FEB 22, 2018

OPEN ACCESS

DOI:
dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.imecc3e

External link:
<https://doi.org/10.1093/gigascience/gix052>

Protocol Citation: Elodie Modave, Anna J. MacDonald, Stephen D. Sarre 2018. Evaluation of the sensitivity of a mini-barcode. **protocols.io** <https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.imecc3e>

MANUSCRIPT CITATION: Modave E, MacDonald AJ, Sarre SD, A single mini-barcode test to screen for Australian mammalian predators from environmental samples. *GigaScience* 6(8). doi: [10.1093/gigascience/gix052](https://doi.org/10.1093/gigascience/gix052)

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Protocol status: Working

Created: Jun 27, 2017

Evaluation of the sensitivity of a mini-barcode

GigaScience

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ABSTRACT

We developed a mini-barcode based on the 12S rRNA gene to identify predator from scats in Tasmania.

To test the sensitivity of our primers to detect low template DNA samples, we set up serial dilutions of six DNA extracts originating from museum samples, representing each of the six mammal predators that might be detected in Tasmania (Tasmanian devil, eastern quoll, spotted tail quoll, cat, dog and fox).

ATTACHMENTS

[protocols.io 2.docx](#)

MATERIALS

MATERIALS

- BSA-Molecular Biology Grade - 12 mg **New England Biolabs Catalog #B9000**
- Magnesium Chloride (MgCl₂) Solution - 6.0 ml **New England Biolabs Catalog #B9021S**
- dNTPs **Contributed by users**
- Gold buffer **Applied Biosystems**
- SYBR Green **Life Technologies**
- AmpliTaQ Gold **Applied Biosystems**

PROTOCOL integer ID:
6534

Keywords: low template,
trace

Set up starting dilutions

- 1 The DNA concentration of each original DNA extraction was determined using a QuBit Fluorometer and the Qubit dsDNA BR Assay Kit (Thermo Fisher) and diluted with ddH₂O if necessary to obtain a starting concentration of 90 ng / μ l

Set up 10 x dilutions

- 2 set up a series of six 10 X dilutions from each of these “undiluted” (90 ng / μ l) samples from 90 ng / μ l to 0.09 pg/ μ l

qPCR replicates

- 3 For each dilution of each sample, perform three qPCR replicates (on a ViiA7 Real-Time PCR system (Thermo Fisher Scientific)) : total volume of 25 μ l including 1X Gold buffer (Applied Biosystems), 2 mM MgCl₂, 0.4 mg / ml BSA, 0.4 μ M of each primer, 0.6 μ l SYBR green (1:2000 Life Technologies nucleic acid gel stain), 0.25 mM of each dNTP, 1 unit of AmpliTaq Gold™ (Applied Biosystems) and 2 μ l of the appropriate DNA dilution.

qPCR protocol: initial step of 95 °C for 5 mins; followed by 40 cycles of 95 °C for 30 s, 57 °C for 30 s and 72 ° for 30 s.

Comparative CT analysis

- 4 Using the ViiA7 software v1.2.4 with a threshold of 5,000 Δ Rn, conduct a comparative CT analysis by calculating the mean CT value and the standard deviation across qPCR replicates for each dilution of each DNA sample.
Evaluate to which dilution the mini-barcode is effective.