

Convergent Evolution of Secondary Structure in Mitochondrially Encoded Cysteine tRNA of the Nine-Banded Armadillo (*Dasypus novemcinctus*)

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Abstract—Here, I describe a case of loss of the D-arm by mitochondrial cysteine tRNA in the nine-banded armadillo (*Dasypus novemcinctus*) convergent with mt tRNA^{Ser(AGY)}. Such evolution sheds light on the relationship between structure and function of tRNA molecules and its impact on the patterns of molecular evolution.