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# Total DNA extraction from microalgae strain samples using NucleoSpin Plant modified kit (Macherey Nagel)

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[dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.b2ctqawn](https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.b2ctqawn)

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This DNA extraction protocol allows to get both eukaryotic and prokaryotic DNA from microalgae strains, so the microbiome diversity can be studied in cultures by using this protocol.

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Sarah Romic 2022. Total DNA extraction from microalgae strain samples using NucleoSpin Plant modified kit (Macherey Nagel). **protocols.io**  
<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.b2ctqawn>



protocol

Camara dos Reis M., Romic S. et al. Microbiome assembly in axenic *Emiliania huxleyi* cultures is influenced by the source community composition and is resilient to disturbance. In prep.

DNA, Microalgae

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You can perform this protocol in safety conditions on the bench.

- NucleoSpin PlantII (Macherey-Nagel - ref 740770.50 (50 preps);
- Proteinase K 100 mg (Macherey-Nagel - ref 740506) ;
- Optionnal : Lysozyme (Sigma - ref L6876-1G).
- TE 1x buffer sterile (Dominique Dutscher – ref 348619).

- Centrifuge 5427R (Eppendorf, ref 5409000210).
- Thermomix - magnetic stirrer (Eppendorf – ref 5382000015) equipped with thermoblock 1.5-2mL (Eppendorf - ref 3880000151)

- Wear a labcoat and nitrile gloves during all the process.

- Clean all the area with DNA away.
- Heat the Incubator to 55°C for lysis.
- Heat buffer PL1 at 50°C for at least 30min before to start the extraction to dissolve SDS precipitant.
- Equilibrate buffer PE to 65°C.
- Proteinase K** : add 2500 µl Proteinase K buffer PB to adjust concentration to 20 mg/mL, incubate 1min at RT. Don't vortex! Do aliquots of 250µL. Store at -20°C. Don't freeze/defreeze aliquots more than 3 times.
- Thaw/prepare **Lysozyme (20mg/ml)** in TE-Buffer.
- Wash Buffer PW2**: add 100ml EtOH 96-100%

## Cell Lysis

- 1 Transfer 2mL from the strain in a sterile 2mL microtube.  
Centrifuge 5 min at 5000g to pellet the strain.  
Discard the supernatant.  
Pellet are ready for extraction or can stored at -20°C until extraction.

- 2 Add 400µL **PL1** + 25µL **proteinase K 20 mg/mL**.  
Vortex.

If you don't need to extract prokaryotic DNA, skip step 3 et directly go to step 4.

- 3 **Optionnal :**

If you also want to extract the prokaryotic DNA to study microbiome associated to the eukaryote strain, add 100µl **Lysozyme 20mg/mL**.  
Vortex and incubate for 5 min at room-temperature.

Incubate in the thermomixer 60 min @ 55°C, 900 rpm.

## Clarification of crude lysate

- 5 After lysis, short spin the lysate and transfer the lysate on a NucleoSpin Filter column (purple column).  
Centrifuge 5min @ 11 000g.
- 6 Transfer the eluate on a new sterile 2mL microtube. If a pellet is visible, only transfer the supernatant without touching the pellet.

## Precipitation/Purification

- 7 Add 550 µL **PC buffer**, mix by pipetting up and down at least 5 times.  
Transfer all liquid onto a green column (max 650µL).  
Centrifuge 1min @ 11 000g. Discard the flow-through.  
Repeat this step until all liquid has been loaded on the green column.
- 8 Add 400µL **PW1** to the membrane of the column.  
Centrifuge 1min @ 11 000g. Discard the flow-through.
- 9 Add 700µL **PW2** to the membrane of the column.  
Centrifuge 1min @ 11 000g. Discard the flow-through.
- 10 Add 200µL **PW2** to the membrane of the column.  
Centrifuge 2min @ 11 000g. Discard the flow-through.
- 11 Put the column on a new sterile 1.5mL microtube correctly labeled (name, date, operator).

## DNA Elution

- 12 Add 50µL **PE** (preheated 65°C) onto the membrane. Incubate 5 min @ 65°C.  
Centrifuge 1min @ 11 000g.
- 13 Add again 50µL **PE** (preheated 65°C) onto the membrane.  
Centrifuge 1min @ 11 000g.

14 After centrifugation, store the DNA at -20°C.