6. The inferred ancestral character of sepal number, flower number and corolla

colour from plastid tree are similar to those from the nuclear gene tree, but the

ancestral corolla shape was most likely tubular (Figs. S5 - S6). The main difference of

character state evolution between plastid tree and nuclear gene tree is the position of *D.*

tetrasepala with its corresponding characters.

4 Discussion

4.1 Phylogenetic incongruence and hybridization

This study reconstructed well-supported phylogenetic relationships of the three

species of *Diabelia* (*D. serrata, D. tetrasepala, D. spathulata:* including *D. spathulata*

var. *sanguinea, D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* and *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata*) based

on both nuclear and plastid data. Our phylogenetic analyses indicate that the backbone

relationships of *Diabelia* in the ML nuclear tree are congruent with these of the

ASTRAL tree, but the relationships among these clades are incongruent between

nuclear and plastid data (Figs. 2 and 3). For example, *D. serrata* and *D. tetrasepala*

were recovered as monophyletic in ML nuclear tree, while *D. tetrasepala* was nested in

D. serrata in the ML plastid tree (Fig. 2).

Comparing the tree topologies between the nuclear and plastid data, we find that

the topology formed by the nuclear gene data was more stable. The nuclear data

recovered five strongly supported clades (Figs. 2 and 3), with *D. serrata* forming a

stable monophyletic group that was consistent with previous studies supporting the

monophyletic nature of *D. serrata* (Wang et al., 2020). *Diabelia spathulata* var.

stenophylla and *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* were also recovered as monophyletic

with the nuclear data. While in the plastid data *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* does not

form a monophyletic group (Fig. 2). We hypothesize that plastid capture (Liu et al.,

2017; Renoult et al., 2009) resulted in the non-monophyly of *D. spathulata* var.

sanguinea observed in the plastome data. Previous phylogenetic relationship of

Diabelia based on plastid data have also been unstable (Zhao et al.,2019; Wang et al.,

2020). Therefore, the nuclear data provides a more robust estimate of the species tree

compared to plastid data. However, the analyses only include one *D. spathulata* sample,

and the internal relationships of the clade encompassing *D. spathulata* need to be

further resolved. Hence, we need more samples to obtain a more accurate and robust

inference of relationships for future studies.

In the present study, we found extensive strong conflict between plastome and

nuclear data (Fig. 2). Several processes can lead to gene tree inconsistencies between

closely related groups, including hybridization, incomplete lineage sorting (ILS),

horizontal gene transfer, and gene duplication and loss (Morales-Briones et al., 2018;

Bogarin et al., 2018; Carter et al., 2019; Stull et al., 2020). Ancestral polymorphisms

may lead to incomplete genealogical classification, therefore phylogenetic

relationships between organelle markers may fail to capture the true process of

population differentiation, or inconsistencies in gene trees may reflect interspecies

hybridization and cytoplasmic infiltration (Lee-Yaw et al., 2019; Wielstra & Arntzen,

2020; Tkach et al., 2020). Therefore, the causes of inconsistencies in gene trees can

explain the relative influences of drift, gene flow and selection on the maintenance of

organelle variation within and between groups, which is helpful in revealing the

evolutionary process of inter-group relationships (Mao et al., 2020; Dufresnes et al.,

2020).

A previous study (Zhao et al., 2019) reported gene introgression events between

Diabelia species and hybridization was hypothesized as the main driver based on sample

observations, specifically that *D. tetrasepala* is a hybrid species. In this study, we

conducted network analyses for *Diabelia*, with *D. tetrasepala* being inferred to result

from a hybridization event between *D. serrata* and *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata*. These

results support our hypothesis: *D. tetrasepala* (four big and one small sepals) is a hybrid

of *D. serrata* (two sepals) and *D. spathulata* (five sepals). Samples of *D. tetrasepala* are

distributed in the sympatric areas of *D. serrata* and *D. spathulata* (Table S1; Zhao et al.,

2019; Wang et al., 2020; Landrein and Farjon, 2020). Therefore, we confirm that these

geographical conditions provide the possibility of interbreeding between *D. serrata* and

D. spathulata.

4.2 Molecular dating and demographic analyses

Based on our nuclear chronogram (Fig. 5), all *Diabelia* lineages differentiated

22.53-18.17 Ma (Fig. 5). Notably, this point estimate broadly coincides with the

isolation of the Japanese island (24-22 Ma) (Hotta, 1974; Iijima and Tada, 1990; Li et

al., 1996; Maekawa, 1998) and the estimated dates are earlier than previous estimates

based on chloroplast data (Wang et al., 2020). The East China Sea (ESC) land bridge

likely acted as a barrier or corridor to the dispersal of plant species during the LGM

and earlier cold periods, despite its repeated exposure during the Miocene (7.0-5.0 Ma)

and Quaternary (2.0-1.3 Ma, 0.2-0.015 Ma) (Harrison, 2001). Even though the

Japanese archipelago was not covered by a major ice sheet during the last glacial

period (Ono, 1984), the mean annual temperature was 5℃–9℃ cooler and the

precipitation was less than at present (Yasuda and Narita, 1981; Tsukada, 1988). In

addition, as a result of the lower sea levels (ca. 100 m below present), Shikoku and

Kyushu were continuous with Honshu, and the continental shelf, ca. 20–30 km from

the present coastline, emerged around the archipelago (Ohta and Yonekura, 1987). The

distribution data of *D. serrata* suggests that the group is widely distributed in Japan

except for Hokkaido. As the climate warmed, the species recovered and expanded

northward or towards higher altitudes (Tsukada, 1988; Takahara et al., 2000), therefore,

forming the current isolated distribution.

Diabelia species are relatively tolerant to cold and arid climates, which might

have facilitated gene exchange across the glacially exposed ECS land bridge up until

its latest submergence. All *Diabelia* species have fruits forming samaras, which

increase long-distance dispersal abilities (Landrein, 2010). Our molecular dating

indicates that *Diabelia* originated in the Japanese archipelago (Fig. 5) and the onset of

diversification of *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* from Japan and *D. spathulata* var.

stenophylla from China occurred during the early Pliocene. Our results suggest a

vicariance event and a dispersal event associated with *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla*

from China (Fig. 5). Under the hypothesis of long-distance dispersal, a predicted

lineage in one region should nest within a lineage from a separate disjunctive region.

In contrast, under vicariance, lineages from different geographic regions would be

monophyletic, with relatively comparable levels of genetic diversity in each region of

the distribution (Yoder & Nowak, 2006; Liao et al., 2016; Thomas et al., 2017). The

disjunction between *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* in Japan and *D. spathulata* var.

stenophylla from China may have resulted from migration across this land bridge

followed by vicariance. However, given that *Diabelia* fruits are winged (Landrein,

2010) the hypothesis of direct long-distance dispersal between Japan and China cannot

be ruled out.

Our results show that *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* is comprised of two

phylogroups with distinct geographic distributions, one in Japan and the other in Korea.

Furthermore, our results also confirm that populations of *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata*

in Korea are likely due to more recent episodes of long-distance dispersal and ancient

vicariant events (Fig. 6). Our divergence time estimates suggest that species

differentiation in *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* occurred during the late Miocene to the

early Pliocene (4.78 Ma, 95% HPD: 3.02−6.84 Ma), suggesting that extant populations

likely differentiated well before the LGM. The cooling and drying climate in the late

Miocene drove the formation of some species. The changing climate in the late

Pliocene and Pleistocene are related to lineage differentiation, genetic diversity

formation, and population contraction and expansion such as observed in

Cercdiphyllum japonicum (Qi et al., 2012) and *Euptelea* (Cao et al., 2016). This study

adds another example of this well-documented pattern.

4.3 Evolution of morphological characters

Character state reconstructions performed on the ML tree (Figs. 7 - 8 and S5 - S6)

have the potential to exhibit hemiplasy and xenoplasy (Avise & Robinson, 2008;

Robinson et al., 2008; Copetti et al., 2017; Wang et al., 2020). Based on nuclear data

there are five distinct clades in both the ASTRAL and concatenation trees (Figs. 1 - 2),

but distinguishing taxonomic rank remains difficult. These relative lineages have

constrained biogeographic histories, which may also explain the high level of

morphological variation observed in some clades.

Sepal number, flower number and corolla colour have been regularly used to

recognize *Diabelia* (Hara, 1983; Zhao et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2020; Landrein and

Farjon, 2020). The evolution pattern of sepal number reveals that five subequal sepals

is the likely ancestral state of *Diabelia*, while the five unequal sepals (four big and one

smaller sepal) observed in *D. tetrasepala* (Fig. 1 C) and two sepals in *D. serrata* (Fig.

1 A) are derived characters that evolved independently. Robayo et al. (2020) pointed

out that the calyx of Loranthaceae degenerated in the evolutionary history of the family.

In addition, Nakagawa et al. (2020) demonstrated that the dorsal-to-ventral inhibitions

and the floral stem cell region (meristem) determine the number and position of the

sepals. Based on our previous hybridization analysis, we hypothesize that hybridization

events may cause sepals to decrease in number throughout the process of evolution.

Paired flowers are an important character in the classification within *Diabelia*.

Landrein (2010) noted that the paired flowers appearing at the end of short shoots of

Diabelia differ from those of *Abelia*. Based on this important characteristic, *Diabelia*

was separated from *Abelia.* Our ancestral state reconstruction revealed paired flowers

as the inferred ancestral character of *Diabelia*, with the number of flowers increasing

to clusters of four to seven in *D. serrata*.

The evolution of corolla color within *Diabelia* is complicated, with a white

corolla appearing to be the ancestral condition. Based on our ancestral state

reconstructions, there does not appear to be any clear evolutionary patterns (Figs. 8 and

S6). There are some overlapping colour characters within *Diabelia*, for instance the

corolla of *D. serrata* is usually yellow (sometimes pale yellow, Fig. 1 A); *D.*

spathulata is usually white (Fig. 1 E) but sometimes pale yellow (Fig. 1 D);

D. tetrasepala is usually pale yellow but sometimes light pink. Selection driven by

biotic agents can generate variation in floral characters. Abiotic selection, however,

also drives the diversity of floral features, especially with respect to patterns of

pigmentation (Koski & Ashman, 2016; Hong et al., 2019; Meng et al., 2021).

Overall, five subequal sepals, paired flowers and white corolla are inferred as the

likely ancestral states of this genus. The clarification of the evolution patterns of these

characters is significant for the taxonomy of *Diabelia*, which contributes towards a

sound taxonomic treatment of the genus.

5 Conclusions

The robust phylogeny of *Diabelia* was reconstructed with nuclear and plastid data

based on target enrichment and genome skimming approaches. The inferred

phylogenies from both nuclear and plastome data indicate that *Diabelia* can be divided

into five main clades, which are further supported by morphological traits such as sepal

number. These results suggest that *Diabelia* can be divided into five species or sub

species. The PhyloNet results further confirmed the existence of reticulation and

natural hybridization events in *Diabelia*, confirming *D. tetrasepala* is a natural hybrid

of *D. serrata* and *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata*. The divergence time and biogeography

analyses further support the differentiation and propagation of *Diabelia* with multiple

vicariances from the perspectives of time and space, further supporting the complex

natural hybridization and evolutionary network of the disjunctive flora of Japan and

China. Cladistic evolution and reticulate evolution should be considered when

reconstructing phylogenetic relationships among closely related species. The

appropriate choice of data to construct phylogenetic trees is important in the era of

genomics data. More studies are needed to further clarify the origin, dispersal and

evolution of Sino-Japanese disjunct species with nuclear and plastid data at the

population level.

6 TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

Landrein (2010) separated *Diabelia* from *Abelia* by the paired inflorescences that

appear at the ends of short branches. Sepal number is commonly regarded to

distinguish the apparent characteristics of *Diabelia* species. Hara (1983) divided the

genus into three species, based on the properties of number and size of the sepals: *D.*

spathulata has five unequal sepals, *D. serrata* has 2-3 sepals, and *D. tetrasepala* has

four sepals and a variation of shorten sepals. Landrein (2010) and Landrein et al. (2020)

raised four species within *Diabelia* based on the number of sepals, position of nectar

pad and colour of corolla. In the light of the phylogenetic results and morphological evidence in this study, we identified and accepted three species of *Diabelia* Landrein, with *D. spathulata* containing three varieties.

6.1 *Diabelia serrata*（Siebold& Zucc.）Landrein

Basionym: *Abelia spathulata* Siebold & Zucc. (Siebold & Zuccarini 1838: 34); *Linnaea spathulata* (Siebold &Zucc.) Graebn. (Graebner 1900: 142). Type: Japan, Buerger, Herb. Siebold. 899.68-6 (lectotype L!).

Abelia spathulata var. *elliptica* Miq. (Miquel 1866: 269). Type: Shizuoka Pref., Simoda, 15 May 1855, C. Wrights.n. (K!).

Abelia spathulata f. pilosa Nakai (1921). Type: Japan, Honshu, Osaka Pref., Kawachi, Aug. 1899, T. Tadas.n. (lectotype TI!).

Abelia spathulata var. *micrantha* Nakai (in Nakai & Koidzumi 1927: 504). Type: Japan, Shinano, H. Koidzumi s.n. (TI!).

Abelia serrata var. *integerrima* Nakai (in Nakai & Koidzumi 1927: 625); Abelia integerrima (Nakai) Sugim. (Sugimoto 1936: 361). Type not located.

Description: sepals 2 often dissected into 2 - 4 lobes, flowers paired or more often in clusters of 4 - 7 flowers, corolla 9 - 22 mm long, yellow, pale yellow or less frequently pale pink or white. Corolla tubula rinfundibulform with or without an inflated mouth. Nectary cushion fused to the corolla tube, 1 - 3 mm in diameter.

Distribution: Zhejiang (China); Kagoshima; Shimane; Ehime; Shiga; Fukui; Tokushima; Gifu; Okayama; Oita; Kochi; Hyogo; Nagasaki; Yamanashi; Yamaguchi

6.2 *Diabelia tetrasepala* (Koidz.) Landrein

Basionym: *Diabelia stenophylla* (Honda) Landrein var. *tetrasepala* (Koidz.) Landrein comb. nov. KEW BULLETIN 74: 70 (Landrein & Farjion 2019);

Abelia spathulata Siebold & Zucc. var. *tetrasepala* Koidz., Bot. Mag. (Tokyo) 29 (348): 311(Koidzumi 1915);

Abelia tetrasepala (Koidz.) H. Hara & S. Kuros. (in Kurosawa & Hara 1955: 296); Diabelia tetrasepala (Koidz.) Landrein (2010: 37). Type: Japan, Honshu, Saitama Pref. [Musashi, Chichibu], 23 April 1878, J. Matsumaras.n. (holotype TI!).

Abelia spathulata Siebold & Zucc. var. *subtetrasepala* Makino (1917: 18). Type:

Japan, Honshu, Kochi Pref., Nanokawa-mura, 22 April 1888, K. Watanabe s.n.

(holotype TI!).

Abelia spathulata Siebold & Zucc. var. *subtetrasepala* Makino f. flavescens

Honda (1935: 569). Type: Japan, Gunma Pref., Ikaho, 27 May 1934, T. Sakai

152 (holotype TI!).

Abelia spathulata Siebold & Zucc. var. *subtetrasepala* Makino f. rubescens

Sugim. (Sugimoto 1961: 456). Type and description not located.

Description: Sepals 4 plus a reduced adaxial sepal lobe, corolla often larger, 30 -

35 mm long, paired flowers, ovary subappressed pubescent.

Distribution: Tokushima; Shiga; Mie; Shiga; Fukushima; Ibaraki.

6.3 Diabelia spathulata (Siebold & Zucc.) Landrein

Description: Sepals 5, all of similar size, corolla pink, white or yellowish-white,

campanulate in the upper part, 16–28 mm long, sepals acute at apex, nectary cushion

clavate and apically free from the corolla tube.

Distribution: Kochi; Niigata; Toyama; Shizuoka; Ehime; Kanagawa; Ibaraki;

Fukui; Aichi; Nara; Tokushima; Gifu; Fukushima; Yamanashi; Shiga;

Gyeongsangnam-do (Korea)

var. *sanguinea*   Corolla red, campanulate in the upper part, 11–22 mm long,

sepals obtuse at apex. Nectary cushion flat and fused to the corolla tube or shortly

clavate and apically free from the corolla tube.

Basionym: *Diabelia sanguinea* (Makino) Landrein comb. et stat. nov. KEW

BULLETIN 74: 70 (Landrein & Farjion 2019);

Abelia spathulata Siebold & Zucc. var. *sanguinea* Makino, Bot. Mag. (Tokyo) 18:

106 (1904); *Linnaea spathulata* (Siebold & Zucc.) Graebn. var. sanguinea (Makino)

Matsumura (1912: 598);

Abelia sanguinea (Makino) Makino (1917: 14). Type: Japan, Honshu, Tochigi,

Hosoomura, 11 June 1878, S. Okubo s.n. (lectotype TI!).

Abelia curviflora Nakai (in Nakai & Koidzumi 1927: 503). Type: Japan, Nagano,

Shinno, Asage mura, Shimoinagun, 18 July 1959, H. Koidzumi 8308 (holotype TI!).

Abelia sanguinea (Makino) Makino var. *purpurascens* Honda (1930: 409). Type: Japan, Tochigi, Nasu, 8 June 1930, M. Honda s.n. (holotype TI!).

var. *stenophylla* Corolla yellowish white, rarely pinkish, 25-45 mm long; leaves often larger, smooth; young branches, petioles, midrib of leaves beneath, and ovary often with long (up to 1mm long) spreading hairs; bracts linear-lanceolate, 2-6mm long.

Basionym: Diabelia stenophylla (Honda) Landrein comb. et stat. nov. KEW BULLETIN 74: 70 (Landrein & Farjion 2019);

Abelia spathulata Siebold & Zucc. var. stenophylla Honda, Bot. Mag. (Tokyo) 50: 436 (1936). Type: Japan, Honshu, Akita, Higashidatemura, Kitaakita-gun, June 1931, M. Matsuda 14b (holotype TI!).

Abelia spathulata Siebold & Zucc. var. macrophylla Honda (1941: 202). Type: Japan, Honshu, Akita, Shimoshinzan, Oga., 25 Aug. 1929, T. Hida s.n. (holotype TI!).

Abelia ionostachya Nakai (1953: 23). Type: Honshu, Niigata, Kirinzan, Tsugawa-machi, 26 May 1950, T. Nakai & N. Maruyama s.n. (holotype TNS).

var. *spathulata* Nectary-gland inside the base of the corolla-tube, short clavate or globular, free or partly adnate; corolla 1.5-3cm long, white, yellowish, rarely rose-red; leaves generally with impressed veins above, pilose generally with short hairs.

Basionym: *Abelia spathulata* Siebold & Zucc. (Siebold & Zuccarini 1838: 34); Linnaea spathulata (Siebold & Zucc.) Graebn. (Graebner 1900: 142). Type: Japan, Buerger, Herb. Siebold. 899.68-6 (lectotype L!).

Abelia spathulata var. elliptica Miq. (Miquel 1866: 269). Type: Shizuoka Pref., Simoda, 15 May 1855, C. Wrights.n. (K!).

Abelia spathulata f. pilosa Nakai (1921). Type: Japan, Honshu, Osaka Pref., Kawachi, Aug. 1899, T. Tada s.n. (lectotype TI!).

Abelia spathulata var. micrantha Nakai (in Nakai & Koidzumi 1927: 504). Type: Japan, Shinano, H. Koidzumi s.n. (TI!).

Abelia serrata var. integerrima Nakai (in Nakai & Koidzumi 1927: 625); Abelia integerrima (Nakai) Sugim. (Sugimoto 1936: 361). Type not located.

Abelia spathulata f. lucida Makino (1933: 255). Type: Japan, Honshu, Chiba Pref.,

Futtsu, Mt Nokogiri, 28 April 1952, M. Mizushima 1721 (A!, TI)

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Author contributions

H.F.W. and J.W. conceived the study. H.F.W. and D.F.M-B. performed the

research and analyzed the data. X.R.K., H.F.W., D.F.M-B., J.W. HXW, Q.H.S and

J.B.L wrote and revised the manuscript.

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Figure Legends

Figure 1. Floral diversity of *Diabelia*. (A) *Diabelia serrata*; (B) *D. serrata var. buchwaldii*; (C) *D. tetrasepala*; (D)- (E) *D. spathulata*; (F) *D. spathulata var. sanguinea*.

Figure 2. Tanglegram of the nuclear concatenated (left) and plastid (right phylogenies. Dotted lines connect taxa between the two phylogenies. Maximum likelihood bootstrap support values are shown above branches. The asterisks indicate maximum likelihood bootstrap support of 100%. Major taxonomic groups or main clades in the family as currently recognized are indicated by branch colors as a visual reference to relationships.

Figure 3. ASTRAL-III species tree; Clade support is depicted as: LPP/QC/QD/QI (local posterior probability/quartet concordance/quartet differential/quartet informativeness).

Figure 4. Best supported species networks inferred with Phylonet for the 15-taxa. Numbers next to the inferred hybrid branches indicate inheritance probabilities. Blue curved lines represent major hybrid edges. Red curved lines represent minor hybrid edges (edges with an inheritance contribution < add space 0.50).

Figure 5. BEAST analysis of divergence times based on the nuclear data set. Calibration points are indicated by A, B. Numbers 1-8 represent major divergence events in *Diabelia*; mean divergence times and 95% highest posterior densities (HDP) are provided for each nodes of interests. Blue bars represent 95% HDP.

Figure 6. Ancestral area reconstruction for *Daibelia*. Areas of endemism are as follows: (A) Japan, (B) Korea, (C) China. The numbered nodes represent crown nodes of important colonization events, as discussed in the text.

Figure 7. Likelihood inference of character evolution in *Diabelia* using Mesquite v.3.51 based on nuclear phylogeny. Left, The number of sepals; Right, The number of flowers.

Figure 8. Likelihood inference of character evolution in *Diabelia* using Mesquite v.3.51 based on nuclear phylogeny. Left, Corolla colour; Right, Corolla shape.

Table. 1 Data set statistics, including the number of taxa, number of characters, number

964   of PI characters, missing data.

965 Table. 2 Model selection of the different species networks and bifurcating trees.

967 Fig. S1 Heatmaps showing gene recovery efficiency for the nuclear genes in 45 species

968   of *Diabelia*. Columns represent genes, and each row is one sample. Shading

969   indicates the percentage of the reference locus length coverage.

970 Fig. S2 nuclear RAxML tree; Clade support is depicted as: LPP/QC/QD/QI (local

971   posterior probability/quartet concordance/quartet differential/quartet

972   informativeness).

973 Fig. S3 plastid RAxML tree; Clade support is depicted as: LPP/QC/QD/QI (local

974   posterior probability/quartet concordance/quartet differential/quartet

975   informativeness).

976 Fig. S4 Best species networks of the selective nuclear data set estimated with PhyloNet

977   for the 15-taxa. A: One hybridization event; B: Two hybridization events; C:

978   Three hybridization events; D: Four hybridization events; F: Five hybridization

979   events. Blue branches connect the hybrid nodes. Numbers next to blue branches

980   indicate inheritance probabilities.

981 Figure S5. Likelihood inference of character evolution in *Diabelia* using Mesquite

982   v.3.51 based on plastid phylogeny. Left, The number of sepals; Right, The number

983   of flowers.

984 Figure S6. Likelihood inference of character evolution in *Diabelia* using Mesquite

985   v.3.51 based on plastid phylogeny. Left, Corolla colour; Right, Corolla shape.

986 Table. S1 List of species and vouchers used in this study.

987 Table. S2 HybPiper assembly statistics.

 Table 1. Data set statistics, including the number of taxa, number of characters, number of PI characters, missing data.

Alignment	No. of taxa	No. sites	Missing data (%)	No. of variable/Parsimony informative sites
Nuclear	47	392,600	13.2	43,250/18,057
plastid	47	159,365	1.8	8,243/4,693

 Table 2. Model selection of the different species networks and bifurcating trees.

Topology	lnL	Parameters	Loci	Number of hybridizations	Information criteria		
					AIC	AICc	BIC
15 taxa							
nuclear ASTRAL	-6134.788576	27	241	N/A	12323.577153	12330.675744	12417.666670
nuclear RAxML	-6137.811629	27	241	N/A	12329.623259	12336.721850	12423.712776
plastid	-6427.555081	27	241	N/A	12909.110161	12916.208753	13003.199679
Network 1	-6079.839883	29	241	1	12217.679766	12225.926212	12318.738877
Network 2	**-6006.511111**	**31**	**241**	**2**	**12075.022221**	**12084.515044**	**12183.050926**
Network 3	-6079.836581	33	241	1	12225.673162	12236.513742	12340.671461
Network 4	-6038.368637	35	241	4	12146.737274	12159.029957	12268.705166
Network 5	-6088.526401	37	241	5	12251.052802	12264.905019	12379.990288

Order	Ingroup/ Outgroup	Taxon	Coding	Locality	Voucher specimen number	SRA accession
1	Ingroup	*Diabelia serrata*	A	Ogawara plateau,Tokushima , Japan	HUTB, E314	
2	Ingroup	*Diabelia serrata* var. *buchwaddi*	A	Takanose-kyo gorge, Kito, Naka-cho, Kochi, Japan	HUTB, E324	
3	Ingroup	*Diabelia serrata*	A	Mt. Shiraga, Motoyama-cho, Kochi, Japan	HUTB, E137	
4	Ingroup	*Diabelia serrata*	A	Kochi, Japan	HUTB, E140	
5	Ingroup	*Diabelia serrata*	A	Kakiki-mura, Kanoashi-gun, Shimane, Japan	HUTB, E122	
6	Ingroup	*Diabelia serrata*	A	Anan, Tokushima, Japan	HUTB, E123	SRR13705758
7	Ingroup	*Diabelia serrata*	A	Mt. Shiraga, Motoyama-cho, Kochi, Japan	HUTB, E138	
8	Ingroup	*Diabelia serrata*	A	Mt. Shiraga, Motoyama-cho, Kochi, Japan	HUTB, E139	
9	Ingroup	*Diabelia serrata*	A	Takanose-kyo gorge, Kito, Naka-cho, Kochi, Japan	HUTB, E128	
10	Ingroup	*Diabelia serrata*	A	Takakuma, Kagoshima, Japan	HUTB, E321	SRR13890747
11	Ingroup	*Diabelia serrata*	A	Mt. Shozanji, Kamiyama, Tokushima, Japan	HUTB, E125	
12	Ingroup	*Diabelia serrata*	A	Ogawara plateau,Tokushima , Japan	HUTB, E126	
13	Ingroup	*Diabelia serrata*	A	Takaga, Seki city, Gifu, Japan	HUTB, E124	
14	Ingroup	*Diabelia tetrasepala*	A	Mt. Takamaru, Kamikatsu, Tokushima, Japan	HUTB, E142	
15	Ingroup	*Diabelia tetrasepala*	A	Mt. Takamaru, Kamikatsu, Tokushima, Japan	HUTB, E143	
16	Ingroup	*Diabelia tetrasepala*	A	Mt. Takamaru, Kamikatsu, Tokushima, Japan	HUTB, E185	
17	Ingroup	*Diabelia tetrasepala*	A	Mt. Takamaru, Kamikatsu, Tokushima, Japan	HUTB, E312	
18	Ingroup	*Diabelia tetrasepala*	A	Mt. Takamaru, Kamikatsu, Tokushima, Japan	HUTB, E311	
19	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata*	A	Tochigi, Japan	HUTB, E271	
20	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *sanguinea*	A	Yumoto, Nasu-cho, Nasu-gun, Tochigi, Japan	HUTB, E130	
21	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *sanguinea*	A	Mt. Takamaru, Kamikatsu, Tokushima, Japan	HUTB, E294	
22	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *sanguinea*	A	Zike, Toyama city, Toyama, Japan	HUTB, E131	
23	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *sanguinea*	A	Sendai, Miyagi, Japan	HUTB, E301	SRR13705755

24	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *sanguinea*	A	Mt. Kinkan, Numadzu city, Shizuoka, Japan	HUTB, E303	SRR13890746
25	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *sanguinea*	A	Tanyama, Nagano, Japan	HUTB, E308	
26	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *sanguinea*	A	Tanyama, Nagano, Japan	HUTB, E306	SRR13705756
27	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *spathulata*	B	Naewon temple forests,Yangsan-si, Gyeongsangnam-do, Korea	HUTB, E190	
28	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *spathulata*		Kowaki-cho, Higashiomi city, Shiga, Japan	HUTB, E200	
29	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *spathulata*	B	Naewon temple forests,Yangsan-si, Gyeongsangnam-do, Korea	HUTB, E141	
30	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *spathulata*	A	Kowaki-cho, Higashiomi city, Shiga, Japan	HUTB, E198	SRR13705757
31	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *spathulata*	A	Hatasawa, Obanasawa city, Yamagata, Japan	HUTB, E129	
32	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *stenophylla*	C	Wenzhou, Zhejiang, China	HUTB, E204	SRR13705754
33	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *stenophylla*	C	Wenzhou, Zhejiang, China	HUTB, E203	
34	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *stenophylla*	C	Wenzhou, Zhejiang, China	HUTB, E201	
35	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *stenophylla*	C	Wenzhou, Zhejiang, China	HUTB, E202	
36	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *stenophylla*	C	Wenzhou, Zhejiang, China	HUTB, E205	
37	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *stenophylla*	C	Wenzhou, Zhejiang, China	HUTB, E170	
38	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *stenophylla*	C	Wenzhou, Zhejiang, China	HUTB, E172	
39	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *stenophylla*	C	Wenzhou, Zhejiang, China	HUTB, E171	
40	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *stenophylla*	A	Saitama, Japan	HUTB, E240	
41	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *stenophylla*	A	Tabitomachi, Iwaki-shi, Fukushima Pref, Japan	HUTB, E295	
42	Ingroup	*Diabelia spathulata* var. *stenophylla*	A	Kami-sanbonmatsu, Honzyuku-cho, Okazaki city, Aichi, Japan	HUTB, E132	
43	Outgroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *parvifolia*		Yichang, Hubei, China	HUTB, E45	SRR13890750
44	Outgroup	*Dipelta floribunda*		Cambridge, UK.	HUTB, E55	SRR13705794
45	Outgroup	*Kolkwitzia amabilis*		Weinan, Shanxi, China	HUTB, E9	SRR13705797
46	Outgroup	*Vesalea floribunda*		Oaxaca, Mexico	HUTB, E112	

| 47 | Outgroup | *Linnaea borealis* | | Yili, Xinjiang, China | | HUTB, E59 | SRR13705788 |

Table S2. HybPiper assembly statistics

Species	Number of reads	Number of reads on target	Percent reads on target	Number of exons with reads	Number of exons with contigs	Number of exons with sequences	Number of exons with sequences > 25% of the target length	Number of exons with sequences > 50% of the target length	Number of exons with sequences > 75% of the target length	Number of exons with sequences > 150% of the target length	Number of exons with paralog warnings
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E129	16390784	4958995	0.303	1114	1025	994	992	982	934	1	101
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E306	9313351	1888267	0.203	1119	1007	977	974	960	889	0	79
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E308	5571741	780542	0.14	1097	981	960	956	936	875	0	69
D. tetrasepala E142	14145605	1023090	0.072	1089	987	963	962	952	899	1	79

D. tetrasepala E143	4395804	228392	0.052	1050	900	878	878	851	783	0	54
D. tetrasepala E185	5533465	1430420	0.259	1114	1008	978	977	959	898	0	90
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E294	1071353	238126	0.222	1021	876	862	861	841	779	0	56
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E295	9507905	2627497	0.276	1138	1024	992	992	971	904	0	92
D. tetrasepala E311	12638082	3514670	0.278	1144	1030	995	994	982	937	2	98
D. tetrasepala E312	26768128	7923496	0.296	1130	1022	995	994	984	940	2	102
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E170	8333538	2519416	0.302	1127	1017	995	994	979	922	1	90
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E171	8838954	2672116	0.302	1108	1017	987	985	972	923	1	96
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E172	6849894	2064638	0.301	1103	1008	983	981	962	908	1	92
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E201	10281957	3225974	0.314	1112	1015	988	987	973	922	1	86

D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E202	7944302	2326039	0.293	1109	1012	986	985	968	915	1	86
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E203	8895646	3097609	0.348	1122	1022	996	995	980	924	1	85
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E204	6642696	2077347	0.313	1103	1006	983	982	962	908	1	76
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E205	9630997	2810192	0.292	1128	1020	995	993	972	920	1	80
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E130	4766791	879875	0.185	1065	981	958	956	942	887	0	79
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E240	8121657	922592	0.114	1098	988	963	961	933	838	0	66
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E301	12028399	2724711	0.227	1151	1062	1032	1032	1021	989	3	619
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E303	10970170	3075238	0.28	1134	1025	991	988	973	914	0	91
D. serrata var. *buchwaddi* E324	6665872	419228	0.063	1093	872	852	849	803	683	0	39
D. serrata E122	5880405	1892938	0.322	1064	999	978	977	962	895	0	85
D. serrata E123	2163968	7331755	0.339	1120	1033	998	996	980	933	1	136

D. serrata E124	22914349	9714647	0.424	1116	1031	1000	999	984	940	2	97
D. serrata E125	15011394	6415541	0.427	1105	1034	1003	1002	986	938	0	88
D. serrata E126	30652021	9145847	0.298	1124	1028	1002	1000	984	937	0	112
D. serrata E128	13934333	2581418	0.185	1091	999	975	974	959	909	1	102
D. serrata E137	4273733	735627	0.172	1060	974	952	950	933	871	0	79
D. serrata E138	14148609	3912863	0.277	1100	1020	993	992	979	924	1	83
D. serrata E139	1011296	2465780	0.244	1102	1002	983	982	968	910	0	96

D. serrata E314	5056940	378381	0.075	1050	877	850	839	746	587	1	36
D. serrata E321	13220295	4190116	0.317	1138	1037	1002	1000	986	934	0	93
D. spathulata E271	3089596	212920	0.069	992	827	809	806	762	661	0	39
D. spathulata var. sanguinea E131	13699360	3897086	0.284	1107	1018	991	990	979	930	1	87
D. spathulata var. stenophylla E132	7051574	1749371	0.248	1081	1000	976	974	958	905	1	86
D. serrata E140	6481952	1399052	0.216	1081	992	967	966	949	888	0	88
D. spathulata var. spathulata E141	6471860	1497704	0.231	1075	992	966	965	952	900	0	87
D. spathulata var. spathulata E190	8953298	2806002	0.313	1124	1022	989	986	973	928	2	86
D. spathulata var. spathulata E198	9267804	3459777	0.373	1130	1022	993	992	981	928	1	92
D. spathulata var. spathulata E200	8307344	2742274	0.33	1118	1018	991	990	980	922	1	86

Abelia macrotera var. *parvifolia* E45	1833543	32422	0.018	825	436	424	417	355	253	0	6
Dipelta floribunda E55	4636783	105360	0.023	924	660	642	639	601	507	0	27
Kolkwitzia amabilis E9	9779050	2641147	0.27	1097	1005	984	983	967	916	0	75
Linnaea borealis E59	3831881	51899	0.014	867	536	516	507	443	333	0	11
Vesalea floribunda E112	3834861	805440	0.21	1061	970	947	946	915	856	0	52

1000

1001

Nuclear
concatenated

D. serrata

D. tetrasepala

D. spathulata var. *sanguinea*

var. *stenophylla*

var. *spathulata*

Outgroups

Plastome

D. serrata

D. tetrasepala

D. spathulata var. *stenophylla*

var. *sanguinea*

var. *spathulata*

var. *stenophylla*

Outgroups

Diabelia serrata E314
D. serrata var. *buchwalddi* E324
D. serrata E137
D. serrata E140
D. serrata E138
D. serrata E139
D. serrata E123
D. serrata E122
D. serrata E126
D. serrata E125
D. serrata E321
D. serrata E128
D. serrata E124
D. tetrasepala E142
D. tetrasepala E143
D. tetrasepala E185
D. tetrasepala E312
D. tetrasepala E311
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E294
D. spathulata E271
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E130
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E303
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E301
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E131
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E306
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E308
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E204
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E202
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E201
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E203
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E205
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E171
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E172
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E170
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E132
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E295
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E240
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E198
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E190
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E200
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E141
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E129
Abelia macrotera var. *parvifolia* E45
Kolkwitzia amabilis E9
Dipelta floribunda E55
Linnaea borealis E59
Vesalea floribunda E112

0.004

0.008

(A) *Diabelia serrata* E314
(A) *D. serrata* var. *buchwalddi* E324
(A) *D. serrata* E137
(A) *D. serrata* E140
(A) *D. serrata* E138
(A) *D. serrata* E139
(A) *D. serrata* E122
(A) *D. serrata* E321
(A) *D. serrata* E128
(A) *D. serrata* E126
(A) *D. serrata* E125
(A) *D. serrata* E124
(A) *D. serrata* E123
(A) *D. tetrasepala* E143
(A) *D. tetrasepala* E142
(A) *D. tetrasepala* E185
(A) *D. tetrasepala* E312
(A) *D. tetrasepala* E311
(A) *D. spathulata* E271
(A) *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* E294
(A) *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* E131
(A) *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* E130
(A) *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* E303
(A) *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* E301
(A) *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* E308
(A) *D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* E306
(B) *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* E190
(A) *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* E200
(B) *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* E141
(A) *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* E198
(A) *D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* E129
(C) *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E202
(C) *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E204
(C) *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E201
(C) *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E203
(C) *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E205
(C) *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E170
(C) *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E172
(C) *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E171
(A) *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E132
(A) *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E295
(A) *D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E240

21 20   16   12   8   4   0 Ma

LEGEND

* ⬛ (black)

A 🟦 (blue)

AB 🟥 (dark red)

AC 🟩 (teal)

B 🟪 (purple)

C 🟫 (tan)

🔴 Vicariance

⚫ Dispersal

Corolla colour
- Yellow
- Pale yellow
- Red
- White

Corolla shape
- Tubular
- Bilabiate
- Infundibuliform

Diabelia serrata var. *buchwaldii* E324
D. serrata E314
D. serrata E137
D. serrata E140
D. serrata E138
D. serrata E139
D. serrata E123
D. serrata E122
D. serrata E126
D. serrata E125
D. serrata E128
D. serrata E321
D. serrata E124
D. tetrasepala E143
D. tetrasepala E142
D. tetrasepala E185
D. tetrasepala E312
D. tetrasepala E311
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E294
D. spathulata E271
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E130
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E303
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E301
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E131
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E308
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E306
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E204
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E202
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E201
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E203
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E205
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E171
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E170
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E172
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E132
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E295
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E240
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E190
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E200
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E141
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E198
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E129
Abelia macrotera var. *parvifolia* E45
Kolkwitzia amabilis E9
Dipelta floribunda E55
Linnaea borealis E59
Vesalea floribunda E112

0.99/0.67/0.5/0.98	*Diabelia serrata* E314
0.89/0.38/0.07/1	*D. serrata* var. *buchwalddi* E324
0.89/0.18/0.54/0.99	*D. serrata* E137
0.94/0.35/0.9/0.99	*D. serrata* E140
1/0.58/0/1	*D. serrata* E138
0.44/-0.04/0.66/0.99	*D. serrata* E139
0.43/-0.25/0.35/0.99	*D. serrata* E123
0.48/0.22/0.87/0.99	*D. serrata* E122
0.86/0.62/0.2/0.94	*D. serrata* E126
0.69/-0.2/0.22/0.99	*D. serrata* E125
0.6/-0.55/0.13/1	*D. serrata* E128
	D. serrata E321
	D. serrata E124

1/0.91/0.4/1

1/0.21/0.35/0.99

D. serrata

1/0.43/0/1	*D. tetrasepala* E143
1/0.61/0/1	*D. tetrasepala* E142
1/1/-/1	*D. tetrasepala* E185
1/1/-/1	*D. tetrasepala* E312
	D. tetrasepala E311

D. tetrasepala

0.71/0.21/0.49/0.99

1/0.58/0.33/1	*D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* E294
1/-0.03/0.7/0.98	*D. spathulata* E271
1/0.23/0/1	*D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* E130
0.99/0.22/0/0.98	*D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* E303
1/0.89/0.44/1	*D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* E301
	D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E131
1/1/-/1	*D. spathulata* var. *sanguinea* E308
	D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E306

1/1/-/1

D. spathulata var. sanguinea

0.56/0.5/0.63/0.98

1/0.41/0/0.95	*D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E204
1/0.05/0.84/0.97	*D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E202
0.6/0.3/0.11/0.99	*D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E201
1/0.55/0.7/0.99	*D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E203
0.66/-0.63/0.22/0.98	*D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E205
1/1/-/1	*D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E171
0.99/0.93/0/1	*D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E170
	D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E172
0.75/-0.36/0.01/0.99	*D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E132
1/0.91/0.33/1	*D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E295
1/0.74/0.35/1	*D. spathulata* var. *stenophylla* E240

var. stenophylla

1/1/-/1

0.98/0.4/0.18/0.95	*D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* E190
0.66/0.3/0.12/0.94	*D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* E200
1/1/-/1	*D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* E141
0.91/0.22/0.29/0.98	*D. spathulata* var. *spathulata* E198
	D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E129

var. spathulata

1/1/-/1

	Abelia macrotera var. *parvifolia* E45
0.64/-0.32/0.04/1	*Kolkwitzia amabilis* E9
	Dipelta floribunda E55
	Linnaea borealis E59
1/1/-/1	*Vesalea floribunda* E112

Outgroups

0004

Corolla colour
- Yellow
- Pale yellow
- Red
- White

Corolla shape
- Tubular
- Bilabiate
- Infundibuliform

Diabelia tetrasepala E311
D. tetrasepala E312
D. tetrasepala E143
D. tetrasepala E142
D. tetrasepala E185
D. serrata E321
D. serrata E122
D. serrata E314
D. serrata E139
D. serrata E125
D. serrata E126
D. serrata var. *buchwalddi* E324
D. serrata E124
D. serrata E128
D. serrata E138
D. serrata E140
D. serrata E137
D. serrata E123
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E132
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E295
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E240
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E294
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E303
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E130
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E301
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E131
D. spathulata E271
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E306
D. spathulata var. *sanguinea* E308
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E141
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E200
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E190
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E198
D. spathulata var. *spathulata* E129
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E201
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E205
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E204
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E171
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E172
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E202
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E203
D. spathulata var. *stenophylla* E170
Dipelta floribunda E55
Kolkwitzia amabilis E9
Abelia macrotera var. *parvifolia* E45
Linnaea borealis E59
Vesalea floribunda E112