

**Title**

Molluscan genomics: implications for biology and aquaculture

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## **Abstract**

### **Purpose of review**

As a result of advances in DNA sequencing technology, molluscan genome research, which initially lagged behind that of many other animal groups, has recently seen a rapid succession of decoded genomes. Since molluscs are highly divergent, the subjects of genome projects have been highly variable, including evolution, neuroscience, and ecology. In this review, recent findings of molluscan genome projects are summarized, and their applications to aquaculture are discussed.

### **Recent findings**

Recently 14 molluscan genomes have been published. All bivalve genomes show high heterozygosity rates, making genome assembly difficult. Unique gene expansions were evident in each species, corresponding to their specialized features, including shell formation, adaptation to the environment, and complex neural systems. To construct genetic maps and to explore quantitative trait loci (QTL) and genes of economic importance, genome-wide genotyping using massively parallel, targeted sequencing of cultured molluscs was employed.

### **Summary**

Molluscan genomics provides information fundamental to both biology and industry. Modern genomic studies facilitate molluscan biology, genetics, and aquaculture.

## Introduction

The Mollusca is one of the most speciose animal phyla, including at least 70,000 described species [1]. They account for about one-quarter of all marine animal species, and their habitats include brackish water, freshwater, and land, as well as extreme environments such as deep-sea hydrothermal vents. Their abilities to adapt to various environments are of great interest in ecology and evolution.

In the realm of aquaculture, molluscs are the second-largest resource after finfish, constituting 22% of total global aquaculture production [2]. The production volume of molluscs reached 16.1 million metric tons (\$19 billion US) in 2014, roughly a 20% increase from 2004 [3]. Despite their immense diversity in nature, aquaculture development focuses on a limited number of species. According to FAO data, 104 molluscan species or species groups have been farmed, but 5 bivalve species comprise about 40% of all molluscan aquaculture production [2, 4]. Since the majority of bivalves are filter-feeders, they can be cultured without feeding, so mollusc aquaculture is less costly and environmentally benign.

Mollusc aquaculture has a long history. For example, in his book, “*Naturalis Historia*,” Pliny the Elder recorded that the ancient Roman merchant, Caius Sergius Orata, established artificial oyster beds in Lucrine Lake in 95 B.C. Scientific bivalve aquaculture has been investigated since the 1960’s and breeding programs have been conducted with the aim of genetically improving the strains (e.g. literature cited by [5]). However, most cultured molluscs still remain in a wild state, and they are not genetically improved, compared to domesticated vertebrates and plants. In other words, productivity and quality of molluscan aquaculture products could be considerably improved by selective breeding. In traditional breeding programs, prospective broodstocks are chosen based on their phenotypes and pedigrees, while recent breeding strategies in livestock production are transitioning to genomic selection, which uses genome-wide genetic markers to estimate breeding value [6, 7]. To this end, whole genome information is desired for mollusc species.

Since the mid-2000s, revolutionary advances in DNA sequencing technology have decreased the cost and time required for whole genome sequencing. For example, massive parallel platforms produce 10 to 900 Giga bases (Gb) of data per run (single flow cell), costing tens of US\$ per Gb [8]. This provides researchers with an unprecedented opportunity to decode

mollusc genomes, which have fallen far behind those of model organisms, livestock, and crop species. In 2012, draft genomes of the pearl oyster, *Pinctada fucata*, and the Pacific oyster, *Crassostrea gigas*, were the first molluscan genomes published [9, 10]. Since then, genomes of 13 mollusc species in 3 classes (Bivalvia, Gastropoda, and Cephalopoda) have been published [11-22] (Figure 1). In addition, some molluscan genome assemblies, such as that of *Aplysia californica*, are publicly available, although I will not discuss them since the research results are not yet published. Molluscan genome research tends to focus on basic biology including animal evolution, environmental adaptation, neuroscience, and biomineralization. On the other hand, it is clear that genome information could contribute to development of effective breeding and sustainable mollusc aquaculture.

In this review, I first discuss general aspects of molluscan genomes demonstrated by various sequencing projects. In particular, the issue of heterozygosity in bivalve genome assembly is addressed. Next, two bivalve genome projects, the pearl oyster, *P. fucata*, and the Pacific oyster, *C. gigas*, are discussed, having received much attention from the aquaculture industry. Other molluscan genome projects, including two major phyla, the Gastropoda and Cephalopoda, are also summarized, examining various aspects of molluscan biology. Finally, potential contributions of genome data to the aquaculture industry are discussed.

## **Heterozygosity in bivalve genomes**

Although sequencing technology has drastically improved, constructing a high-quality *de novo* genome assembly is a major challenge for bivalves because the bivalve genome is very heterozygotic (i.e. there are many loci at which individuals have more than one allele). To date nine bivalve nuclear genome assemblies have been published (Figure 1), and all of them display high heterozygosity rates [9, 10, 13, 14, 17-21]. For instance, polymorphism percentages, including single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNP) and short insertions/deletions (indels), in *Patinopecten yessoensis* and *Crassostrea gigas* genomes are 1.04% and 1.30% per individual, respectively. These rates are 7- to 9-fold higher than in humans (0.14%) [10, 23, 24]. On the other hand, the *Octopus* (cephalopod) genome has a much lower rate (0.08%) [12]. The high heterozygosity rate in bivalves may reflect their large population sizes and their expansive habitats in the open sea, or their enormous fecundity [25], which requires high rates of germline mitosis, causing high mutation rates [26]. In the case of cultured species, artificial admixtures between populations, with expected heterosis or hybrid vigor, may contribute to their high

heterozygosity rates.

High heterozygosity is an obstacle to generating continuous genome assemblies. In contrast to conventional Sanger sequencing, recent high-throughput sequencers generate huge numbers of short-read sequences, typically ranging from 50 to 300 bases. In order to re-construct the original genomic DNA sequence, a computational process or assembly based on the de Bruijn graph framework with a short substring (k-mer) is generally performed [27-29]. This strategy is suitable for dealing with massive numbers of short reads, and this reduces the calculation cost. In general, however, it is difficult to assemble highly heterozygotic genomes. When a heterozygotic diploid genome is sequenced, two unique k-mers are generated from a polymorphic locus. This results in contigs that bifurcate at the variant nucleotide. Consequently, the assembly becomes fragmented, resulting in a considerable number of redundant sequences and mis-assembled duplications [30, 31].

A fundamental solution is to generate an inbred line with reduced heterozygosity. For genome sequencing of *C. gigas*, four generations of full-sibling matings resulted in removal of about half the polymorphism [10]. In the scallop genome project, self-fertilizing progeny were generated from a single hermaphroditic parent, leading to a 50% reduction of polymorphism [18]. The inbreeding strategy reduces heterozygotic loci to some extent, although it seems unrealistic to establish a nearly homozygotic line, because of inbreeding depression [32].

The choice of sequencing and assembly strategy is critical to construct better assemblies. A fosmid-pooling strategy combined with whole-genome, shotgun sequencing was used for the Pacific oyster genome sequencing [10]. By this method, fosmid pools were sequenced separately and assembled, resulted in longer contigs and scaffolds, since each pool covers only 0.57% of the genome, thereby reducing the possibility of co-occurrence of heterozygotes and repetitive sequences in each pool. For the pearl oyster genome assembly, redundant contigs caused by heterozygosity were removed *in silico* [13]. When raw reads are mapped to the assembly, sequence coverage depth of contigs derived from heterozygotic regions is one-half of that of homozygotic regions. Thus, if two contigs show high sequence similarity and low coverage depth, they may be haplotype copies so that one of them can be discarded so as to develop a non-redundant, haploid assembly. This strategy dramatically improved the subsequent scaffolding and final assembly of the pearl oyster genome [13]. Incorporating long-read

sequences, such as those from PacBio or Nanopore may be a more effective strategy to overcome the obstacles of heterozygosity.

## **Genome size and repetitive elements**

Based on records deposited in the Animal Genome Size Database (<http://www.genomesize.com>), genome sizes of molluscs range from 290 Mb (Aplacophora, *Neomenia permagna* [33]) to 7.6 Gb (Gastropoda, *Diplommatina kiiensis kiiensis* [34]). Cephalopods have larger genomes (3.8 Gb on average) than those of bivalves (1.6 Gb) and gastropods (2.2 Gb). Since the number of chromosomes is significantly increased, whole genome duplication at the base of cephalopod lineage was inferred [35, 36]. However, this hypothesis was not supported by the whole genome survey of *Octopus bimaculoides* [12].

Varied genome sizes among molluscs reflect, in part, the number of repetitive sequences. In the *O. bimaculoides* genome, which is the largest molluscan genome decoded to date (2.68 Gb), repeat elements account for at least 45% of the genome [12]. SINE retrotransposons are one of the major components of repetitive elements (3.6%) in the octopus genome. Among bivalves, the proportion of repetitive elements varies from 62% in *Modiolus philippinarum* to 36% in *C. gigas* [10, 17]. A large proportion of the repetitive elements in molluscan genomes are dissimilar to those deposited in public databases such as Repbase [37]. For example, 27% of the repetitive elements in *M. philippinarum* were assigned as “unknown” [17]. This suggests that a considerable number of unidentified repetitive elements are present in mollusc genomes.

## **The pearl oyster: a model for the study of biomineralization**

The pearl oyster, *Pinctada fucata*, has been cultured in eastern and southeastern Asia since pearl farming was established there at the end of 19th century [38]. Molecular mechanisms of pearl formation are substantially the same as those of calcareous shell formation. Epithelial cells in mantle tissue secrete an organic matrix and the matrix regulates construction of microstructure and crystallization of the shell or pearl. Therefore, identification and functional analysis of components in the organic matrix is a topic of major research interest, with the aim of improving pearl quality using genetic information and molecular biology techniques. The draft genome of *P. fucata* was decoded in 2012 [9], followed by an improved version of the genome assembly (version 2.0) in 2016 [13], providing substantial information for identifying various

biological mechanisms, including those involved in development [39-42], physiology [43], reproduction [44], and biomineralization [45]. The genome assembly of another strain of *P. fucata martensii* was published in 2017 [20]. Genes responsible for pearl and shell formation were thoroughly investigated in *Pinctada* species by transcriptomic and genomic approaches [46, 45]. Proteins in the shell called shell matrix proteins are considered key factors of shell formation. Their localization in the shell means that they can interact directly with the crystal phase and can control shell formation. In order to identify shell matrix proteins, organic fractions extracted from shells are analyzed by mass spectrometry, and retrieved peptide sequences are searched against the transcriptome or genome sequence. This proteomic analysis can identify tens or hundreds of shell matrix proteins [47, 48]. It should be emphasized that functional analysis with gene knockdown by RNA interference (RNAi) is applicable for *P. fucata* [20, 49, 50]. Genome-wide surveys of shell-forming genes combined with gene knockdown experiments will eventually reveal the entire shell or pearl formation process at the molecular level. In addition, comparative genomics and proteomics may reveal the evolutionary course of mollusc shell formation. *Pinctada*, *Crassostrea*, and *Lottia*, from which both the genome and shell proteome have been analyzed, have different gene repertoires of shell matrix proteins, while some conserved functional domains such as chitin-binding, VWA, and EGF domains are commonly utilized for mollusc shell formation [10, 48, 51-54]. The *P. fucata* genome revealed tandem duplications and rapid molecular evolution of shell-forming genes [13, 45, 55]. These findings about the molecular basis of shell and pearl formation will be useful for selective breeding for high-quality pearl farming.

### **The Pacific oyster: a cosmopolitan bivalve with remarkable adaptability**

The Pacific oyster, *Crassostrea gigas*, occurs naturally in the Northwest Pacific, and has become even more widespread after being introduced in many countries for commercial production [56-60]. It is now the second most widely produced mollusc species, behind the Japanese clam, *Ruditapes philippinarum* [61]. The sedentary lifestyle of oysters in the intertidal zone and estuaries, where they are exposed to dynamic environmental stresses including high temperatures, low salinity, and desiccation, necessitates great tolerance to fluctuating conditions. Oysters are suspension feeders, meaning that they have excellent innate immune systems in order to defend themselves against aquatic microbes. These adaptive capabilities enable *C. gigas* to colonize habitats worldwide. *C. gigas* is one of the most studied molluscs, and its

molecular mechanisms, especially gene expression responses to biotic and abiotic challenges, have been heavily investigated [24]. The *C. gigas* genome, decoded in 2012, showed expanded gene families, such as molecular chaperone heat shock proteins (HSPs), inhibitor of apoptosis proteins (IAPs), and superoxide dismutases (SODs). Their up-regulated gene expression represents a response to environmental stresses [10]. Gene families responsible for innate immunity, such as C1q and Toll-like receptors (TLR), are also expanded [62-64]. Notably, some genes in these families respond to abiotic changes (temperature, salinity, and air exposure), indicating that some of the duplicated “immune” genes have been co-opted to accommodate environmental stresses [63]. Understanding the physiology of oysters is essential to improve production and maintain food security of this important mollusc.

### **Molluscan genomics for various biological issues**

Apart from their importance for the aquaculture industry, mollusc genomes have been studied to address diverse range of biological questions. The phylum Mollusca belongs to the Lophotrochozoa, which comprises one of major clades within the Bilateria. Since genomic information for lophotrochozoans is scarce, mollusc genomes are of particular value to study animal genome evolution. The genome of the owl limpet, *Lottia gigantea*, and two annelid genomes have been sequenced, allowing reconstruction of 17 bilaterian ancestral linkage groups (ALGs) [11]. The genome of the scallop, *Patinopecten yessoensis*, showed remarkable preservation of bilaterian ALGs, as well as intact Hox and ParaHox clusters, which together may represent the ancestral state of lophotrochozoans [18]. Expression of Hox and ParaHox genes showed subcluster-level temporal co-linearity, and this could be an ancestral pattern in bilaterians [18]. The genome of the deep sea mussel, *Bathymodiolus platifrons*, was compared with that of the shallow water mussel, *Modiolus philippinarum*, in order to study the genetic basis for adaptation to extreme environments [17]. In the *B. platifrons* genome, HSP70 and ABC transporter gene families are expanded and highly expressed in gill tissue, suggesting a role in resistance to physical stresses and toxic chemicals in the deep-sea environment. A molecular mechanism for acquiring methane oxidizing symbionts is also hypothesized from expanded gene families, such as Toll-like receptors, adhesion genes (syndecan and protocadherin), and apoptosis-related genes [17]. The freshwater snail, *Biomphalaria glabrata*, is an intermediate host of the blood fluke, *Schistosoma mansoni*, therefore it may be possible to interrupt snail-mediated parasite transmission. Genome analysis of *B. glabrata* provides basic information about its biological process such as interactions between the snail and the parasite



[15]. Cephalopods command special interest because of their specialized body plans and complex neural systems. The genome of the octopus, *Octopus vulgaris*, demonstrated a large number of protocadherin genes, which are responsible for neuronal development [12]. The C2H2 zinc finger transcription factor gene family is also expanded, and mRNAs of tandemly arranged C2H2 genes are expressed in adult brain, optic lobe, axial nerve cord, and in embryonic tissues. Extensive RNA editing in neural tissue is also evident, enabling complex neural excitability [12, 65].

In addition to molluscan genome studies mentioned above, genomes of the mussel (*Mytilus galloprovincialis*), the clam (*Ruditapes philippinarum*), the scallop (*Argopecten irradians*), the freshwater snail (*Radix auricularia*), and the abalone (*Haliotis discus hannai*) have been published. These studies briefly report statistics of the assembly and predicted gene models [14, 16, 19, 21, 22]. Rapidly accumulating whole genome data will contribute further understanding of the molecular biology of molluscs.

## **Genome-wide studies for molluscan aquaculture**

Beside providing fundamental insights into biological features of molluscs, whole genome data are essential for the aquaculture industry to develop genetic markers for economically valuable traits. High-throughput sequencing technology is effective not only for whole genome shotgun sequencing, but also for genome-wide genetic marker discovery. Massive parallel, short read sequencing combined with a reduced representation library is an optimal strategy for this purpose. Various genotyping methods for reduced representation sequencing have been developed, such as restriction-site-associated DNA sequencing (RAD-seq) [66], genotyping by sequencing (GBS) [67], 2b-restriction site-associated DNA (2b-RAD) sequencing [68], and specific-locus amplified fragment sequencing (SLAF-seq) [69]. These techniques have become common for genotyping commercially valuable molluscs. In principle, all of these methods use one or more restriction enzymes to prepare DNA libraries for sequencing. Genomic DNA is fragmented with restriction enzymes and adapters containing sequencing-initiation sites are ligated at the cohesive ends. As a result, genomic regions close to the restriction enzyme recognition sites are selectively sequenced so that high sequence coverage sufficient for genotyping can be obtained. Furthermore, by adding sample-specific index sequences (barcodes) to the adapters, multiple individuals can be sequenced in a sequencing run. The reduced representation sequencing method discovers thousands of single-nucleotide

polymorphisms (SNP) within populations. In order to establish high-density linkage maps, 1,000-10,000 SNP markers are identified from hundreds of individuals. Table 1 lists the high-density linkage map studies of commercial mollusc species [70-76]. For instance, 96 full-sib progeny were sequenced and 3,806 markers were identified from the Chinese scallop, *Chlamys farreri*, using the 2b-RAD method [70]. Once a sufficient number of SNP markers have been established, an SNP array is an alternative method of genome-wide genotyping. Medium- to high-density SNP arrays for *Crassostrea gigas*, a *Crassostrea gigas* x *Ostrea edulis*, cross, and *Pinctada maxima* have been tested for genotyping [77-79].

Linkage maps are used to identify quantitative trait loci (QTLs). Genotypes in QTLs are correlated with particular phenotypes; therefore, they are used as markers for selection. Growth-related traits, such as shell size and body weight, are of major research interest for mollusc aquaculture [70-76]. The triangle sail mussel, *Hyriopsis cumingii*, which is cultured for fresh water pearl production, was analyzed for QTLs associated with nacre color [73, 80]. QTLs for shell color and resistance to disease in *C. gigas* have also been investigated [81, 82]. In cases where genome assemblies are available, QTL regions in the physical map or associated genes can be identified. In the *C. farreri* genome, the transcription factor gene, PROP1, that regulates animal growth, is associated with a growth QTL [70]. A shell matrix protein gene, N16, is also reported to be linked to a growth-related QTL in the *Pinctada fucata* genome [72]. These results of QTL analyses will provide genetic markers correlated with economically valuable traits. Then individuals can be efficiently selected for breeding programs using marker-assisted selection (MAS). MAS is efficient if the desired trait or phenotype is controlled by a small number of genes or QTLs. Genome-wide association studies (GWAS) may contribute significantly to mollusc aquaculture because GWA does not require family information. Therefore, individuals captured in the wild can be analyzed as potential genetic resources. Genomic selection (GS) based on GWA is a more powerful genetic tool when the trait of interest is weakly associated with a large number of QTLs. Although GWA combined with GS is more costly than QTL analysis, because in general, tens of thousands of SNPs and a  $\geq 1,000$  individuals must be analyzed, this technology will become standard as sequencing costs continue to drop.

Linkage maps are also used for anchoring genome scaffolds to linkage groups. Theoretically, if at least one genetic marker is mapped on each scaffold, the genome scaffolds can be clustered

into linkage groups or chromosomes. Using this method, genome assemblies of *Patinopecten yessoensis*, *C. gigas*, and *P. fucata* were enhanced to chromosome level assembly [18, 20]. Furthermore, linkage maps are available to assess assembly errors in genome scaffolds. Based on linkage maps generated from high-density genetic markers, about 40% of *C. gigas* genome scaffolds with more than one marker were mapped to different linkage groups, indicating that the scaffolds were misassembled [83]. Linkage analysis can correct and improve continuity of genome assemblies.

## **Conclusion**

By virtue of fast-growing sequencing technology, molluscan genome sequencing projects are proceeding at an astonishing rate. Challenging issues still remain for decoding molluscan genomes, such as their huge genome sizes and the high heterozygosity of bivalve genomes. Therefore, sequencing strategies and assembly methods should be carefully considered. Constructing linkage maps is an efficient way to evaluate assembly errors and to construct chromosomal-level assemblies.

Molluscan genomes provide fundamental molecular information to address their unique biological features. Lineage-specific, expanded gene families related to shell formation, immunity, the nervous system, etc. are evident. Functional analyses such as gene knockdown, RNA-Seq, and proteomics enrich our understanding of their significance. Genome sequence data can be used to develop genetic tools for aquaculture. Conventionally, in order to select individuals with valuable traits such as high growth rate and resistance to disease, costly long-term rearing or infectivity assays are necessary. Using DNA markers, characteristics of each individual can be estimated efficiently. Whole-genome assembly and gene annotation information can identify genes located near genetic markers correlated with specific traits. If gene functions are already known, biological evidence corroborates the selection program. Alternatively, function of unknown genes can be inferred based on the presence of markers associated with the research interest. Biological knowledge from molluscan genomics facilitates data-driven breeding programs, and accumulation of genotypic and phenotypic information can assist functional genomic studies. Modern genomic studies facilitate molluscan biology, genetics, and aquaculture.

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## **Compliance with Ethical Standards**

### **Conflict of Interest**

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### **Human and Animal Rights and Informed Consent**

This article does not contain any studies with human or animal subjects performed by the author.

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Figure legend

**Figure 1. Published molluscan genome assemblies and their statistics.** Evolutionary relationship of the molluscs is show at the left.

Table1. Linkage map with high density SNPs

Class	Species	Genotyping method	Number of linkage groups	Number of markers	Total size (cM)	Average distance (cM)	Reference
Bivalvia	<i>Chlamys farreri</i>	2b-RAD	19	3,806	1543.36	0.41	Jiao <i>et al.</i> (2014) [70]
	<i>Pinctada fucata martensii</i>	2b-RAD	14	3,117	990.74	0.39	Shi <i>et al.</i> (2014) [72]
	<i>Pinctada fucata</i>	RAD-seq	14	1,373	1091.81	1.41	Li and He (2014) [71]
	<i>Pinctada fucata martensii</i>	RAD-seq	14	4,463	4287.61	0.96	Du <i>et al.</i> (2017) [20]
	<i>Crassostrea gigas</i> x <i>C. angulata</i>	GBS	10	1,695	1084.3	0.80	Wang <i>et al.</i> (2016) [76]
	<i>Hyriopsis cumingii</i>	SLAF-seq	19	4,920	2713.17	1.81	Bai <i>et al.</i> (2016) [80]
	<i>Ruditapes philippinarum</i>	GBS	18	9,658	1926.98	0.42	Nie <i>et al.</i> (2017) [75]
	<i>Patinopecten yessoensis</i>	2b-RAD	19	7,489	1918.65	0.26	Wang <i>et al.</i> (2017) [18]
Gastropoda	<i>Haliotis diversicolor</i>	RAD-seq	16	3,717	2190.1	0.59	Ren <i>et al.</i> (2016) [74]

## Bivalvia

## Gastropoda

## Cephalopoda

Common name	Genome size	Total scaffold length	Number of scaffolds	Scaffold N50	Reference
<i>Pinctada fucata</i>	1.15 Gb <sup>a)</sup>	815.3 Mb	29,306	167.0 kb	Takeuchi <i>et al.</i> (2012) [9] Takeuchi <i>et al.</i> (2016) [13]
<i>Pinctada fucata martensii</i>	–	990.6 Mb	8,621	324.3 kb	Du <i>et al.</i> (2017) [20]
<i>Crassostrea gigas</i>	637 Mb <sup>a)</sup>	558.6 Mb	11,969	401.3 kb	Zhang <i>et al.</i> (2012) [10]
<i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i>	1.6 Gb <sup>b)</sup>	1,599 Mb	1,746,447	2.6 kb	Murgarella <i>et al.</i> (2016) [14]
<i>Bathymodiolus platifrons</i>	1.63 Gb <sup>b)</sup>	1,660 Mb	65,664	343.4 kb	Sun <i>et al.</i> (2017) [17]
<i>Modiolus philippinarum</i>	2.21 Gb <sup>b)</sup>	2,630 Mb	74,575	100.2 kb	Sun <i>et al.</i> (2017) [17]
<i>Patinopecten yessoensis</i>	1.44 Gb <sup>a)</sup>	987.6 Mb	82,731	803.6 kb	Wang <i>et al.</i> (2017) [18]
<i>Argopecten irradians</i>	990 Mb <sup>b)</sup>	700.3 Mb	217,310	6.8 kb	Du <i>et al.</i> (2017) [19]
<i>Ruditapes philippinarum</i>	1.37 Gb <sup>b)</sup>	2,561 Mb	223,851	48.4 kb	Mun <i>et al.</i> (2017) [21]
<i>Lottia gigantea</i>	420 Mb <sup>c)</sup>	359.5 Mb	4,475	1,870 kb	Simakov <i>et al.</i> (2013) [11]
<i>Haliotis discus hannai</i>	1.8 Gb <sup>a)</sup>	1,860 Mb	35,450	211.3 kb	Nam <i>et al.</i> (2017) [22]
<i>Biomphalaria glabrata</i>	916 Mb <sup>d)</sup>	916.3 Mb	331,400	48 kb	Adema <i>et al.</i> (2017) [15]
<i>Radix auricularia</i>	1.58 Gb <sup>a)</sup>	910 Mb	4,823	578.7 kb	Schell <i>et al.</i> (2017) [16]
<i>Octopus bimaculoides</i>	2.68 Gb <sup>a)</sup>	2,371 Mb	379,696	1,369 kb	Albertin <i>et al.</i> (2015) [12]
<i>Lingula anatina</i>					
<i>Drosophila melanogaster</i>					
<i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i>					
<i>Branchiostoma floridae</i>					
<i>Homo sapiens</i>					

a) Genome size measured by flow cytometry

b) Genome size estimated by k-mer frequency analysis

c) Genome size measured by fluorometric assay

d) Genome size measured by Feulgen image analysis densitometry