**Supplementary file 5. Primers developed for this study.**

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| **Primer ID** | **Sequencea** | **Description** | **Use** |
| *ndh2*-A | CCG**GAATTC**GGCGGACACATACTTGGTC | Upstream of *ndh2* | Deletion construction (EcoRI cut site) |
| *ndh2*-B | *GAAGCAGCTCCAGCCTACAC*TCTCATTACGACGGTGTTAAAAC | Upstream of *ndh2* | Deletion construction (SOEing PCR overlap region) |
| *ndh2*-C | *GTGTAGGCTGGAGCTGCTTC*GCATCGAGGTTTGAACGGAA | Downstream of *ndh2* | Deletion construction (SOEing PCR overlap region) |
| *ndh2*-D | GGG**GAGCTC**TGCCGTTCTTGTTCACTTGG | Downstream of *ndh2* | Deletion construction (SacI cut site) |
| *ndh2*-Check-F | TCGTGGCCTTAATTTCAACC | Upstream of *ndh2* deletion  | Confirmation of gene deletion  |
| *ndh2*-Check-R | CCGGCGTTTTGTAATTGTTCC | Downstream of *ndh2* deletion | Confirmation of gene deletion  |
| *pplA*-A | TAAGCA**GAATTC**CCGTTCGGTAGCAACTTCAT | Upstream of *pplA* | Deletion construction (EcoRI cut site) |
| *pplA*-B | *GAAGCAGCTCCAGCCTACAC*TCCCACTCCTAACCTTTTTGT | Upstream of *pplA* | Deletion construction (SOEing PCR overlap region) |
| *pplA*-C | *GTGTAGGCTGGAGCTGCTTC*GCTGAGGGCCTTTTGTTTTT | Downstream of *pplA* | Deletion construction (SOEing PCR overlap region) |
| *pplA*-D | TAAGCA**GAGCTC**TTAAACGCCCCAGCTAACAC | Downstream of *pplA* | Deletion construction (SacI cut site)  |
| *pplA*-Check-F | TTGCGTAAACACCAGCAAAC | Upstream of *pplA* deletion | Confirmation of gene deletion  |
| *pplA*-Check-R | GCTGCTTTGATCATTGGGTA | Downstream of *pplA* deletion | Confirmation of gene deletion  |
| *narG*-A | GCGAAA**GTCGAC**AAGCAGCCAGTCAGTAATAG | Upstream of *narG* | Deletion construction (SalI cut site) |
| *narG*-B | *GAAGCAGCTCCAGCCTACA*CTCACCGATAAGACCTCCTTT | Upstream of *narG* | Deletion construction (SOEing PCR overlap region) |
| *narG*-C | *GAAGCAGCTCCAGCCTACA*GCACAAATTGGGATGGTCTT | Downstream of *narG* | Deletion construction (SOEing PCR overlap region) |
| *narG*-D | GCGAAA**CCGCGG**CATCACGCTTATACATCGCC | Downstream of *narG* | Deletion construction (SacII cut site) |
| *narG*-Check-F | TACATTGCGTTAGGACCGAA | Upstream of *narG*  | Confirmation of gene deletion  |
| *narG*-Check-R | CCATAACCACCGACCATTTG | Downstream of *narG* | Confirmation of gene deletion  |
| *rpoB*-F | CGATGACTCTAACCGTGC | *rpoB* | RT-PCR |
| *rpoB*-R | CAAGGCAATCCCTGAGTC | *rpoB* | RT-PCR |
| *ndh2*-F | CCGGCTGTCCAGATTAACGT | *ndh2* | RT-PCR |
| *ndh2*-R | CGAAGCAGCGCCGACTATTA | *ndh2* | RT-PCR |
| *pplA*-F | GCTCTGCCGCTACTGGTAAC | *pplA* | RT-PCR |
| *pplA*-R | TCGCACCAGTCACAACATCA | *pplA* | RT-PCR |

**a** Restriction sites for enzymes are in bold, SOEing PCR overlap sequences are italicized.