

Isolation and Purification of DNA from Chlorella Viruses

David Dunigan and Irina Agarkova

Abstract

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Guidelines

Materials:

- 1) *Chlorella* virus, in 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.8
- 2) 100 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.4, 10 mM EDTA, 1 M NaCl (10X TEN, pH 7.4)
- 3) 1.0% Na sarcosyl
- 4) 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 1 mM EDTA (1X TE)
- 5) Isopropanol, saturated with CsCl/TE buffer
- 6) 3 M NaOAc
- 7) Hoechst dye #33258, 100 µg/mL
- 8) CsCl gradients: 40-60% (w/w) CsCl gradients made up in SW60 rotor ultra clear tubes, equilibrated with 1X TE, pH 8.0 + 1 µg/mL Hoechst dye (see recipe)

| % | gm CsCl | ml 1X TE | µl Hoechst dye (100 µg/mL) | layer (µl) |
|----|---------|----------|-------------------------------|------------|
| 60 | 9.0 | 6.0 | 60.0 | 1000 |
| 50 | 7.5 | 7.5 | 75.0 | 1050 |
| 40 | 5.0 | 7.5 | 75.0 | 1050 |

- 9) 60% CsCl (w/w): 9.0 gm CsCl, 6.0 ml 1X TE, pH 8.0, 120.0 µL Hoechst dye (100 µg/mL)

Protocol

Step 1.

For each gradient, in 100 x 13 mm tubes, mix together 500 µL of virus, 60 µL of 10X TEN, pH 7.4, and 60 µL of 1% Na sarcosyl.

Step 2.

Add 600 µL of 60% (w/w) CsCl to each tube.

Step 3.

Heat the tubes at 75°C for 15 min.

 DURATION

00:15:00

Step 4.

Layer the samples onto pre-formed 40-60% (w/w) CsCl gradients in SW60 rotor tubes (to make a final 30-60% gradient).

Step 5.

Add 1200 µL of the heated virus to each gradient.

Step 6.

Centrifuge the gradients in SW60 rotors at 35,000 rpm, 18 hours, 25°C.

 DURATION

18:00:00

Step 7.

Remove the DNA bands from the gradients with a wide bent needle to silicon-coated 30 mL corex tubes.

Step 8.

Extract the Hoechst dye from the DNA by adding an equal volume of CsCl/TE-saturated isopropanol to the DNA solution, mixing gently by inversion, centrifuge for 1 min at 3,000 rpm in the Sorvall to separate the phases, and pipet off the upper isopropanol layer.

 DURATION

00:01:00

Step 9.

Repeat last step.

Step 10.

Add 1.0 mL of 3 M NaOAc to each tube and adjust the volume of each tube to 10.0 mL with 1X TE buffer.

Step 11.

Precipitate the DNAs with 2X volumes of 100% EtOH.

Step 12.

Mix well and hold at -20°C overnight.

 DURATION

18:00:00

Step 13.

Centrifuge the DNA samples in the Sorvall HB-4 rotor at 10,000 rpm, 20 min, 4°C.

 DURATION

00:20:00

Step 14.

Discard the supernatants.

Step 15.

Dry the pellets briefly (10-15 min) in the vacuum desiccator to remove the EtOH.

 DURATION

00:15:00

Step 16.

Resuspend the DNA samples with approximately 500 µL of 1X TE buffer.

Step 17.

Determine the DNA concentrations and store the DNAs at 4°C.