Barnacle Counting Protocol

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Abstract

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Protocol

Step 1.
Open ImageJ in Chevron Visualization Lab computer --> Plugins --> Cell Counter.

Step 2.
In ImageJ window, click File Open to open raw image file.

Step 3.
In the Cell Counter click Initialize.

Step 4.
Review the image to identity *Orbicella franksi* colonies by selecting the Magnifying Glass tool from the ImageJ window to zoom in or out.

Step 5.
Zoom in on the first colony to 200%.

Step 6.
Select Text tool from ImageJ window.

Step 7.
In the Cell Counter window, select Type 2 from Counters. Counter Type 1 is not used because the color is not visible on Viz Lab Screen. Counters can be enlarged from initial settings to be visible on Viz Lab Screen.

Step 8.
Mark all barnacle holes on a single colony.

Step 9.
Use the Magnifying Glass to zoom in or out if necessary and use the Scrolling tool to scroll around.

Step 10.
Once all the barnacles on a single colony have been marked, select Counter Type 3 and scroll to the next

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colony.

Step 11.
Repeat with all remaining colonies. If the Counter color is not visible select Type 4 or Type 7 (deep reds).

a. We recommend changing counters between colonies to avoid large stretches of barnacle counts (>1000) that can increase the chances of accidental data loss.

Step 12.
For each image, record the barnacle count on paper.

Step 13.
Click Results in Cell Counter window. In Results window, click File --> Save as marker count. Label with PhotoIDresults to export results.

Step 14.
Click Export Image in Cell Counter window. In ImageJ window, click File --> Save as --> JPEG. Label with PhotoIDvizphoto.

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