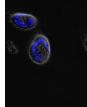


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## © Euplotes crassus transfection using FuGene HD Transfection Reagent as vehicle (provisional)



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Protist Research to Opti...



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Protocol status: In development

We are still developing and optimizing this protocol

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- Collect  $4 \times 10^4$  well-fed Euplotes crassus cells (we used E.coli as the only food source) by centrifugation at 400 rcf for 3 minutes.
- Wash the cells twice with artificial sea water (see attachment for the recipe) and once with 500 mM sorbitol, 0.5 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.0 (400 rcf for 3 minutes each time). Then resuspend Euplotes crassus cells in 50 μl of the medium (500 mM sorbitol, 0.5 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.0). To get this small volume you may require an additional minute of centrifugation.

## Note

Recipe for complete sea water (1 L):

36 g Reef Crystals 1 ml Walne's solution 1 ml of 10  $\mu$ g/ml FeSO<sub>4</sub> 0.2 ml of 2 mg/ml thiamine (light sensitive; store at 4 °C) Add distilled water up to 1 L

- 3 Transfer the cells into wells within a 96-well plate for transfection.
- 4 Allow FuGene HD Transfection Reagent to reach room temperature, and then mix it by inverting or vortexing briefly (if you see a precipitate, briefly warm it at 37°C, and then let it reach room temperature).
- Add 90-98  $\mu$ l of medium (500 mM sorbitol, 0.5 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.0) at room temperature and 4  $\mu$ g of DNA in MilliQ H<sub>2</sub>O (0.2-1  $\mu$ g/ $\mu$ L) to an Eppendorf tube and vortex (after adding the DNA the final volume must be 100  $\mu$ l).
- Add 6  $\mu$ l of FuGene HD Transfection Reagent directly to the medium and mix immediately.
- 7 Icubate FuGene HD Transfection Reagent and DNA mixture for 15 minutes at room temperature.
- Add 10  $\mu$ l of the FuGene HD Transfection Reagent and DNA mixture to the 50  $\mu$ l of Euplotes crassus cells in medium (mix everything by pipetting).
- One hour after addition of FuGene/DNA complexes, add 50  $\mu$ l of artificial sea water to the cells.
- 10 After another hour, add to the cells other 50 µl of artificial sea water.



- 11 An hour later harvest the cells (400 rcf for 3 minutes), and wash them twice with artificial sea water (400 rcf for 3 min each time). Then resuspend them in 400 µl of the artificial sea water.
- 12 Transfer the cells into glass depression wells for subsequent monitoring.
- 13 Incubate the cells at 24°C, then examine them by fluorescence microscopy to determine expression of the construct.