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## Supplementary Material

### **Polymerisation effects of four microsatellites on litter size in Xinong Saanen goats**

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**Table S1. Descriptive statistics of the recorded litter size for Xinong Saanen goats**

Trait	Mean	Standard error (s.e.)
1st parity litter size	1.96	0.07
2 <sup>nd</sup> parity litter size	2.54	0.11
3 <sup>rd</sup> parity litter size	2.78	0.15
4th parity litter size	3.17	0.12

**Table S2. Distribution of allele at each microsatellite locus in Xinong Saanen goats**

Microsatellite	Number	Distribution of allele and allelic frequency										
OarAE101	7	109 bp	114 bp	116 bp	126 bp	129 bp	132 bp	135 bp				
		0.203	0.211	0.320	0.078	0.047	0.070	0.070				
BM1329	10	182 bp	185 bp	187 bp	190 bp	197 bp	215 bp	219 bp	223 bp	225 bp	234 bp	
		0.097	0.092	0.117	0.148	0.046	0.097	0.092	0.117	0.148	0.046	
LSCV043	8	130 bp	135 bp	140 bp	145 bp	150 bp	155 bp	162 bp	167 bp			
		0.117	0.041	0.122	0.128	0.082	0.168	0.117	0.225			
BM143	10	105 bp	110 bp	115 bp	119 bp	120 bp	124 bp	129 bp	135 bp	137 bp	140 bp	
		0.020	0.127	0.204	0.046	0.107	0.061	0.0061	0.204	0.107	0.041	

**Table S3. Nomenclature of allele and genotype in four microsatellites**

Microsatellite		Nomenclature									
OarAE101	Allele	109bp	114bp	116bp	126bp	129bp	132bp	135bp			
		A <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>2</sub>	A <sub>3</sub>	A <sub>4</sub>	A <sub>5</sub>	A <sub>6</sub>	A <sub>7</sub>			
	Genotype	135 / 116		135 / 114		132 / 114		129 / 109		126 / 109	
		A <sub>7</sub> A <sub>3</sub>		A <sub>7</sub> A <sub>2</sub>		A <sub>6</sub> A <sub>2</sub>		A <sub>5</sub> A <sub>1</sub>		A <sub>4</sub> A <sub>1</sub>	
BM1329	Allele	182bp	185bp	187bp	190bp	197bp	215bp	219bp	223bp	225bp	234bp
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	B <sub>4</sub>	B <sub>5</sub>	B <sub>6</sub>	B <sub>7</sub>	B <sub>8</sub>	B <sub>9</sub>	B <sub>10</sub>
	Genotype	234 / 197		225 / 190		223 / 187		219 / 185		215 / 182	
		B <sub>10</sub> B <sub>5</sub>		B <sub>9</sub> B <sub>4</sub>		B <sub>8</sub> B <sub>3</sub>		B <sub>7</sub> B <sub>2</sub>		B <sub>6</sub> B <sub>1</sub>	
LSCV043	Allele	130bp	135bp	140bp	145bp	150 bp	155bp	162 bp	167bp		
		C <sub>1</sub>	C <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>5</sub>	C <sub>6</sub>	C <sub>7</sub>	C <sub>8</sub>		
	Genotype	167 / 145		162 / 140		162 / 135		162 / 130		155 / 130	
		C <sub>8</sub> C <sub>4</sub>		C <sub>7</sub> C <sub>3</sub>		C <sub>7</sub> C <sub>2</sub>		C <sub>7</sub> C <sub>1</sub>		C <sub>6</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	
BM143	Allele	105bp	110bp	115bp	119bp	120bp	124bp	129bp	135 bp	137 bp	140bp
		D <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>3</sub>	D <sub>4</sub>	D <sub>5</sub>	D <sub>6</sub>	D <sub>7</sub>	D <sub>8</sub>	D <sub>9</sub>	D <sub>10</sub>
	Genotype	140 / 124	140 / 119	137 / 120	135 / 115	129 / 115	129 / 110	129 / 110	124 / 110	119 / 105	
	D <sub>10</sub> D <sub>6</sub>	D <sub>10</sub> D <sub>4</sub>	D <sub>9</sub> D <sub>5</sub>	D <sub>8</sub> D <sub>3</sub>	D <sub>7</sub> D <sub>3</sub>	D <sub>7</sub> D <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>6</sub> D <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>4</sub> D <sub>1</sub>			