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## 🌐 HMW gDNA purification proto

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### ABSTRACT

Optimized protocol for efficient extraction of HMW gDNA from the polysaccharide-rich microalga *Botryococcus*, enabling long-read sequencing on the Oxford Nanopore Technologies platform.

### ATTACHMENTS

[HMW gDNA PLOS ONE S1](#)  
[File.pdf](#)

### GUIDELINES

**Maintain Frozen Samples:** It is crucial to keep samples frozen during maceration using liquid nitrogen. Prepare sterile mortar, pestle, and spatulas for this step.

**Handle Homogenization with Care:** Exercise caution with the use of liquid nitrogen during maceration and sampling preparation.

**Optimize Polysaccharide Removal:** For effective polysaccharide removal with minimal DNA damage, keep the sonication step prior to cell lysis brief and at a low power setting.

**Monitor Pellet Size:** After each sorbitol wash step, check for an increase in pellet size.

**Buffer Preparation:** Prepare and sterilize buffers in advance to streamline the process.

**Warm DNA Extraction Buffer:** Warm the DNA extraction buffer to 65°C for at least 5 minutes before use for optimal results.

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

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**Keywords:** high molecular weight DNA, *Botryococcus braunii*, long-read sequencing

## MATERIALS

### A. Buffer preparation

**1. Sorbitol wash buffer.** Autoclave and store this buffer at 4°C for no more than six months.

- 100 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0
- 0.35 M Sorbitol
- 5 mM EDTA pH 8.0
- 1 % (W/V) Polyvinylpyrrolidone molecular weight 40,000 (PVP-40)
- 1% (V/V) 2-Mercaptoethanol ( $\beta$ -ME). Note: Add after autoclaving and before use. It is best to aliquot the amount of buffer needed and add  $\beta$ -ME to this aliquot.

**2. DNA extraction buffer.** Autoclave and store this buffer at room temperature for no more than six months.

- 100 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0
- 3M NaCl
- 3% CTAB
- 20 mM EDTA
- 1% (W/V) Polyvinylpyrrolidone
- 1% (V/V) 2-Mercaptoethanol ( $\beta$ -ME). Note: Add after autoclaving and before use. It is best to aliquot the amount of buffer needed and add  $\beta$ -ME to this aliquot.

**3. 24:1 CHCl<sub>3</sub>/IAA buffer.** Store this buffer at 4°C.

- 96 ml Chloroform
- 4 ml Isoamyl Alcohol.

### 4. 3M Sodium acetate buffer

- 408.3 g sodium acetate
- 3H<sub>2</sub>O per L
- pH to 5.2
- autoclave

### 5. 1x TE (Tris EDTA) Buffer

- 1mM EDTA, pH 8.0
- 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0

### B. Culturing *Botryococcus* culturing

- Culture *Botryococcus* species of choice in 1 L roux flasks with 750 ml modified Chu 13 medium, pH 7.5.
- Maintain at 22°C under continuous aeration with 2.5% CO<sub>2</sub>.
- Grow cultures for 6 weeks under a 12 h light:12 h dark cycle using 13 W compact fluorescent 65 K lighting at an intensity of 280  $\mu$ mol photons/m<sup>2</sup>/s.

## BEFORE START INSTRUCTIONS

**Ensure Bench Cleanliness:** Prior to starting the protocol, thoroughly sanitize lab bench and instruments.

### Biomass harvesting and HMW gDNA isolation

#### 1 Biomass preparation

- Harvest the biomass by filtration using a 10  $\mu$ m nylon net.

- 1.1
  - Collect small amounts of biomass from the mesh using a rubber spatula and immediately freeze by placing in a 50 ml Falcon tube containing liquid nitrogen.
  - Repeat until all biomass is collected into a single Falcon tube.
  - Store at -80°C until needed.

- 1.2
  - Place small amount of frozen biomass into mortar and pestle with liquid nitrogen.
  - Grind biomass until a fine powder is formed, keeping frozen at all times.
  - Weigh out ~100 mg aliquots, place in 1.5 ml eppendorf tube, and store at -80°C.

### Biomass pre-wash

- 2
  - Add 1 ml sorbitol wash buffer to 1.5 ml eppendorf tube containing ~100 mg ground biomass.
  - Allow sample to thaw while vortexing for 10 seconds
  - Keep samples on ice and sonicate for 25 seconds at 30% of power.
  - Centrifuge at 2,500 x *g* for 5 minutes at room temperature. Discard the liquid phase by aspiration or decanting. Save the pelleted and floating biomass.
  - Repeat the biomass pre-wash step three times.

### Extraction process

- 3
  - Add 700  $\mu$ l DNA extraction buffer pre-warmed to 65°C, homogenize by vortexing for 10 seconds.
  - Incubate at 65°C for 30 minutes mixing by inversion every 10 minutes.
  - Incubate samples at room temperature for 5 minutes.
  - Add 700  $\mu$ l CHCl<sub>3</sub>:IAA buffer, vortex for 10 seconds, and centrifuge at 2,500 x *g* for 10 minutes at room temperature.
  - Carefully transfer the upper aqueous phase (approximately 500  $\mu$ l) to a new 1.5 ml eppendorf tube and keep on ice.

### RNA digestion

- 4**
- Add 2  $\mu$ l RNase A (25 mg/ml), and incubate at 37°C for 15 minutes mixing by inversion every 5 minutes.
  - Add 500  $\mu$ l CHCl<sub>3</sub>:IAA buffer, vortex 5 seconds, and centrifuge at 13,000 x *g* for 10 minutes at 4°C.
- Transfer the upper phase to a new 1.5 ml eppendorf tube and keep on ice.

### HMW gDNA precipitation

- 5**
- Precipitate the HMW gDNA by adding 0.1 volumes of 3M sodium acetate pH 5.2 and 0.66 volumes of cold (-20°C) isopropanol.
  - Incubate samples overnight at -20°C.
  - Centrifuge at 13,000 x *g* for 10 minutes at 4°C, and discard supernatant by aspiration or decanting.
  - Dry pellet by resting inverted on paper towels at room temperature.

### HMW gDNA wash and resuspension

- 6**
- Wash dried pellets with 1 ml of 70% ethanol and invert several times.
  - Centrifuge at 13,000 x *g* for 10 min at 4°C. Remove the supernatant by aspiration to avoid pellet disturbance.
  - Dry samples in a vacuum centrifuge for 10 min at 36°C.
  - Resuspend HMW gDNA by adding 100  $\mu$ l 1x TE buffer. Incubate at room temperature for 10 min then gently homogenize by inversion.
  - Avoid pipetting that will shear the DNA.
  - Store at -80°C until needed.