Varroa mites escape the evolutionary trap of haplodiploidy

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Abstract

Genetic diversity is essential for populations adapting to environmental changes. Due to

genetic bottlenecks invasive species have reduced genetic diversity. However, they must

quickly adapt to changes in new environments, potentially including anthropogenic

countermeasures. This paradox raises a fundamental question: how do species adapt to

changes while having low genetic diversity? The invasion paradox is more pronounced for

some species. Parasites go through additional bottlenecks between hosts. Haplodiploid

species have a lower effective population size as males can inherit and transmit only half of

their mother's genome. Trying to solve this paradox, we investigated inheritance in the

Varroa mite (*Varroa destructor*), a well-studied invasive parasite of honey bees fitting all of

the above criteria. By following the flow of alleles across three-generation pedigrees we

found that Varroa, so far believed to be haplodiploid, is actually not. Rather, it has a unique

reproductive system in which females clonally produce functionally diploid sons. While

males lose somatic DNA during development, they can transmit either copy of the maternal

genome to their daughters. This enhances female fitness, particularly under sib-mating

typical of Varroa. We suggest this allows a greater effective population size relative to

haplodiploidy and, thus, an increased evolutionary potential. This reversion to diploidy is a

singular example of escaping the 'evolutionary trap' of haplodiploidy, which is believed to

be an evolutionary stable end state. Plasticity in reproductive systems could be more

common than assumed, and may potentially explain the remarkable resilience and high

adaptivity of Varroa and other invasive parasites.

Significance

Varroa mites have driven the collapse of honey bee populations since their worldwide

spread in the middle of the 20th century. Despite repeated genetic bottlenecks, Varroa has

adapted to diverse environments and has overcome many pesticides. Using pedigree

analysis, we found that Varroa re-evolved diplodiploid reproduction from an evolutionary

history of haplodiploidy. Diplodiploidy permits a higher effective population size and

evolutionary potential, likely facilitating Varroa's ongoing success. Females produce males

clonally, passing on their entire genomes. Varroa is a singular exception to the theoretically

and empirically observed rule that, one evolved, haplodiploidy is an evolutionarily stable

end state (an 'evolutionary trap'). Novel mechanistic studies of even well-known organisms

can lead to surprising insights into the evolutionary plasticity of reproductive systems.

Introduction

Genetic diversity is the basis for biodiversity, being required for species to evolve in

response to environmental changes (1). For a given selection coefficient, the effectiveness

of natural selection *vs.* genetic drift is determined by the effective population size (2).

Selection dominates at higher population sizes, yet in small populations, beneficial alleles

can be lost due to drift. Biological invasions are often accompanied by genetic bottlenecks

that reduce effective population size. Parasites are particularly at risk, as they often

experience bottlenecks as part of their life cycle: an introduction to a new host often

involves one or a few individuals, and the host-parasite population dynamics also involve

frequent and drastic changes in the population's size (3). In addition, because of difficulties

involved in finding unrelated mates within a host, many parasites frequently inbreed,

which further decreases genetic variability (4–6). Although all the above scenarios are

expected to decrease the effective population size, by definition, invasive parasites are

successful species that are highly adaptable to different environments, hosts, and in many

cases, the chemical pesticides used to control them (7, 8). This 'genetic paradox of invasion'

(9, 10) raises the question of how invasive species with expected low genetic diversity are

so successful.

A few solutions have been suggested for this paradox. These include physiological

explanations (11–13), and multiple invasions that compensate for low genetic diversity

(13–15). Occasionally, organisms evolve unusual reproductive strategies that help them

avoid inbreeding. This is the case of the ant *Vollenhovia emeryi*, in which males and females

constitute genetically distinct clonal lineages that combine to produce sterile workers but

otherwise do not intermix (16). Detecting such mechanisms requires controlled crosses,

which are often difficult if not impossible, especially in non-domesticated organisms,

suggesting that many unusual reproductive modes remain to be discovered.

Here we examined the reproductive biology of the Varroa mite, *Varroa destructor*, a global

invasive parasite of honey bees. The mites experienced a range of genetic bottlenecks. They

went through a genetic bottleneck when switching hosts from their original host, the

eastern honey bee (*Apis cerana*) to the western honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) (17). They also

lose genetic diversity when colonizing new hives. Lastly, they routinely sib-mate in small

families (typically one male and three to four females) (18, 19). This mating behavior

further increases the strength of genetic drift and makes natural selection less effective. In

addition, Varroa is believed to be haplodiploid, which further reduces the effective

population size (20, 21). Despite the above, the mite shows high adaptability: it efficiently

switches between host species (22–24), and can rapidly evolve resistance to pesticides via

various mechanisms (25). While a high level of adaptability explains the mite's successful

global spread, the mechanisms underlying this adaptability remain puzzling in the light of

regular genetic bottlenecks, routine inbreeding, and male haploidy.

Varroa is believed to be haplodiploid, whereby sex is determined by arrhenotokous

parthenogenesis, that is, fertilized eggs develop into diploid females, while unfertilized eggs

develop into haploid males (19, 26–28). This type of reproductive system is believed to be

stable, sometimes being referred to as an 'evolutionary trap', suggesting limited potential

for an evolutionary reversion to diploidy (29, 30). Varroa's ploidy was inferred from two

karyotyping studies concluding that it is haplodiploid, with seven pairs of chromosomes

(31, 32). However, as those studies examined Varroa embryos, sex could not be directly

determined. Those studies also differed in key findings, such as chromosome shape: De

Ruijter & Pappas (32) found that all chromosomes are metacentric, while Steiner et al (31)

found that they have three submetacentric and four acrocentric chromosomes.

Häußermann et al. (19) found that unmated females can produce males, consistent with

arrhenotokous parthenogenesis *vs.* paternal genome elimination, which is found in many

other mites. Cruickshank and Thomas (33) used phylogenetic reconstruction to infer that

Varroa evolved from diploid ancestors, via intermediate pseudo-arrhenotokous species

(note: while Varroa was included in this study, its haplodiploidy was assumed based on the

fact that all members of its family are haplodiploid). Theory suggests that reversal to

diploidy from arrhenotoky is unlikely (30), and, indeed, no reversals of arrhenotokous sex

determination are known to date (34). Yet, despite strong circumstantial evidence

suggesting the existence of arrhenotokous parthenogenesis in Varroa, no study has

examined Varroa's mode of genetic inheritance, making its success in spite of genetic

handicaps somewhat of a mystery. Here, we explicitly examine this species' mode of genetic

inheritance using multi-generational pedigrees.

Results

Three lines of evidence suggest that Varroa mite males are functionally diploid: [1] they

inherit two maternal alleles evident in their genotypes (Fig 1A) [2], they randomly transmit

these genotypes to their daughters (Fig 1B), and [3] these genotypes express at equal levels

(Fig 2). Interestingly, flow cytometric investigation suggests that, while on average, females

have roughly twice as much genetic material as males, the male somatic ploidy is more

variable and ranges from haploid to diploid (Fig S1).

Most males are produced parthenogenetically, preserving almost all of their mothers' diploid

genotypes.

The majority of F2 males inherited almost all of their mother's genotype (Fig 1A). This did

not appear to be the case for all males, some of whom had significant genetic contributions

from their fathers. To facilitate the analysis, we separated the males into two groups:

parthenogenetic and other. Below we focus our analysis on the parthenogenetic males,

which made up 20 out of the 26 F2 males in our sample, which had a high maternal

genotype proportion out of the total number of variants (median = 0.98) (Fig 1A). There

were too few of the other males to infer any generalizations, other than to note the

possibility that some males were sexually produced from a fertilized egg. By contrast, F2

female mites randomly inherited both parents' genotypes (Fig 1A).

Males transmit their two alleles to their daughters with equal probability

Consistently, males' maternal inheritance was also observed for the heterozygous variants.

Looking at the cross between a heterozygous F1 female (AB) and a homozygous F1 male

(AA), we found that 97% of the variants in F2 males maintained their mother's

heterozygosity (Fig 1B). Furthermore, males not only inherited two alleles, but they also

randomly transmitted each allele to their daughters. Looking at the cross between a

homozygous female (AA) and a heterozygous F1 male (AB), we observed that 50% of the

variants in F2 females were homozygous (like mother) and another 50% were

heterozygous (like father). F2 male offspring of the same cross were homozygous (AA), just

like their mother (Fig 1C).

Males carry and express two alleles

Varroa males not only inherited and transmitted two alleles, but could also express both

alleles, as evident from publicly available RNAseq data (Fig 2, Table S1) showing that

Varroa mite males and females had similar levels of heterozygosity in DNA (A, females:

0.20±0.12, males: 0.20±0.14) and RNA data (B, females: 0.86±0.03, males: 0.90±0.08). In

contrast, in honey bees, a known haplodiploid species, females had higher levels of

heterozygosity in DNA (C, females: 0.48±0.02, males: 0.12±0.09) and RNA (D, females:

0.47±0.02, males: 0.10±0.03).

Males' somatic ploidy is variable

Male heterozygosity raised the possibility that males are actually diploid instead of haploid,

as believed so far. Therefore, we assessed the ploidy of males and females using flow

cytometry experiments, in addition to bioinformatics k-mer distribution analysis of the

whole genome from a global mite collection (BioProject PRJDB6279, (17)). Flow cytometry

experiments showed that on average, females had roughly twice as much genetic material

as males in somatic tissues (2.25 and 1.63 for females and males respectively, Fig S1).

However, males' somatic ploidy was more variable and ranged from 0.35 to 2.75, while

most females' ploidy was higher than 2, and ranged from 2.1 to 2.85 (Fig S1). The higher

ploidy of females was observed in all developmental stages, and germline tissues in both

sexes were haploid (Fig S2 A and B). K-mer distribution analysis suggested that the level of

heterozygosity is similar in males and females (Fig S3).

Discussion

In this study, we found that *V. destructor* has evolved from ancestral arrhenotoky (33) to a novel reproductive strategy with functionally diploid males, albeit being uniparentally produced by females. This strategy has both short-term and long-term potential benefits for Varroa, each overcoming a different evolutionary 'paradox'. In the short term, the production of clonal males increases the females' fitness by assuring transmission of both of her genetic variants. This strategy can overcome the "paradox of sex" by blending the benefits of sexual and asexual reproduction. Namely, females can produce sons containing both copies of their genes, but female eggs are produced meiotically. In the long term, functional diplodiploidy can potentially increase the effective population size (*vs.* haplodiploidy). A higher effective population size imparts greater evolutionary potential, and indeed Varroa has been remarkably adaptable despite repeated bottlenecks exemplifying the "genetic paradox of invasion".

Another evolutionary surprise from this study is the effective loss of arrhenotoky. Once evolved, asymmetric inheritance appears to be in an evolutionarily stable state, sometimes referred to as an 'evolutionary trap' (30). Obstacles to evolving Mendelian inheritance are diverse. One obstacle is mechanistic, in that males would need to re-evolve meiotic sperm production (35). The other obstacle is evolutionary. In order to invade a population, biparental diploid males must carry mutations that allow them to produce diploid sons. However, arrhenotokous females control fertilization and sex ratios, making such an invasion theoretically unlikely (36). How Varroa re-evolved male sperm production is unknown. Recent work from asexual stick insects indicates that male meiotic regulatory mechanisms are preserved in the females (37), so re-evolving male meiosis may not be as difficult as previously thought. The evolution of diploid males in arrhenotokous systems was believed unlikely because females control the sex ratio, and diploid male phenotypes would be unlikely to invade (30). However, Varroa seems to have overcome this constraint by having females solely control the sex ratio, as well as diploid male production. These two points illustrate that the unforeseen complexity of biological mechanisms may challenge long-standing elegant mathematical models.

Peculiarities and outstanding questions in Varroa reproduction.

While our results conclusively illustrate the functional diploidy capabilities of Varroa mites,

there remain a number of mechanistic questions about how reproduction in that species

actually occurs. Answers to these questions are not critical for the main conclusions of this

study – *i.e.*, effective diploidy in Varroa – but provide interesting avenues for future

investigation.

First, the mechanism by which clonal males are produced is unclear. However, it is most

consistent with central fusion, a type of automixis involving the fusion of the two products

of meiosis I, which tends to largely preserve maternal heterozygosity. The extent of

heterozygosity preservation under central fusion is dependent on how much

recombination between homologous chromosomes takes place (38). Thus, the small

number of males that strongly differed from their mother's genotype (Fig 1A) could have

been produced by variation in meiotic recombination rates. However, there were too few

such males for us to investigate them in greater detail and arrive at anything but

speculative conclusions.

Second, in contrast to the germ line, which must be diploid, the somatic karyotype of

Varroa males is highly variable. How stability in the germline is maintained and the reasons

for somatic instability remain unclear. Flow cytometry indicates that, in contrast to

females, which are diploid, males exhibit a range of somatic DNA content from haploid to

diploid (Fig S1 and S2). This suggests that males start their lives as diploids, which is a

necessity for passing on two allelic copies, but they may lose part of their genome

subsequently. The mechanisms for genome elimination are unclear, though they may have

to do with maintaining the dosage of male-specific genes, which have evolved in a haploid

context. Given that both maternal alleles are equally likely to be expressed (Fig 1A and 1B),

this elimination process appears to be random, and the male somatic genotype is likely

chimeric. Unusually, spermatogenesis in Varroa is an ongoing process during the adult

stage, only completing after sperm transfer to females (39, 40). Our findings suggest that

genome elimination happens only in the male's somatic tissues, while germlines remain in

a similar ratio of the two maternal alleles.

Lastly, a major mystery surrounds the mechanisms of Varroa sex determination. Since

males and females are both diploid, it is unlikely that genetic mechanisms, such as

complementary sex determination, would be at play. Rather, there is likely an epigenetic

mechanism at play instead. In Varroa, there is a correlation between offspring sex and

fertilization, with fertilized and unfertilized gametes becoming females and males,

respectively, so there is the potential for genetic imprinting to play a role.

Conclusions

Our work underscores the importance of comprehensive experimental inquiries into

diverse reproductive mechanisms, even in organisms that appeared to be well studied.

Recent investigations have unveiled a broader spectrum of reproductive strategies than

were previously recognized (35), exemplifying the dynamic nature of biological systems.

The discovery of functional diploidy in Varroa mites has profound implications for bee

health management, potentially explaining this species' adaptability and success as an

invader despite its repeated bottlenecks. Our work exemplifies the need for re-evaluating

Varroa population dynamics models, particularly the spread and persistence of pesticide

resistance mutations, which are the primary impediment to effective Varroa control.

Furthermore, Varroa has emerged as a compelling model for the study of the evolutionary

dynamics of reproductive systems, offering insights into mechanisms for overcoming

evolutionary constraints and the intricacies of sex determination. These findings open

promising avenues for future research, contributing to a deeper understanding of

evolutionary innovation and reproductive plasticity in Varroa and beyond.

Materials and methods

Honey bees and mites

For the pedigree study: Mites and honey bees (*Apis mellifera* L.) were obtained from

colonies at the Onna village apiary and the experimental apiary of Okinawa Institute of

Science and Technology (OIST) in Okinawa, Japan (26.477 N 127.835 E). All colonies used

in the experiment were maintained without any treatment against Varroa and received

sugar solution and 70% pollen cakes as supplemental feed when necessary. Experiments

were conducted between July and November 2020.

<u>For the flow cytometry study:</u> Mites were freshly collected from drones and worker brood

frames of *A. mellifera* colonies at the Texas A&M University Honey Bee Lab apiary (Janice

and John G. Thomas Honey Bee Facility). Mites were collected in June, July, and December

2022. Capped cells containing red-eye pupae (day 15) to emerging adults (day 19-20) were

carefully opened and inspected for single infestation, following standard methods and

procedures (41). The developmental stages and identification of vigorous specimens were

conducted using a soft and fine paintbrush within a petri dish under a Leica macro-

binocular.

Artificial infestation for Varroa pedigree construction

To obtain a three-generational mite pedigree (F0, F1, and F2), we used a semi-natural

infestation system. This started with the collection of a naturally infesting mated Varroa

female (F0). Her adult daughter (F1) was then artificially introduced into a honey bee pre-

pupal cell and allowed to commence the reproductive phase of its life cycle. The F1 mite

and her offspring (F2) were then collected, at the end of the reproductive cycle. For a

detailed description of the experimental design, see Fig 3 and the sections below. Using this

approach, we could genotype all members of the pedigree, except for the male that mated

with the F0 female.

Collection of naturally infesting families (F0 and F1 generations)

To obtain mites from the first two generations (F0 and F1), naturally infested families were

collected from within the cells of 18- to 20-day-old worker bee pupae. At this

developmental stage of the honey bee host, there is typically one dark brown female mite

(the foundress, F0), one adult male (the foundress's son, F1), at least one light-colored

female (the first foundress's daughter, F1), a few nymphs females, and an egg (26). We

determined each mite's sex and developmental stage according to external morphology and

cuticle coloring based on (42) for the color index, please see Fig S4. To ensure that all

offspring belonged to a single family, we thoroughly examined the cell content to confirm

that it was infested by a single foundress mite and that no other adults were present.

Except for the adult female daughters (F1), the rest of the family members were preserved

in a separate microcentrifuge tube kept at -20 °C for later DNA extraction. The adult F1

daughters were easily distinguished from the F0 foundress mite by their lighter cuticle

color (color index 0-2, see Fig S4), and were assumed to have already copulated with their

brother, the F1 male, by the time of the collection (19). Next, the F1 young adult females

were prepared to be artificially introduced into a freshly capped 5th instar larva cell to start

their first reproductive cycle.

Incubation ("phoretic phase") and artificial infestation of F1 female mites

Based on our and others' observations (43), the survival and fecundity of young adult mites

increase if they stay for a few days on an adult nurse bee before starting their first

reproductive cycle. This incubation period is presumably imitating the "dispersal stage", in

which the adult female mite infests an adult honey bee (43, 44). Therefore, the collected

young adult females (F1 generation) spent three days on a nurse bee before infestation.

However, during the experiment, we noticed that the very young adult daughter's cuticle

was light and fragile, and most of the mites did not survive when they were transferred

directly from the pupae onto a nurse bee. Therefore, we let the young mites first feed on a

white-eyed pupa in a gelatin capsule for one to four days until their cuticle was sclerotized

and darker (color index 3-4, see Fig S4). After this intermediate period, the mites were

marked on their dorsal idiosoma (PC-1MR POSCA, Japan), and transferred onto an adult

nurse bee in a cage for another three days, for the above-mentioned "dispersal stage". In all

incubation periods, the mites were kept in a controlled dark environment, imitating hive

conditions (34-34.5 °C, 60-75% RH).

After the artificial "dispersal phase", the mites were brushed off the bees using a fine paint-

brush following anesthesia by a 20 seconds exposure to CO_2, 0.2mPa at 10 L/hour, and

placed on a moist filter paper to avoid desiccating till infestation. The mites were then

introduced to a worker bee cell, one mite per cell, as described by (41). In detail, six hours

before infestation, cells containing a 5th instar larva (about to be sealed) were marked on

an acetate sheet attached to a frame from a mite-free hive. The frame was then placed back

into the hive so that the bees could seal the cells. Five hours later the frame was taken into

a warm room (25-28 °C) for the F1 females to be introduced into the freshly sealed cells.

For the artificial infestation, a precise incision (3-5 mm) was made at the margin of the cell-

capping using a surgical blade (N 11). After the incision was made, the cell-capping was
slightly lifted, just enough for the mite to crawl under the capping and into the cell. The
mite was then placed at the entrance of the cell using a moist fine paintbrush, with its head
facing the cell opening. After the mite had entered the cell, it moved under the larva to the
cell bottom. The cap was then resealed by gently pushing it down using the back end of the
paintbrush. The infested frame was then incubated in a dark controlled environment (34-
34.5 °C, 60-75% RH), and emerging bees were removed daily.

Collection of an artificially infested family (F2 generation)

Ten days after the F1 mites infestation, the cells were opened, and their contents were
examined. The family members' sex, developmental stage (adult, nymph, or egg), and
viability were recorded. To assure the parenthood of the offspring (F2), double-infested
cells and unmarked mites were not included in the final analysis. In total, out of 78
successful infestations, 14 were double-infested by a non-marked mite. Each individual was
snap-frozen in a separate tube at -20 °C for later DNA extraction. In total, we collected 223
mites belonging to 30 families. Each family was composed of a foundress adult female (F0),
her male and female adult offspring (F1), and their F2 offspring (at least one male/female
mite in various developmental stages).
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Genomic analysis of the Varroa pedigree

DNA extraction, library preparation, and sequencing

Genomic DNA was extracted from each single mite following the protocol described
previously (22). In brief, after surface sterilization using absolute ethanol, each mite was
crushed in a 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tube dipped in liquid nitrogen. The crushed mite was
then processed using QIAamp DNA Micro Kit (© Qiagen) following the manufacturer's
instructions and eluted in 20 μL of water. Total dsDNA quantity was measured using a
Qubit™ 4 Fluorometer with an Invitrogen dsDNA HS Assay Kit, and DNA quality was
verified using a Bioanalyzer 2100 with high-sensitivity DNA kits (Agilent, Japan). Short-
inserts of 150-bp paired-end libraries were prepared for each individual using a Nextera
XT DNA Library Preparation Kit (Illumina, Japan) and 16 PCR cycles. cDNA was then

cleaned and size-selected using CA-magnetic beads (Dynabeads® MyOne Carboxylic Acid,

Invitrogen), and 11-11.5% PEG 6000 (Sigma-Aldrich, Japan). The library quality was

measured using a Qubit™ 4 Fluorometer with an Invitrogen dsDNA HS Assay Kit, and its

size was assessed using a 4200 Tapestation with a high-sensitivity D5000 kit (Agilent,

Japan). Libraries were run on a NovaSeq6000 in 150 bp x 2 paired-end mode (Illumina,

Japan) at the OIST Sequencing Center. All biosamples are available in the Sequence Read

Archive (SRA) under the accession number PRJNA794941. Biosample details including sex,

developmental stage, pedigree information, and sequencing coverage, are provided in

Table S2.

Reads mapping, variant calling, and filtering

We mapped all reads to the *V. destructor* reference genome [GCF_002443255.1] (17) using

the very sensitive mode of NextGenMap v0.5.0 (45). Reads were sorted and duplicates were

removed using SAMtools (46). We called variants against the reference genome using

FreeBayes v1.1.0 (47) with the following parameters: minimum alternative allele counting

= 5, minimum alternative allele fraction = 0.2, minimum mapping quality = 8, minimum

base quality = 5, and using the four best SNP alleles. The variant calling resulted in a total of

73,903,468 variated sites. As our population consisted of closely related individuals (mite

families from the same apiary, in a high-inbreeding system), we did not expect to detect

many variants. Therefore, we set the minor allele frequency threshold to 0.2, which

includes sites with a minor allele frequency of 20% or more, to exclude any rare variants

due to mutations or possible mapping errors. We included variants only for the seven

chromosomes (excluding the mitochondrial DNA and unscaffolded regions). In addition, we

filtered for the following site quality parameters: we included only bi-allelic sites, a depth

range between 16-40, and maximum missing data per site = 0.5. The variants' quality

distribution showed a clear bimodal distribution with a cutoff at ~10,000 (Fig S5). To

ensure the quality of the variants for the genetic inheritance analysis, we chose a strict

filter of minimum quality of 15,000. Filters were applied using VCFtools v0.1.12b (48)

resulting in 33,925 final variants in 223 individuals. The pipeline from fastq files down to

the VCF file was constructed using Snakemake (49), and codes are available and

reproducible on GitHub [https://github.com/nurit-eliash/Varroa-pedigree-study].

Genotype validation using Sanger sequencing

Several genotype calls obtained from whole genome sequencing were validated by Sanger

sequencing using the same genomic DNA extracted. For the validation, we randomly

selected three genes, located on different chromosomes, each containing at least one

variant site. In total, we re-sequenced 14 individual mites from four families on six variant

sites. The sequenced region was located on the exons of three genes: alpha-mannosidase

2x-like (LOC111243621 on chromosome NW_019211455.1), 5-oxoprolinase-like

(LOC111252938, on chromosome NW_019211459.1), and probable E3 ubiquitin-protein

ligase RNF144A-A (LOC111254119, on chromosome NW_019211460.1). Primers were

designed with the NCBI primer design tool (utilizing Primer3 and BLAST), with default

parameters and product size set to 300-1,000 bp. Primer sequence, product length, and

gene accession numbers are provided in Table S3. The size of the PCR product was checked

by running in 1% agarose gel (135V, 20 min), purified, and size selected using the solid

phase reverse immobilization (SPRI) method. The purified PCR products were Sanger

sequenced on a ThermoFisher SeqStudio Genetic Analyzer using the original reverse

primer and BigDye® Direct Cycle Sequencing kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific), following the

manufacturer's instructions. We then aligned the reverse complementary sequences to the

Varroa reference genome (GCF_002443255.1), to detect and validate the variant sites using

Geneious Prime 2022.1.1. (https://www.geneious.com). Sequence alignments and the

validated sites can be seen in Fig S6.

Ploidy assessment

Flow cytometry

We used flow cytometry of the Varroa mite nuclei to assess the male and female mites'

ploidy during development from nymphs to adults. Live mites were freshly collected and

snap-frozen in liquid nitrogen before being processed. Samples were ground using 15

strokes of the "A" pestle in a 2 mL Kontes Dounce tissue grinder and filtered through a

40µm nylon mesh. Each sample consisted of an individual mite: for immature mites (larvae
and nymphs), a whole larval body, and for adult mites, dissected somatic or germinal
tissues. The DNA in the nuclei released by grinding was stained for 2 hr under dark
refrigeration with 25 µg/mL propidium iodide. The mean red PI fluorescence of the stained
nuclei was quantified using a Beckman-Coulter (Brea, CA) CytoFlex flow cytometer with a
solid-state laser emitting at 488 nm. As a standard, we used nuclei from the brain of
Drosophila virilis, 1C =328 Mbp (50). The total quantity of DNA in the sample was
calculated as the ratio of red fluorescence of the sample/standard (mean red fluorescence
of the 2C peak of the sample divided by the mean fluorescence of the 2C peak of the
standard), times the 1C amount of DNA in the standard. In total, 75 samples were evaluated
of different sex and developmental stages. We scored these samples to produce biological
replicates, to calculate the standard error of the mean genome size estimate. To identify the
ploidy level of a Cytometric DNA peak (51), genome size is reported as 1C, the mean
amount of DNA in Mb in one copy of a single complete genome.

K-mer distribution

We used the Smudgeplot method (52) to visualize and estimate the ploidy of male and
female genomes by analyzing heterozygous k-mer pair, from the raw reads of a male
Varroa mite (BioProject PRJDB6279, runs DRR121854 and DRR124352 for male and
females respectively).

Heterozygosity levels in DNA and RNA of Varroa and of a confirmed haplodiploid species (Apis
mellifera)
To test for heterozygosity levels in the DNA and RNA of Varroa mites and honey bees, we
ran the same pipeline that was used to generate Varroa-pedigree results, using the known
haplodiploid species genome of *Apis mellifera*, as input files. In addition, to test if Varroa
was not only carrying but also expressing both sets of alleles, we checked heterozygosity
levels in Varroa RNA-seq reads. The input files were as follows: For Varroa RNA, we used
RNA-seq reads from Bioproject PRJNA380433, of the Varroa Genome Sequencing
Consortium done at the USDA, which includes five female mites (three adults and two
nymphs) and two males (a nymph and an adult). For honey bee DNA, we used genome

sequencing reads from accession PRJNA311274 (53), the SeqApiPop project to characterize

the genetic diversity of honey bees throughout France, which included six libraries of

haploid males and 30 libraries of diploid females from the same colony. For the honey bee

RNA, we used RNA-seq reads from bioproject PRJNA689223, which includes eight females

and nine males. We adjusted the pipeline to use the *A. mellifera* reference genome

(amellifera_HAv3 [GCF_003254395.2]), and 16 chromosome pairs. Other than these

adjustments, all pipeline codes were kept as in the original Varroa genome analysis

described in the Reads mapping, variant calling, and filtering section.

Statistical analysis

All analyses were carried out in the R statistical environment (54). All bioinformatic

analyses are available and reproducible directly from the online supplementary data

[https://github.com/nurit-eliash/Varroa-pedigree-study].

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Figure 1. F2 mites genotype proportion crossing heterozygous and homozygous F1 mites. A. Distribution of maternal genotype proportion in F2 mites shows that male genotypes are almost identical to their mothers and that females are produced sexually. Results are pooled variants of 23 males and 19 females from four reciprocal F1 crosses: heterozygous females (AB) x homozygous male (BB or AA), and homozygous females (AA or BB) x heterozygous male (AB). F2 female's distribution is normal (W = 0.985, p-value = 0.674, Shapiro-Wilk normality test, mean = 0.48). F2 male's distribution is skewed to the right, with median = 0.98 and non-normal distribution (W = 0.544, p-value = 1.4e-12, Shapiro-Wilk normality test). While most males have their mothers' genotypes, there appears to be some plasticity in the male production mechanism, and a small number of males are different. For further analyses in panels B and C, we discarded males with less than 0.75 identity to their mothers to focus on the most common reproduction mode (red dashed line). **B. Males inherit two alleles from their mothers.** F2 mites genotype proportion crossing F1 heterozygous females (AB) and homozygous males (AA). The results are based on 4,942 pooled variants from 15 F2 females and 5,561 variants from 12 F2 males. **C. Males randomly transmit two alleles to their daughters.** F2 mites genotype proportion crossing F1 homozygous females (AA) and heterozygous males (AB). The results are 2,465 pooled variants from 14 F2 females and 1,949 from 14 F2 males. For the rest of the crosses, please see supplementary figures in the link: https://rpubs.com/Nurit_Eliash/1002198.

Figure 2. Varroa males carry and express two alleles, like female mites. Varroa mite males
and females have similar levels of heterozygosity in DNA (**A**, females: 0.20±0.12, males: 0.20±0.14)
and RNA (**B,** females: 0.86±0.03, males: 0.90±0.08). honey bee females have higher levels of
heterozygosity than males, in both DNA (**C,** females: 0.48±0.02, males: 0.12±0.09) and RNA (**D,**
females: 0.47±0.02, males: 0.10±0.03).

Semi *in vivo* varroa rearing

Figure 3. Pedigree experimental design. A three-generation Varroa pedigree (F0-in red, F1-in orange, and F2-in yellow), was constructed by the following steps: **A.** Collecting a naturally infested family: foundress female mite (F0), and her two adult offspring: male and female F1 mites (F0 male's genotype was not possible to study because the F0 female was previously mated, typically by a single male); **B.** "Incubation phase": (B1) Transferring the young F1 female onto a bee pupa for 1-4 days, till cuticle sclerotized and darkened; (B2) Transferring F1 female onto a nurse adult bee for another 3 days; **C.** Introducing the matured F1 female to a freshly capped 5th instar larva cell; **D.** F1 female reproducing inside the bee cell; **E.** 10 days post introduction, collecting the artificially infested family: F1 female and her F2 offspring. This design provided known parents and genotypes for the F1 and F2 generations, allowing a detailed examination of inheritance.

617   **Supplementary information:**

619   **Figure S1.** Female mites are mostly diploid, while male mites are more variable. Ploidy assessment

620   of mites' whole body was done using flow cytometry. The ploidy averages are 2.25 and 1.63 for

621   females and males respectively (dashed lines).

624   **Figure S2.** The higher ploidy of females was observed in all developmental stages

Figure S3. K-mer analysis suggests males and females are diploid or at least carry two sets of

alleles. Smudgplot analysis (Ranallo-Benavidez et al. 2020), for female **A**, and male mites, **B**. The

male dataset has much higher coverage, but both genomes have a similar signature of

heterozygosity.

Figure S4. The color scales of Varroa adult female mites, from light white (0) to dark brown (4).

Adult female mites in the color of (4) were considered Foundress mites and were used as F0

generation in the artificial infestation experiment. Adult female mites in the colors between 2 and 3

were considered adult daughters of F0 and were used as the F1 generation. Photographs by Maeva

Techer.

Figure S5. Quality distribution of variants filtered for a minimum quality of 40. The plot shows a

clear bimodal distribution with a cutoff at ~10,000. To ensure the quality of the variants for the

genetic inheritance analysis, we chose a strict filter of minimum quality of 15,000.

Figure S6. Alignment of Sanger-sequenced regions amplified using mite's DNA from different

families as a template. The amplicon sequences were aligned to Varroa mite gene, from the

reference genome. (A) Amplicons of alpha-mannosidase 2x-like gene (LOC111243621), amplified

on the DNA template of two adult males (284a, 177a) and two adult females (177 and her daughter

178); (B) Amplicons of 5-oxoprolinase-like gene (LOC111252938), amplified on the DNA template

of family 302, and family 284; (C) Amplicons of probable E3 ubiquitin-protein ligase RNF144A-A

gene (LOC111254119), amplified on the DNA template of family 284 and 43.

Table S1. Similar rates of heterozygosity in males and females. Significant difference between

males and females in honey bee RNA and DNA, but no significant difference in Varroa mite

(Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity correction)

Sex	Median	Mean	n	sd	Organism	Data	p-value
Female	0.48	0.48	30	0.02	Bee	DNA	0.00
Male	0.13	0.12	6	0.09	Bee	DNA	0.00
Female	0.47	0.47	7	0.02	Bee	RNA	0.00
Male	0.09	0.10	7	0.03	Bee	RNA	0.00
Female	0.18	0.20	93	0.12	Varroa	DNA	0.82
Male	0.20	0.20	56	0.14	Varroa	DNA	0.82
Female	0.85	0.86	5	0.03	Varroa	RNA	0.86
Male	0.90	0.90	2	0.08	Varroa	RNA	0.86

654 **Table S2.** Detailed information for each of the Varroa mites sequenced for the pedigree

655 construction. All samples belong to Varroa destructor mite, collected from a Western honey bee,

656 Apis mellifera liguistica sealed cell. honey bee hive located at OIST experimental apiary, Onna-son

657 Okinawa, Japan. Samples were collected by Nurit Eliash from July to October 2020, and extracted

658 from whole-body tissue by Endo Tetsuya at OIST.

Sample name	Biosample accession	Family	Developmental stage	Generation	Sex	Mapped reads	Mean coverage
110_110_fnd	SAMN24905483	110	Adult	0	female	98.22%	7.6
110_110a_son	SAMN24905484	110	Adult	1	male	98.73%	12.9
110_111_dat	SAMN24905485	110	Adult	1	female	99.27%	17.9
110_111a_grn	SAMN24905486	110	Nymph	2	not determined	99.06%	16.5
110_111b_grn	SAMN24905487	110	Egg	2	not determined	99.14%	16.1
110_111c_grnson	SAMN24905488	110	Adult	2	male	99.44%	24.7
110_111d_grndat	SAMN24905489	110	Adult	2	female	99.39%	20.7
110_111e_grn	SAMN24905490	110	Nymph	2	not determined	99.13%	16.4
110_111f_grn	SAMN24905491	110	Nymph	2	not determined	99.34%	14.5
133_133_fnd	SAMN24905492	133	Adult	0	female	99.48%	33.9
133_133a_son	SAMN24905493	133	Adult	1	male	99.49%	29.2
133_134_dat	SAMN24905494	133	Adult	1	female	99.35%	19.4
133_134a_grnson	SAMN24905495	133	Adult	2	male	98.99%	13.0
133_134b_grn	SAMN24905496	133	Nymph	2	not determined	99.40%	15.9
133_134c_grn	SAMN24905497	133	Egg	2	not determined	99.52%	19.1
177_177_fnd	SAMN24905498	177	Adult	0	female	99.55%	24.6
177_177a_son	SAMN24905499	177	Adult	1	male	99.44%	25.2
177_178_dat	SAMN24905500	177	Adult	1	female	99.53%	27.9
177_178a_grndat	SAMN24905501	177	Adult	2	female	98.46%	6.8
177_178b_grnson	SAMN24905502	177	Adult	2	male	98.60%	7.3
177_178c_grn	SAMN24905503	177	Nymph	2	not determined	99.02%	13.9
177_178d_grn	SAMN24905504	177	Nymph	2	not determined	98.93%	16.8
187_187_fnd	SAMN24905505	187	Adult	0	female	99.40%	17.8
187_187a_son	SAMN24905506	187	Adult	1	male	98.79%	11.2
187_188_dat	SAMN24905507	187	Adult	1	female	99.39%	25.1
187_188a_grnson	SAMN24905508	187	Adult	2	male	98.11%	7.5
187_188b_grn	SAMN24905509	187	Nymph	2	not determined	98.85%	11.4
187_188c_grn	SAMN24905510	187	Nymph	2	not determined	98.85%	10.1
240_240_fnd	SAMN24905511	240	Adult	0	female	99.33%	27.8
240_240a_son	SAMN24905512	240	Adult	1	male	99.20%	18.9
240_241_dat	SAMN24905513	240	Adult	1	female	99.54%	20.3
240_241a_grndat	SAMN24905514	240	Adult	2	female	99.45%	21.8
240_241b_grndat	SAMN24905515	240	Adult	2	female	98.66%	10.6
240_241c_grnson	SAMN24905516	240	Adult	2	male	98.81%	9.9
240_241d_grn	SAMN24905517	240	Nymph	2	not determined	99.35%	19.2
240_241e_grn	SAMN24905518	240	Nymph	2	not determined	98.39%	14.8
266_266_fnd	SAMN24905519	266	Adult	0	female	98.27%	7.5
266_266a_son	SAMN24905520	266	Adult	1	male	98.32%	6.5
266_267_dat	SAMN24905521	266	Adult	1	female	98.84%	20.4
266_267a_grndat	SAMN24905522	266	Adult	2	female	98.29%	16.3
266_267b_grndat	SAMN24905523	266	Adult	2	female	99.41%	24.7
266_267c_grn	SAMN24905524	266	Nymph	2	not determined	99.39%	32.4
284_284_fnd	SAMN24905525	284	Adult	0	female	99.46%	36.4
284_284a_son	SAMN24905526	284	Adult	1	male	99.22%	23.2
284_285_dat	SAMN24905527	284	Adult	1	female	99.27%	24.2
284_285a_grnson	SAMN24905528	284	Adult	2	male	99.30%	17.1
284_285b_grndat	SAMN24905529	284	Adult	2	female	99.47%	28.2
284_285c_grn	SAMN24905530	284	Nymph	2	not determined	99.39%	28.8
284_285d_sis	SAMN24905531	284	Adult	1	female	99.50%	37.0
300_300_fnd	SAMN24905532	300	Adult	0	female	99.00%	18.9
300_300a_son	SAMN24905533	300	Adult	1	male	99.37%	31.3
300_301_dat	SAMN24905534	300	Adult	1	female	98.01%	7.5
300_301a_grnson	SAMN24905535	300	Adult	2	male	98.05%	9.1
300_301b_grn	SAMN24905536	300	Nymph	2	not determined	99.52%	27.3
300_301c_grn	SAMN24905537	300	Egg	2	not determined	99.25%	20.6
302_302_fnd	SAMN24905538	302	Adult	0	female	99.16%	17.1
302_302a_son	SAMN24905539	302	Adult	1	male	99.22%	19.5
302_303_dat	SAMN24905540	302	Adult	1	female	99.36%	33.7
302_303a_grn	SAMN24905541	302	Nymph	2	not determined	99.37%	23.6

302_303b_grnson	SAMN24905542	302	Adult	2	male	98.94%	23.9
322_322_fnd	SAMN24905543	322	Adult	0	female	98.31%	7.7
322_322a_son	SAMN24905544	322	Adult	1	male	98.59%	16.6
322_323_dat	SAMN24905545	322	Adult	1	female	98.49%	10.8
322_323a_grndat	SAMN24905546	322	Adult	2	female	99.08%	16.0
322_323b_grnson	SAMN24905547	322	Adult	2	male	98.53%	11.1
322_323c_grn	SAMN24905548	322	Nymph	2	not determined	98.20%	9.4
322_323d_grn	SAMN24905549	322	Nymph	2	not determined	98.40%	9.6
338_338_fnd	SAMN24905550	338	Adult	0	female	98.34%	28.8
338_338a_son	SAMN24905551	338	Adult	1	male	99.14%	15.4
338_339_dat	SAMN24905552	338	Adult	1	female	99.48%	28.7
338_339a_grndat	SAMN24905553	338	Adult	2	female	99.48%	28.3
338_339b_grnson	SAMN24905554	338	Adult	2	male	98.92%	13.3
338_339c_grn	SAMN24905555	338	Nymph	2	not determined	99.11%	16.4
338_339d_grn	SAMN24905556	338	Nymph	2	not determined	99.40%	28.1
338_339e_grn	SAMN24905557	338	Egg	2	not determined	98.62%	13.3
400_400_fnd	SAMN24905558	400	Adult	0	female	99.25%	22.2
400_400a_son	SAMN24905559	400	Adult	1	male	99.22%	25.1
400_401_dat	SAMN24905560	400	Adult	1	female	99.13%	28.3
400_401a_grnson	SAMN24905561	400	Adult	2	male	99.31%	29.1
412_412_fnd	SAMN24905562	412	Adult	0	female	99.34%	22.2
412_412a_son	SAMN24905563	412	Adult	1	male	99.30%	25.7
412_413_dat	SAMN24905564	412	Adult	1	female	99.28%	19.9
412_413a_grnson	SAMN24905565	412	Adult	2	male	98.56%	12.2
412_413b_grn	SAMN24905566	412	Nymph	2	not determined	98.63%	13.9
426_426_fnd	SAMN24905567	426	Adult	0	female	99.08%	14.4
426_426a_son	SAMN24905568	426	Adult	1	male	98.73%	10.5
426_427_dat	SAMN24905569	426	Adult	1	female	99.43%	28.8
426_427a_grndat	SAMN24905570	426	Adult	2	female	98.82%	27.7
426_427b_grnson	SAMN24905571	426	Adult	2	male	98.89%	16.1
426_427c_grn	SAMN24905572	426	Nymph	2	not determined	99.35%	21.2
426_427d_grn	SAMN24905573	426	Nymph	2	not determined	99.30%	28.9
426_427e_grn	SAMN24905574	426	Nymph	2	not determined	99.20%	20.6
426_427f_grn	SAMN24905575	426	Nymph	2	not determined	99.50%	32.4
43_43_fnd	SAMN24905439	43	Adult	0	female	98.54%	8.2
43_43a_son	SAMN24905440	43	Adult	1	male	98.89%	13.1
43_43b_sis	SAMN24905441	43	Adult	1	female	99.21%	17.3
43_44_dat	SAMN24905442	43	Adult	1	female	99.44%	29.8
43_44a_grndat	SAMN24905443	43	Adult	2	female	99.54%	29.1
43_44b_grnson	SAMN24905444	43	Adult	2	male	99.12%	13.9
43_44c_grn	SAMN24905445	43	Nymph	2	not determined	98.94%	10.6
43_44d_grn	SAMN24905446	43	Nymph	2	not determined	99.37%	21.1
458_458_fnd	SAMN24905576	458	Adult	0	female	99.36%	24.4
458_458a_son	SAMN24905577	458	Adult	1	male	98.72%	12.2
458_459_dat	SAMN24905578	458	Adult	1	female	99.22%	27.9
458_459a_grnson	SAMN24905579	458	Adult	2	male	99.35%	31.3
458_459b_grn	SAMN24905580	458	Nymph	2	not determined	99.37%	31.9
458_459c_grn	SAMN24905581	458	Egg	2	not determined	99.35%	27.2
46_46_fnd	SAMN24905447	46	Adult	0	female	99.04%	12.8
46_46a_son	SAMN24905448	46	Adult	1	male	98.64%	19.6
46_46b_sis	SAMN24905449	46	Nymph	1	not determined	99.24%	14.8
46_47_dat	SAMN24905450	46	Adult	1	female	99.53%	28.6
46_47a_grn	SAMN24905451	46	Nymph	2	not determined	98.95%	10.1
46_47b_grn	SAMN24905452	46	Nymph	2	not determined	99.21%	17.4
46_47c_grndat	SAMN24905453	46	Adult	2	female	99.42%	31.2
46_47d_grnson	SAMN24905454	46	Adult	2	male	99.19%	18.9
46_47e_grn	SAMN24905455	46	Nymph	2	not determined	99.42%	25.2
46_47f_grn	SAMN24905456	46	Nymph	2	not determined	99.08%	14.8
46_47g_grn	SAMN24905457	46	Nymph	2	not determined	99.33%	21.3
476_476_fnd	SAMN24905582	476	Adult	0	female	98.98%	29.3
476_476a_son	SAMN24905583	476	Adult	1	male	98.66%	20.6

476_477_dat	SAMN24905584	476	Adult	1	female	98.24%	15.6
476_477a_grndat	SAMN24905585	476	Adult	2	female	98.85%	21.2
476_477b_grnson	SAMN24905586	476	Adult	2	male	98.87%	29.6
476_477c_grndat	SAMN24905587	476	Adult	2	female	98.83%	23.5
476_477d_grndat	SAMN24905588	476	Adult	2	female	98.92%	23.9
476_477e_grn	SAMN24905589	476	Egg	2	not determined	99.20%	29.0
478_478_fnd	SAMN24905590	478	Adult	0	female	99.08%	32.9
478_478a_son	SAMN24905591	478	Adult	1	male	98.78%	24.1
478_479-1_dat	SAMN24905592	478	Adult	1	female	99.03%	30.6
478_479-1a_grnson	SAMN24905593	478	Adult	2	male	98.58%	25.6
478_479-1b_grndat	SAMN24905594	478	Adult	2	female	98.27%	15.5
478_479-1c_grn	SAMN24905595	478	Nymph	2	not determined	97.97%	11.3
478_479-1d_grn	SAMN24905596	478	Nymph	2	not determined	98.72%	22.1
478_479-1e_grn	SAMN24905597	478	Egg	2	not determined	97.58%	9.1
478_479-2_dat	SAMN24905598	478	Adult	1	female	98.63%	15.3
478_479-2a_grndat	SAMN24905599	478	Adult	2	female	98.45%	9.1
478_479-2b_grnson	SAMN24905600	478	Adult	2	male	97.96%	9.3
478_479-2c_grn	SAMN24905601	478	Nymph	2	not determined	98.40%	5.6
478_479-2d_grndat	SAMN24905602	478	Adult	2	female	98.20%	11.0
48_48_fnd	SAMN24905458	48	Adult	0	female	99.09%	11.3
48_48a_son	SAMN24905459	48	Adult	1	male	99.33%	16.0
48_48b_sis	SAMN24905460	48	Nymph	1	not determined	99.06%	12.1
48_49_dat	SAMN24905461	48	Adult	1	female	99.47%	29.6
48_49a_grn	SAMN24905462	48	Nymph	2	not determined	99.46%	27.6
48_49b_grn	SAMN24905463	48	Nymph	2	not determined	99.39%	23.4
48_49c_grn	SAMN24905464	48	Egg	2	not determined	98.82%	9.8
48_49d_grn	SAMN24905465	48	Egg	2	not determined	98.56%	5.6
48_49e_grn	SAMN24905466	48	Nymph	2	not determined	98.95%	16.9
48_49f_grn	SAMN24905467	48	Nymph	2	not determined	98.83%	18.5
48_49g_grn	SAMN24905468	48	Egg	2	not determined	99.39%	27.0
498_498_fnd	SAMN24905603	498	Adult	0	female	97.82%	9.2
498_498a_son	SAMN24905604	498	Adult	1	male	97.32%	11.4
498_499_dat	SAMN24905605	498	Adult	1	female	98.98%	37.6
498_499a_grnson	SAMN24905606	498	Adult	2	male	98.81%	29.0
498_499b_grndat	SAMN24905607	498	Adult	2	female	98.02%	13.5
498_499c_grndat	SAMN24905608	498	Adult	2	female	98.55%	26.6
498_499d_grn	SAMN24905609	498	Nymph	2	not determined	98.12%	18.2
498_499e_grn	SAMN24905610	498	Egg	2	not determined	97.91%	15.7
502_502_fnd	SAMN24905611	502	Adult	0	female	97.75%	9.8
502_502a_son	SAMN24905612	502	Adult	1	male	98.02%	11.1
502_503_dat	SAMN24905613	502	Adult	1	female	98.08%	14.0
502_503a_grndat	SAMN24905614	502	Adult	2	female	98.04%	11.2
502_503b_grnson	SAMN24905615	502	Adult	2	male	98.32%	12.2
502_503c_grn	SAMN24905616	502	Nymph	2	not determined	99.05%	29.5
502_503d_grn	SAMN24905617	502	Nymph	2	not determined	98.22%	17.9
502_503e_grn	SAMN24905618	502	Egg	2	not determined	98.94%	30.2
502_503f_grndat	SAMN24905619	502	Adult	2	female	98.70%	20.8
520_520_fnd	SAMN24905620	520	Adult	0	female	98.74%	28.2
520_520a_son	SAMN24905621	520	Adult	1	male	98.08%	15.6
520_521_dat	SAMN24905622	520	Adult	1	female	98.11%	15.8
520_521a_grn	SAMN24905623	520	Nymph	2	not determined	98.47%	18.3
520_521b_grn	SAMN24905624	520	Egg	2	not determined	98.59%	20.9
520_521c_grn	SAMN24905625	520	Egg	2	not determined	98.46%	13.3
520_521d_grn	SAMN24905626	520	Egg	2	not determined	99.02%	34.7
520_521e_grn	SAMN24905627	520	Egg	2	not determined	98.74%	29.0
534_534_fnd	SAMN24905642	534	Adult	0	female	98.98%	18.2
534_534a_son	SAMN24905643	534	Adult	1	male	99.23%	17.1
534_535_1_sis	SAMN24905644	534	Adult	1	female	98.92%	15.4
534_535_2_dat	SAMN24905645	534	Adult	1	female	98.68%	13.2
534_535_2a_grndat	SAMN24905646	534	Adult	2	female	99.10%	16.8
534_535_2b_grn	SAMN24905647	534	Nymph	2	not determined	99.25%	18.9

688 **Table S3.** Primers used for the sequencing validation using Sanger-sequencing method

Accession	Gene name	chromosome	forward primer	Reverse primer	length (bp)
LOC111243621	alpha-mannosidase 2x-like	NW_019211455.1	TGAGATGTCAATGGCAGGCA	AGGAAGCAAATTCGGGGATGT	404
LOC111252938	5-oxoprolinase-like	NW_019211459.1	TCCGCATATGGACTTGCGTT	ATCCCAATTGCTCTGACCCG	374
LOC111254119	probable E3 ubiquitin-protein ligase RNF144A-A	NW_019211460.1	ACCAGATCGCACCCTTATGC	AGATGCTTTGCTATCCGCCC	245