

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The PowerPlex® Y Haplotype Database

The PowerPlex® Y Haplotype Database is a search tool populated with the 2,443 12-locus Y-STR haplotypes observed during initial validation of the PowerPlex® Y System. Users of the haplotype database choose an allele from the dropdown menu for each Y-STR locus, and the database provides an estimate of the chosen haplotype's frequency in all populations or within a subset of the population, including Caucasians, Asians, Hispanics, African-Americans and Native Americans. In cases where individuals with multiple alleles at a single locus have been documented, 1 or 2 additional dropdown menus are available, allowing multiple-allele queries. A report with the number and frequency of males with the submitted haplotype is displayed and can be printed.

As part of this population study, members of 7 laboratories from across North America examined concordance, mutation rates and genetic linkage data for the 12 Y-STR loci (1). Additionally, the collaborating laboratories performed a second developmental study to examine robustness, sensitivity, male specificity and many other facets of product performance. Two manuscripts describing these studies are in preparation.

The PowerPlex® Y Haplotype Database is available at: www.promega.com/ycalculator/

REFERENCES

1. Budowle, B. Y-STR Studies. Presented at the Fourteenth International Symposium on Human Identification, Phoenix, AZ, September 2003.

Tools

PowerPlex® Y Haplotype Database

The PowerPlex® Y Haplotype Database is a searchable listing of 12-locus Y-STR haplotypes generated during initial validation of this system. Instructions for use:

- Select the population group of interest from the appropriate box below.
- To search for a haplotype, enter the alleles of interest for each marker.
 - If multiple alleles are to be entered, please enter the smallest allele in the first box for the marker of interest.
 - If the database contains individuals with multiple alleles for a selected marker, additional boxes will appear to allow subsequent alleles to be entered.
- Select the "submit" button to query the database for the chosen haplotype.
 - A report of the haplotype entered, number and percent of individuals matching this haplotype and sample size (both in the population selected and complete data set) will be presented.

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Figure 1. The interface of the searchable PowerPlex® Y Haplotype Database.