

Soil sub sampling for 16s analysis

Jared Flater

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Purpose

We are looking into the bacterial community composition of soil, an important component of ecological systems. The bacterial marker gene (16S rRNA gene) extraction kits target the highly conserved 16S marker gene. Because of the slow rates of evolution of this region of the gene, we can use them to reconstruct a phylogeny of our sample.

PPE

1. Gloves
2. Eye protection
3. Lab coat

Materials

1. Soil samples
2. Micro-balance
3. 70% ethanol
4. Funnels
5. Weigh boats and or weigh paper
6. Spatulas
7. Alcohol flame
8. Data sheet
9. 96 well Bead Plate

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Procedure:

1. Remove soil samples from -80 freezer, location:
note: to preserve samples as best as possible, remove only 1 group at a time.
2. Layout samples on the bench, from first set, to match the order that the samples are in on the datasheet.
3. Sterilize gloves/hands with 70% ethanol
4. Sterilize spatulas by making sure they are clean and then flaming them.
5. Using sterile spatula and weigh paper, sub sample 0.23 g to 0.25 g of soil into weigh boat.
6. Record mass of soil on datasheet, confirm that it is the correct sample.
7. Grab or clean spatula and get a new weigh boat and repeat steps 5-6 for the remaining samples in the set.
8. Repeat step 3.
9. Repeat steps 4-7 for all sets of samples