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## 🌐 HMW DNA extraction protocol for ferns

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### ABSTRACT

Among the difficulties encountered in a laboratory, simple situations such as efficiently disinfecting fern spores and extracting large amounts of DNA with low tissue input in the protocol are one of the major impediments in carrying out sequencing of these plants in the axenic state. The objective of this work is to present a replicable, scalable and easy-to-execute protocol for work with ferns following the current generation of long-read sequencing. Our method is based on providing a disinfection protocol for spores and sporangia that guarantees growth free of contamination and, after this growth, DNA extraction using a low amount of material in order to obtain a good yield. The results are promising since, in up to 21 days, we obtained germinated plants. After their growth (in average 180 days) we were able to extract DNA in quantity and quality and perform the sequencing, emphasizing that our best N50 is 24 Kb.

### IMAGE ATTRIBUTION

Illustration by Crix D'Oliveira.

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**Protocol status:** Working  
We use this protocol and it's working

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#### Funders

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## MATERIALS



Liquid nitrogen



Chloroform: Isoamyl Alcohol (24:1)



Isopropanol



TE Buffer



3M sodium acetate



Ethanol 100%



nuclease free water



Sodium Hypochlorite Solution



70% Ethanol

$\beta$ -mercaptoethanol

PVP 40

TRIS 1 M pH 8.0

EDTA 0.5 M pH 8

Sodium Metabisulfite

NaCl 2.5M

Sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS) 20%

2 ml LoBind tubes










1.5 ml LoBind tubes

Mortar & pestle

Water Bath

Centrifuge

## PROTOCOL MATERIALS

 nuclease free water	Materials, Step 26
 3M sodium acetate	Materials, Step 20
 Sodium Hypochlorite Solution	Materials, Step 6
 Liquid nitrogen	Materials, Step 10
 Ethanol 100%	Materials, Step 21
 70% Ethanol	In Materials and <a href="#">2 steps</a>
 Chloroform: Isoamyl Alcohol (24:1)	Materials, Step 15
 TE Buffer	Materials, Step 20
 Isopropanol	Materials, Step 18

## SAFETY WARNINGS



### Safety information

Work under fume hood when add  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol and Chloroform.

### Safety information

Be careful when handling liquid nitrogen.

## BEFORE START INSTRUCTIONS

- Prepare the SDS Lysis Buffer on the day of the experiment;

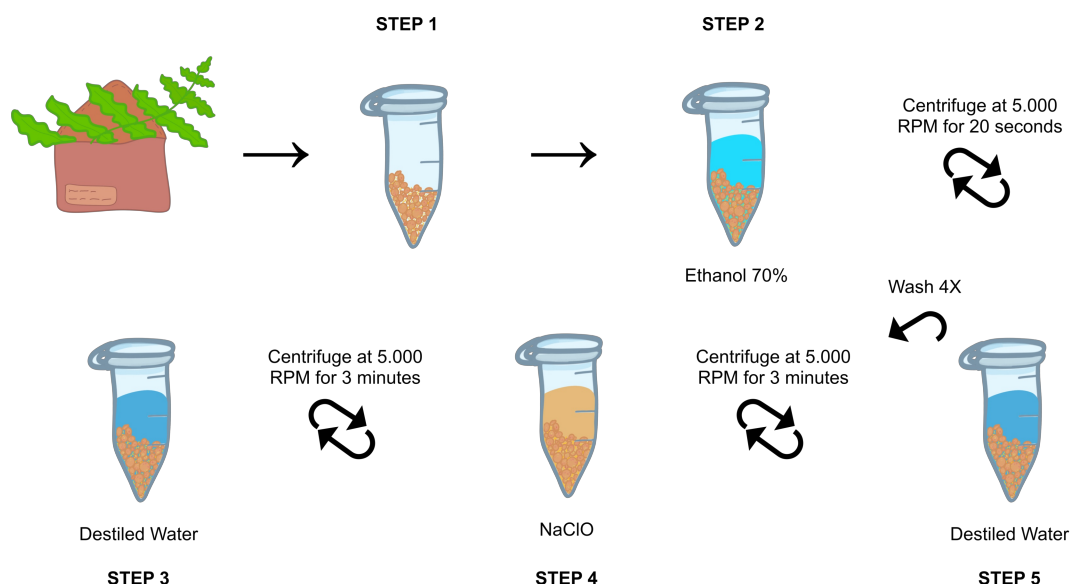
A	B	C
Reagent	Reagent Stock Concentration	FINAL
PVP 40	100%	1%
Sodium Metabisulfite	1%	1%
NaCl	5 M	0,5 M
TRIS HCL pH 8	1 M	100 mM
EDTA pH 8	0.5 M	50 mM
DDH <sub>2</sub> O	-	~
Sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS)	20%	1,5%
β-MERCAPTOETANOL	-	2% (v/v)

- When preparing the SDS Lysis Buffer, add SDS at last this will avoiding bubble formation.
- Preheat the water bath; Keep the SDS Lysis Buffer at 65°C until the tissue powder is added.
- Washing solution (EtOH 70%), fresh  
35 ml Ethanol 100% + 15 ml H<sub>2</sub>O
- Potassium Acetate 5M  
Dissolve 4.9 gr KAc in 10 ml ddH<sub>2</sub>O (4.9 gr KAc + ≈ 7.5 ml H<sub>2</sub>O).  
Adjust the pH with glacial acetic acid.
- Prepare TE buffer (10 mM Tris pH 8 and 1 mM EDTA pH 8)

## Plant material sterilization

3d 0h 45m

1



**Figure 1.** Step by step plant spore and sporangia sterilization. Illustration by Crix D'Oliveira.

- 2 Sample and store the leaf tissue (fronds) in paper envelopes for three days to induce dehiscence.
- 3 Recover and store the spores together with sporangia in 1.5 mL microtubes until one-third of the tube was filled and then stored at -20 °C until disinfection.
- 4 Add 1 mL 70% Ethanol **Contributed by users**, homogenize by inversion for 00:00:20 and briefly centrifuge them.
- 5 Discard the supernatant and wash by inversion with 1 mL of autoclaved purified water, briefly centrifuge and discard the supernatant.
- 6 Add 1 mL of an Sodium Hypochlorite Solution **Contributed by users** (active chlorine ~2%, ).

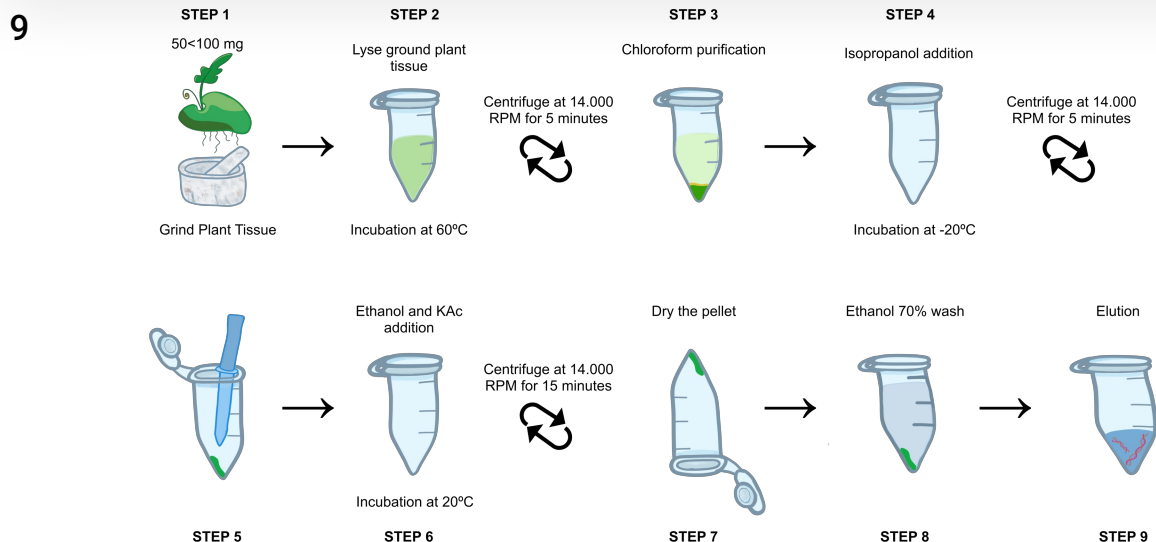
[M] 10 % (v/v) , homogenize by inversion for 00:20:00 , centrifuge at 5.000 rpm 00:03:00 .

7 Discard the supernatant and wash by inversion with 1 mL of autoclaved purified water, centrifug at 5 5.000 rpm 00:03:00 . Repeat this step 4 times.

8 Add 1 mL autoclaved purified water, homogenize and pipete into a Petri Dish with BCD medium 1m (MgSO<sub>4</sub>.7H<sub>2</sub>O - 0.1 mM, KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> - 1.84 mM, KNO<sub>3</sub> - 1M, FeSO<sub>4</sub>.7H<sub>2</sub>O - 4.5mM).

## Extraction of high-molecular-weight DNA



















2h 31m





**Figure 2.** Step by step extraction of high-molecular-weight DNA illustrated protocol. Illustration by Crix D'Oliveira.

10 Weigh between 50 mg and 100 mg of leaf tissue. Grind must be done with a crucible and pestle (previously exposed to Liquid nitrogen Contributed by users) until a very fine powder is obtained.

11 Pre-heat the Lysis Buffer and aliquot 600 µL for each sample individually in 1.5 mL microtube. With the aid of a spoon or spatula, transfer the macerate to the microtube.

- 12 Homogenize by inversion 10 times and incubate at  60 °C for  00:10:00 . 10m
- 13 Add  4 µL of RNase A (100 mg/mL); add  4 µL of proteinase K (> 40 U/mg);
- 14 Homogenize by inversion 10 times and incubate at  60 °C for  00:20:00 gently homogenizing, 25m  
inversion every  00:05:00 .
- 15 Add  600 µL of  Chloroform: Isoamyl Alcohol (24:1) Contributed by users and homogenize by 3m  
inversion for at least  00:03:00 until an off-white emulsion forms.
- 16 Centrifuge at  14.000 rpm for  00:05:00 at room temperature. 5m
- 17 Carefully aspirate the upper phase of the tube and transfer to a new 1.5 mL microtube. 1m
- 18 Add  400 µL of  Isopropanol Contributed by users  -20 °C and incubate it for at least 1h  
 01:00:00 at  -20 °C . (Can be stored overnight)
- 19 Centrifuge at  14.000 rpm for  00:05:00 at room temperature and discard the supernatant. 5m

- 20 Add  50  $\mu\text{L}$  of  TE Buffer Contributed by users. Add  5  $\mu\text{L}$  of  3M sodium acetate Contributed by users. 1m
- 21 Add  120  $\mu\text{L}$  of iced  Ethanol 100% Contributed by users ( -20  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and mix well by flicking the tube.
- 22 Store tubes at  -20  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  for at least  00:20:00. 20m
- 23 Centrifuge at  14.000 rpm for  00:15:00 at room temperature and carefully discard the supernatant. 15m
- 24 Add  1 mL of freshly prepared  70% Ethanol Contributed by users, mix gently by inversion, centrifuge briefly and carefully discard the supernatant. 1m
- 25  50  $\mu\text{L}$  Dry the pellet for approximately  00:10:00 at Room Temperature on the bench with the tube upside down. 10m
- 26 Elute in  50  $\mu\text{L}$  volume in  nuclease free water Contributed by users. (Elution volume can be adjusted for your needs) 1m

## Quality Assessment

- 27 Quantify the DNA on a Qubit® fluorometer (dsDNA high sensitivity assay). DNA yield can be 500 - 1500 ng.



**28** Check DNA integrity through electrophoresis in a 1% Agarose Gel.

## DNA Size Selection

**29** Remove short DNA fragments with Circulomics® Short-Read Eliminator Kit.