



PowerSoilä-htp 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit

Catalog No.	Quantity	Total Purifications
12955-4	4 Preps	384
12955-12	12 Preps	1152

Instruction Manual

Introduction

The PowerSoilä-htp 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit* can be used for isolating genomic DNA from up to 0.25 grams of soil. Depending on the soil type, it is possible to scale this up to 1 gram. Please review the Additional Information section of this Instruction Manual or contact our technical department for more information. For larger sample sizes, up to 5 grams, try using our single prep PowerMax™ Soil DNA Isolation Kit (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number 12988-10).

Two protocols are included for use with this product. The first protocol involves a combination of vacuum and centrifugation steps. The second protocol uses centrifugation exclusively. This kit requires the use of a specialized plate shaker for the process of shaking beads in deep well plates which aid in cell lysis. We recommend the Retsch plate shaker (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number: 11996).

The PowerSoil™-htp 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation kit provides researchers with a novel and proprietary high throughput method for isolating genomic DNA from environmental samples. The PowerSoil™-htp 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit distinguishes itself from MO BIO Laboratories' UltraClean-htp™ 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit with a **NEW** humic substance/brown color removal procedure that is much more efficient at removing humic substances that inhibit PCR. This new procedure is effective at removing PCR inhibitors for even the most difficult soil types allowing for more successful PCR amplification of DNA from organisms within samples.

Tested sample types include compost, sediment, and manure among many others. Isolated DNA was successfully used as template DNA to amplify members of a wide range of microbial groups in soils. These include bacteria (gram positive, gram negative, and spore formers), actinomycetes, and fungi.

Environmental samples are added to a 96 well bead beating plate for rapid and thorough homogenization. Cell lysis occurs by a combination of mechanical and chemical methods. Humics are removed by a specialized precipitation process. Total genomic DNA is captured on a 96 well silica membrane in a spin column plate format. DNA is then washed and eluted from the membrane. The eluted DNA is ready for PCR analysis and other downstream applications.

NOTE: The estimated time from start to finish, required to process two 96 well plates for this protocol, is approximately 8 hours. Stopping points at appropriate steps are mentioned in the protocol. The majority of the time is for weighing and loading the soil samples into the 96 well plates.

This kit is for research purposes only. Not for diagnostic use.

Technical Information: Toll free 1-800-606-6246, or 1-760-929-9911 Email: technical@mobio.com
Service in Germany: Tel: 040 – 450 67 0 Email: info@dianova.de

***PATENT PENDING**

Version: 06082006

Required Materials:

Centrifuge capable of handling two 96 Well blocks (13 cm x 8 cm x 5.5 cm) at 2500 x g
 Multi-channel Pipettor (volumes of 50 µl - 650 µl)
 Mechanical Shaker for 96 Well Blocks and plate adapters (MO BIO Laboratories catalog numbers: 11996 and 11999)
 Vortex with 3 inch platform
 Ethanol

Optional Material/Equipment:

Reagent reservoirs
 Vacuum pump (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number: 11998)
 Vacuum manifold (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number: 11997)

Kit Contents

Component	Kit Catalog # 12955-4		Kit Catalog # 12955-12	
	Catalog #	Amount	Catalog #	Amount
PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate (w/Square Well Mat)	12955-4-BP	4	12955-12-BP	12
PowerSoil™-htp Bead Solution	12955-4-BS	340 ml	12955-12-BS	1020 ml
PowerSoil™-htp Solution C1	12955-4-1	45 ml	12955-12-1	135 ml
PowerSoil™-htp Solution C2	12955-4-2	128 ml	12955-12-2	385 ml
PowerSoil™-htp Solution C3	12955-4-3	106 ml	12955-12-3	320 ml
PowerSoil™-htp Solution C4	12955-4-4	550 ml	12955-12-4	2 x 825 ml
PowerSoil™-htp Solution C5-D Before first use, Solution C5-D must be prepared. Please see step 1 of protocol.	12955-4-5D	120 ml	12955-12-5D	360 ml
PowerSoil™-htp Solution C6	12955-4-6	66 ml	12955-12-6	200 ml
PowerSoil™-htp Spin Plates	12955-4-SP	4	12955-12-SP	12
PowerSoil™-htp 2 ml Collection Plates	12955-4-2CP	8	12955-12-2CP	24
PowerSoil™-htp 1 ml Collection Plates	12955-4-1CP	16	12955-12-1CP	48
PowerSoil™-htp 0.5 ml Collection Plates	12955-4-0.5CP	4	12955-12-0.5CP	12
PowerSoil™-htp Microplates	12955-4-MP	4	12955-12-MP	12
PowerSoil™-htp Centrifuge Tape	12955-4-CT	24	12955-12-CT	72
PowerSoil™-htp Sealing Tape	12955-4-ST	16	12955-12-ST	48
PowerSoil™-htp Elution Sealing Mats	12955-4-ESM	4	12955-12-ESM	12

Kit Storage

Kit reagents and components should be stored at room temperature (15-30°C). The kit reagents and components can be stored up to 1 year.

Precautions:

Please wear gloves when using this product. Avoid all skin contact with kit reagents. In case of contact, wash thoroughly with water. Do not ingest. See Material Safety Data Sheets for emergency procedures in case of accidental ingestion or contact. All MSDS information is available upon request (760-929-9911) or at www.mobio.com. Reagents labeled flammable should be kept away from open flames and sparks.

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WARNING: Solution C5-D is flammable after addition of ethanol.

Experienced User Combination Vacuum and Centrifugation Protocol

1. **BEFORE THE FIRST USE ONLY, Solution C5-D must be prepared. Add an equal volume of 100% Ethanol to Solution C5-D (for the 4 prep kit = 120 ml, or for the 12 prep kit = 360 ml). Mix well. Put a check mark in the “ethanol added” box on the bottle cap label.**
2. Remove the Square Well Mat from the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate and set aside. Add 0.25 grams of soil sample. **Note:** This is an appropriate stopping point and you can store the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate at 4°C covered with the Square Well Mat.
This is the most time consuming step of the protocol. Care must be taken to avoid cross contamination between sample wells.
3. Add 750µl of PowerSoil™-htp Bead Solution to the wells of the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate.
4. **Check Solution C1.** If Solution C1 has precipitated, heat the solution at 60°C until the precipitate has dissolved. Mix gently before using.
Solution C1 contains SDS. If it gets cold, it will precipitate. Heating at 60°C will dissolve the SDS. Solution C1 can be used while it is still warm.
5. Add 60µl of Solution C1. Secure the Square Well Mat (from step 2) tightly to the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate.
A proper seal of the mat is critical to prevent loss of sample and leakage that might cause damage to your shaker.
6. Place PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate with Square Well Mat securely fastened in the 96 Well Plate Shaker (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number 11996). **Note: The final order of assembly is; Aluminum Plate, Square Well Mat, 96 Well PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate, and second Aluminum Plate.**
7. Shake at speed 20 for 20 minutes. Centrifuge at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g.
8. Remove the Bead Plate from the centrifuge. Carefully and without splashing remove and discard the Square Well Mat and transfer the supernatant to a clean 1ml Collection Plate. **Note:** The supernatant may still contain some soil particles.
9. Add 250µl of Solution C2 to each well and apply Sealing Tape to 1ml Collection Plate. Vortex for 5 seconds and incubate at 4°C for 10 minutes. Centrifuge the 1ml Collection Plate at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g. Remove and discard Sealing Tape.
10. Avoiding the pellet, transfer entire volume of supernatant to a new 1ml Collection Plate.
11. Apply new Sealing Tape to the 1 ml Collection Plate and centrifuge at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g. Transfer entire volume of supernatant to a new 1ml Collection Plate.

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12. Add 200µl of Solution C3 and apply Sealing Tape to the 1 ml Collection Plate. Vortex for 5 seconds and incubate at 4°C for 10 minutes. Centrifuge at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g. Remove and discard Sealing Tape.
13. Avoiding the pellet, transfer entire volume of supernatant to a new 1ml Collection Plate.
14. Apply Sealing Tape to 1 ml Collection Plate. Centrifuge the 1 ml Collection Plate at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g.
15. Transfer no more than **650ml** of supernatant to a 2 ml Collection Plate avoiding any residual pellet.
16. Add 650 µl of Solution C4 to each well of the 2 ml Collection Plate.
17. Add a second 650 µl of Solution C4 to each well of the 2 ml Collection Plate. **Note:** It is safe to stop the protocol at this step and store the samples covered with Sealing Tape, at 4°C.
18. Remove the top portion of the vacuum manifold and place a new 2 ml Collection Plate in the bottom of the vacuum manifold.
19. Replace the top of the manifold and place a Spin Plate on top of the manifold and turn the vacuum pump on.
20. Test that you have a good seal with the manifold and the Spin Plate by gently lifting up on the Spin Plate. You should be able to lift the entire unit without the Spin Plate separating from the manifold.
21. Pipet samples from step 17 “up and down” to mix.
22. Load approximately 650µl into the wells of each row of the Spin Plate until all the samples have been processed. Allow the liquid to pass through the wells.
23. Once the liquid has passed through the wells, continue loading 650µl volumes into the wells of each row of the Spin Plate until the entire volume of each sample is processed. Turn off the vacuum.
24. Remove the Spin Plate from the manifold and set aside, discard the flow through from the 2 ml Collection Plate in the bottom of the manifold and then place the 2 ml Collection Plate back in the manifold.
25. Reassemble the manifold with the Spin Plate back on top of the manifold and turn the vacuum on. Test the seal by lifting gently.
26. **Confirm that ethanol has been added to Solution C5-D (see step 1).** Add 500µl of Solution C5-D to each well of the Spin Plate. After the entire volume of Solution C5-D has passed through the wells of the Spin Plate, turn off the vacuum.
27. Apply Centrifuge Tape to the Spin Plate to cover the wells.



28. Place a 0.5 ml Collection Plate under the Spin Plate. Centrifuge at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x *g*.
29. Carefully place Spin Plate onto a Microplate. Remove Centrifuge Tape and discard.
30. Add 100µl of Solution C6 to the center of each well of the Spin Plate and apply Centrifuge Tape.
31. Centrifuge at room temperature for 5 minutes at 2500 x *g*. Remove Centrifuge Tape and discard.
32. Cover wells of Microplate with the Elution Sealing Mat provided. DNA is now ready for any downstream application. No further steps are required.

Prolonged storage at 4°C will result in the evaporation of eluted DNA. We recommend storing DNA frozen (-20°C or -80°C). Solution C6 does not contain EDTA. To concentrate the DNA see the Additional Information Section.

Thank you for choosing the PowerSoil™-htp 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit.

Detailed Combination Vacuum and Centrifugation Protocol

1. **BEFORE THE FIRST USE ONLY, Solution C5-D must be prepared. Add an equal volume of 100% Ethanol to Solution C5-D (for the 4 prep kit = 120 ml, or for the 12 prep kit = 360 ml). Mix well. Put a check mark in the “ethanol added” box on the bottle cap label.**
2. Remove the Square Well Mat from the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate and set aside. Add 0.25 grams of soil sample. **Note:** This is an appropriate stopping point and you can store the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate at 4°C covered with the Square Well Mat.
This is the most time consuming step of the protocol. Care must be taken to avoid cross contamination between sample wells.
3. Add 750µl of PowerSoil™-htp Bead Solution to the wells of the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate.
The soil sample has now been loaded into the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate. This is the first part of the lysis procedure. The PowerSoil™-htp Bead Solution is a buffer that will disperse the soil particles and begin to dissolve humic acids.
4. **Check Solution C1.** If Solution C1 has precipitated, heat the solution at 60°C until the precipitate has dissolved.
Solution C1 contains SDS. If it gets cold, it will precipitate. Heating at 60°C will dissolve the SDS. Solution C1 can be used while it is still warm.
5. Add 60µl of Solution C1. Secure the Square Well Mat (from step 2) tightly to the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate.
Solution C1 contains SDS. This is a detergent that aids in cell lysis. The detergent breaks down fatty acids and lipids associated with the cell membrane of several organisms.
6. Place PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate with Square Well Mat securely fastened (from step 2), to the 96 Well Plate Shaker (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number 11996). **Note: The final order of assembly is; Aluminum Plate, Square Well Mat, 96 Well PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate, and second Aluminum Plate.**
Mechanical lysis is introduced at this step. The protocol uses a combination of mechanical and chemical lysis. By randomly shaking the beads, they collide with one another and with microbial cells causing them to break open.
7. Shake at speed 20 for 20 minutes. Centrifuge at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g.
Particulates including cell debris, soil, beads, and humic acids, will form a pellet at this point. DNA is in the liquid supernatant.
8. Remove the Bead Plate from the centrifuge. Carefully and without splashing, remove and discard the Square Well Mat and transfer the supernatant to a clean 1 ml Collection Plate. **Note:** The supernatant may still contain some soil particles.

9. Add 250µl of Solution C2 to each well and apply Sealing Tape to 1ml Collection Plate. Vortex for 5 seconds and incubate at 4°C for 10 minutes. Centrifuge the 1ml Collection Plate at room temperature for 30 minutes at 2500 x g. Remove and discard Sealing Tape.
Solution C2 contains a reagent to precipitate non-DNA organic and inorganic material including humic substances, cell debris, and proteins. It is important to remove contaminating organic and inorganic matter that may reduce DNA purity and inhibit downstream DNA applications.
10. Avoiding the pellet, transfer entire volume of supernatant to a new 1ml Collection Plate. Apply Sealing Tape to the 1 ml Collection Plate. Centrifuge the 1 ml Collection Plate at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g. Transfer entire volume of supernatant to another new 1ml Collection Plate.
11. Add 200µl of Solution C3 and apply Sealing Tape to the 1 ml Collection Plate. Vortex for 5 seconds and incubate at 4°C for 10 minutes. Centrifuge at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g. Remove and discard Sealing Tape.
Solution C3 is a second reagent to precipitate additional non-DNA organic and inorganic material including humic substances, cell debris, and proteins. It is important to remove contaminating organic and inorganic matter that may reduce DNA purity and inhibit downstream DNA applications.
12. Avoiding the pellet, transfer entire volume of supernatant to a new 1ml Collection Plate.
The pellet at this point contains residues of humic substances, cell debris, and proteins. For the best DNA yield and quality, avoid transferring any of the pellet.
13. Apply Sealing Tape to the 1 ml Collection Plate. Centrifuge the 1 ml Collection Plate at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g.
14. Transfer no more than **650ml** of supernatant to a 2 ml Collection Plate avoiding any residual pellet.
15. Add 650 µl of Solution C4 to each well of the 2 ml Collection Plate.
Solution C4 is a high concentration salt solution. Since DNA binds tightly to silica at high salt concentrations, this solution will adjust the salt concentration to allow binding of DNA, but not non-DNA organic and inorganic material that may still be present at low levels, to the Spin Plate.
16. Add a second 650 µl of Solution C4 to each well of the 2 ml Collection Plate. **Note:** It is safe to stop the protocol at this step and store the samples covered with Sealing Tape, at 4°C.
17. Remove the top portion of the vacuum manifold and place a new 2 ml Collection Plate in the bottom of the vacuum manifold.
18. Replace the top of the manifold and place a Spin Plate on top of the manifold and turn the vacuum pump on.

19. Test that you have a good seal with the manifold and the Spin Plate by gently lifting up on the Spin Plate. You should be able to lift the entire unit without the Spin Plate separating from the manifold.
20. Pipet samples from step 16 “up and down” to mix.
21. Load approximately 650µl into the wells of each row of the Spin Plate until all the samples have been processed. Allow the liquid to pass through the wells.
22. Once the liquid has passed through the wells continue loading 650µl volumes into the wells of each row of the Spin Plate until the entire volume of each sample is processed. Turn off the vacuum.
DNA is selectively bound to the silica membrane in the Spin Plate device in the high salt solution. Contaminants pass through the filter membrane, leaving only DNA bound to the membrane.
23. Remove the Spin Plate from the manifold and set aside, discard the flow through from the 2 ml Collection Plate in the bottom of the manifold and then place the 2 ml Collection Plate back in the manifold.
24. Reassemble the manifold with the Spin Plate back on top of the manifold and turn the vacuum on. Test the seal by lifting gently.
25. **Confirm that ethanol has been added to Solution C5-D (see step 1).** Add 500µl of Solution C5-D to each well of the Spin Plate. After the entire volume of Solution C5-D has passed through the wells of the Spin Plate, turn off the vacuum.
Solution C5-D is an ethanol based wash solution used to further clean the DNA that is bound to the silica membrane in the Spin Plate. This wash solution removes residues of salt, humic acid, and other contaminants while allowing the DNA to stay bound to the silica membrane. This flow through is just waste containing ethanol wash solution and contaminants that did not bind to the silica Spin Plate membrane.
Note: You can wash more than one time to further clean DNA if desired. In some cases where soils have very high humic acid content, it will be beneficial to repeat this wash step. There is 10% extra Solution C5-D in the bottle for this purpose. Solution C5-D is also sold separately (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number 12955-4-5D & 12955-12-5D).
26. Apply Centrifuge Tape to the Spin Plate to cover the wells.
27. Place a 0.5 ml Collection Plate under the Spin Plate. Centrifuge at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g.
This step removes residual Solution C5-D (ethanol wash solution). It is critical to remove all traces of wash solution because it can interfere with many downstream DNA applications.
28. Carefully place Spin Plate onto a Microplate. Remove Centrifuge Tape and discard.



29. Add 100µl of Solution C6 to the center of each well of the Spin Plate and apply Centrifuge Tape.
Placing the Solution C6 (sterile elution buffer) in the center of the small white membrane will make sure the entire membrane is wetted. This will result in more efficient and complete release of the DNA from the Spin Plate membrane.
30. Centrifuge at room temperature for 5 minutes at 2500 x g. Remove Centrifuge Tape and discard.
As the Solution C6 (elution buffer) passes through the silica membrane, DNA that was bound in the presence of high salt is selectively released by Solution C6 (10 mM Tris pH 8.0) which is a low salt solution.
31. Cover wells of Microplate with the Elution Sealing Mat provided. DNA is now ready for any downstream application. No further steps are required.

Prolonged storage at 4°C will result in the evaporation of eluted DNA. We recommend storing DNA frozen (-20°C or -80°C). Solution C6 does not contain EDTA. To concentrate the DNA see the Additional Information Section.

Thank you for choosing the PowerSoil™-htp 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit.

Experienced User Centrifugation Protocol

1. **BEFORE THE FIRST USE ONLY, Solution C5-D must be prepared. Add an equal amount of 100% Ethanol to Solution C5-D (for the 4 prep kit = 120 ml, or for the 12 prep kit = 360 ml). Mix well. Put a check mark in the “ethanol added” box on the bottle cap label.**
2. Remove the Square Well Mat from the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate and set aside. Add 0.25 grams of soil sample. **Note:** This is an appropriate stopping point and you can store the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate at 4°C covered with the Square Well Mat.
This is the most time consuming step of the protocol. Care must be taken to avoid cross contamination between sample wells.
3. Add 750µl of PowerSoil™-htp Bead Solution to the wells of the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate.
4. **Check Solution C1.** If Solution C1 has precipitated, heat solution at 60°C until the precipitate has dissolved.
Solution C1 contains SDS. If it gets cold, it will precipitate. Heating at 60°C will dissolve the SDS. Solution C1 can be used while it is still warm.
5. Add 60µl of Solution C1. Secure the Square Well Mat (from step 2) tightly to the plate.
6. Place PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate with Mat securely fastened to the 96 Well Plate Shaker (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number 11996). **Note: The final order of assembly is; Aluminum Plate, Square Well Mat, 96 Well PowerSoil™-htp Plate, and second Aluminum Plate.**
7. Shake at speed 20 for 20 minutes. Centrifuge at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g.
8. Remove and discard the Square Well Mat. Transfer the supernatant to a clean 1ml Collection Plate. **Note:** The supernatant may still contain some soil particles.
9. Add 250µl of Solution C2 and apply Sealing Tape to plate. Vortex for 5 seconds and incubate at 4°C for 10 minutes. Centrifuge the plate at room temperature for 30 minutes at 2500 x g. Remove and discard Sealing Tape.
10. Avoiding the pellet, transfer entire volume of supernatant to a new 1ml Collection Plate.
11. Apply Sealing Tape to plate. Centrifuge the plate again at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g. Transfer entire volume of supernatant to another new 1ml Collection Plate.
12. Add 200µl of Solution C3 and apply Sealing Tape to plate. Vortex for 5 seconds and incubate at 4°C for 10 minutes. Centrifuge at room temperature for 10 min at 2500 x g. Remove and discard Sealing Tape.
13. Avoiding the pellet, transfer entire volume of supernatant to a new 1ml Collection Plate.
14. Apply Sealing Tape to plate. Centrifuge the plate again at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g.

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15. Transfer no more than **650ml** of supernatant to a 2 ml Collection Plate avoiding any residual pellet.
16. Add 650 μ l of Solution C4 to each well of the plate.
17. Add a second 650 μ l of Solution C4 to each well of the plate. **Note:** It is safe to stop the protocol at this step and store the samples covered with Sealing Tape at 4°C.
18. Pipet samples “up and down” to mix.
19. Place Spin Plate onto a new 0.5ml Collection Plate.
20. Load approximately 650 μ l into each well of the Spin Plate and apply Centrifuge Tape.
21. Centrifuge at room temperature for 5 minutes at 2500 x g. Discard the flow through and place the Spin Plate back on the same 0.5 ml Collection Plate. Discard the Centrifuge Tape.
22. Repeat steps 20-21 until all the supernatant has been processed. Discard the final flow through.
23. Place the Spin Plate back on the same 0.5 ml Collection Plate.
24. **Confirm that ethanol has been added to Solution C5-D (see step 1).** Add 500 μ l of Solution C5-D to each well of the Spin Plate. Apply Centrifuge Tape to the Spin Plate.
25. Centrifuge at room temperature for 5 minutes at 2500 x g. Discard the flow through and place the same 0.5 ml Collection Plate beneath the Spin Plate.
26. Centrifuge again at room temperature for 5 minutes at 2500 x g. Discard the flow through.
27. Carefully place the Spin Plate onto a Microplate. Remove Centrifuge Tape and discard.
28. Add 100 μ l of Solution C6 to the center of each well of the Spin Plate. Apply Centrifuge Tape.
29. Centrifuge at room temperature for 5 minutes at 2500 x g. Remove Centrifuge Tape and discard.
30. Cover wells of Microplate with the Elution Sealing Mat provided. DNA is now ready for any downstream application. No further steps are required.

Prolonged storage at 4°C will result in the evaporation of eluted DNA. We recommend storing DNA frozen (-20°C or -80°C). Solution C6 does not contain EDTA. To concentrate the DNA see the Additional Information Section.

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Detailed User Centrifugation Protocol

1. **BEFORE THE FIRST USE ONLY, Solution C5-D must be prepared. Add an equal amount of 100% Ethanol to Solution C5-D (for the 4 prep kit = 120 ml, or for the 12 prep kit = 360 ml). Mix well. Put a check mark in the “ethanol added” box on the bottle cap label.**
2. Remove the Square Well Mat from the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate and set aside. Add 0.25 grams of soil sample. **Note:** This is an appropriate stopping point and you can store the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate at 4°C covered with the Square Well Mat.
This is the most time consuming step of the protocol. Care must be taken to avoid cross contamination between sample wells.
3. Add 750µl of PowerSoil™-htp Bead Solution to the wells of the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate.
The soil sample has now been loaded into the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate. This is the first part of the lysis procedure. The PowerSoil™-htp Bead Solution is a buffer that will disperse the soil particles and begin to dissolve humic acids.
4. **Check Solution C1.** If Solution C1 has precipitated, heat solution at 60°C until precipitate has dissolved.
Solution C1 contains SDS. If it gets cold, it will precipitate. Heating at 60°C will dissolve the SDS. Solution C1 can be used while it is still warm.
5. Add 60µl of Solution C1. Secure the Square Well Mat (from step 2) tightly to the plate.
Solution C1 contains SDS. This is a detergent that aids in cell lysis. The detergent breaks down fatty acids and lipids associated with the cell membrane of several organisms.
6. Place PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate with Mat securely fastened, to the 96 Well Plate Shaker (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number 11996). **Note: The final order of assembly is; Aluminum Plate, Square Well Mat, 96 Well PowerSoil™-htp Plate, and second Aluminum Plate.**
Mechanical lysis is introduced at this step. The protocol uses a combination of mechanical and chemical lysis. By randomly shaking the beads, they collide with one another and with microbial cells causing them to break open.
7. Shake at speed 20 for 20 minutes. Centrifuge at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g.
Particulates including cell debris, soil, beads, and humic acids, will form a pellet at this point. DNA is in the liquid supernatant.
8. Remove and discard the Square Well Mat. Transfer the supernatant to a clean 1ml Collection Plate. **Note:** The supernatant may still contain some soil particles.

9. Add 250µl of Solution C2 and apply Sealing Tape to plate. Vortex for 5 seconds and incubate at 4°C for 10 minutes. Centrifuge the plate at room temperature for 30 minutes at 2500 x g. Remove and discard Sealing Tape.
Solution C2 contains a reagent to precipitate non-DNA organic and inorganic material including humic substances, cell debris, and proteins. It is important to remove contaminating organic and inorganic matter that may reduce DNA purity and inhibit downstream DNA applications.
10. Avoiding the pellet, transfer entire volume of supernatant to a new 1ml Collection Plate.
11. Apply Sealing Tape to plate. Centrifuge the plate again at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g. Transfer entire volume of supernatant to another new 1ml Collection Plate.
12. Add 200µl of Solution C3 and apply Sealing Tape to plate. Vortex for 5 seconds and incubate at 4°C for 10 minutes. Centrifuge at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g. Remove and discard Sealing Tape.
Solution C3 is a second reagent to precipitate additional non-DNA organic and inorganic material including humic substances, cell debris, and proteins. It is important to remove contaminating organic and inorganic matter that may reduce DNA purity and inhibit downstream DNA applications.
13. Avoiding the pellet, transfer entire volume of supernatant to a new 1ml Collection Plate.
The pellet at this point contains residues of humic substances, cell debris, and proteins. For best DNA yield and quality, avoid transferring any of the pellet.
14. Apply Sealing Tape to plate. Centrifuge the plate again at room temperature for 10 minutes at 2500 x g.
15. Transfer no more than **650ml** of supernatant to a 2 ml Collection Plate avoiding any residual pellet.
16. Add 650 µl of Solution C4 to each well of the plate. *Solution C4 is a high concentration salt solution. Since DNA binds tightly to silica at high salt concentrations, this solution will adjust the salt concentrations to allow binding of DNA, but not non-DNA organic and inorganic material that may still be present at low levels, to the Spin Plate.*
17. Add a second 650 µl of Solution C4 to each well of the plate. **Note:** It is safe to stop the protocol at this step and store the samples covered with Sealing Tape, at 4°C.
18. Pipet samples “up and down” to mix.
19. Place Spin Plate onto a new 0.5ml Collection Plate.
20. Load approximately 650µl into each well of the Spin Plate and apply Centrifuge Tape.
21. Centrifuge at room temperature for 5 minutes at 2500 x g. Discard the flow through and place the Spin Plate back on the same 0.5 ml Collection Plate. Discard the Centrifuge Tape.
22. Repeat steps 20-21 until all the supernatant has been processed. Discard the final flow through.

DNA is selectively bound to the silica membrane in the Spin Plate device in the high salt solution.

Contaminants pass through the filter membrane, leaving only DNA bound to the membrane.

23. Place the Spin Plate back on the same 0.5 ml Collection Plate.

24. **Confirm that ethanol has been added to Solution C5-D (see step 1).** Add 500µl of Solution C5-D to each well of the Spin Plate. Apply Centrifuge Tape to the Spin Plate.

Solution C5-D is an ethanol based wash solution used to further clean the DNA that is bound to the silica membrane in the Spin Plate. This wash solution removes residues of salt, humic acid, and other contaminants while allowing the DNA to stay bound to the silica membrane. This flow through is just waste containing ethanol wash solution and contaminants that did not bind to the silica Spin Plate membrane.

Note: *You can wash more than one time to further clean DNA if desired. In some cases where soils have very high humic acid content, it will be beneficial to repeat this wash step. There is 10% extra Solution C5-D in the bottle for this purpose. Solution C5-D is also sold separately (MO BIO Laboratories catalog numbers 12955-4-5D & 12955-12-5D).*

25. Centrifuge at room temperature for 5 minutes at 2500 x g. Discard the flow through and place the same 0.5 ml Collection Plate beneath the Spin Plate.

This step removes residual Solution C5-D (ethanol wash solution). It is critical to remove all traces of wash solution because it can interfere with downstream DNA applications.

26. Centrifuge again at room temperature for 5 minutes at 2500 x g. Discard the flow through.

Once again it is important to avoid any traces of the ethanol based wash solution.

27. Carefully place the Spin Plate onto a Microplate. Remove Centrifuge Tape and discard.

28. Add 100µl of Solution C6 to the center of each well of the Spin Plate and apply Centrifuge Tape.

Placing the Solution C6 (sterile elution buffer) in the center of the small white membrane will make sure the entire membrane is wetted. This will result in more efficient and complete release of the DNA from the silica Spin Plate membrane.

29. Centrifuge at room temperature for 5 minutes at 2500 x g. Remove Centrifuge Tape and discard.

As the Solution C6 (elution buffer) passes through the silica membrane, DNA that was bound in the presence of high salt is selectively released by Solution C6 (10 mM Tris pH 8.0) which is a low salt solution.

30. Cover wells of Microplate with the Elution Sealing Mat provided. DNA is now ready for any downstream application. No further steps are required.

Prolonged storage at 4°C will result in the evaporation of eluted DNA. We recommend storing DNA frozen (-20°C or -80°C). Solution C6 does not contain EDTA. To concentrate the DNA see the Additional Information Section.

Thank you for choosing the PowerSoil™-htp 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit.

Additional Information

Amount of Soil to Process

This kit is designed to process 0.25 to 1 gram of soil. Typically, 0.25 grams of soil sample is recommended with this protocol. It is possible to use up to 1 g of soil sample based on the soil type and moisture content. For example, dry sandy soil will not absorb moisture and thus it is possible to use up to 1 g. On the other hand, a dry clayey soil or a potting soil will absorb moisture and thus amounts should be restricted to 0.25 g for maximizing DNA isolation efficiency. For wet soils, see information under “Wet Soil Sample” below.

Soil type	Recommended maximum to process
Dry sandy soil	1 gm
Dry clay	0.25 gm
Wet clay	0.25 gm
Potting soil	0.1 gm
Sediment	0.25 gm
Loam	0.25 gm
Peat moss	0.1 gm
Rich farm soil	0.5 gm
Amended soil	0.150 gm
Compost samples	0.1 gm

For larger sample sizes, up to 5 grams, try using our single prep PowerMax™ Soil DNA Isolation Kit (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number 12988-10).

Wet Soil Sample

If soil sample is high in water content, make the sample into a slurry and then weigh the slurry and dispense into the wells. It is suggested to restrict the starting amount to 0.25 g or less. Increasing the amount used will increase the amount of water and the volumes in the subsequent steps.

Cells are Difficult to Lyse

When working with organisms that are proven to be difficult to lyse using mechanical or chemical methods, a 10 minute incubation at 70°C, after adding Solution C1, can be performed. Continue by proceeding with the mechanical lysis step using the 96 Well Plate Shaker.

Preparation Methods for Processing Samples (*Conventional Freezing*)

Add the samples to the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate and maintain at either -70°C or at -20°C until the samples are completely frozen. Immediately float the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate in a 65°C water bath. Repeat the freeze-thaw a second time and proceed with the addition of Solution C1.

Optional: After the second freeze-thaw, Solution C1 can be added along with Proteinase-K (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number 1222-2) to improve the lysis efficiency of the kit.

Vacuum hints

If a vacuum step seems to be taking a longer time, turn off the vacuum source and lift the filter plate off the vacuum to release any back pressure. Replace the filter plate and turn the vacuum source back on.

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Be sure there are no air leaks around the plate. If slow vacuum continues, you can centrifuge the filter plate as an alternative. Be sure any unused wells are covered with the Sealing Tape provided.

Additional Information (cont'd)

If DNA does not PCR amplify

- Check DNA yield by gel electrophoresis and spectrophotometer reading. Template is typically added to 10 ng per reaction, although more or less may be needed depending on the reaction conditions, enzyme activity, and copy number of the target sequence.
- If DNA does not amplify after altering the amount of template in the reaction, PCR optimization (i.e. changing reaction conditions, validating primers, or testing a different polymerase) should be attempted.

Eluted DNA Sample has Color

If you are working with a soil sample that has an extremely high humic acid content, there is the unlikely possibility that your eluted solution may contain some color. If this occurs, add two to three washes of Solution C5-D. If you are still encountering coloring, please contact MO BIO Laboratories, Inc. for technical assistance.

DNA floats out of well when loaded on a gel

This usually occurs because some residual Solution C5-D remains in the final sample. Prevent this by being careful not to transfer liquid onto the bottom of the spin plate. Ethanol precipitation (described in "Concentrating the DNA") is the best way to remove residual Solution C5-D.

Concentrating the DNA

The final volume of eluted DNA will be 100µl. The DNA may be concentrated by adding 10µl of 5M NaCl and inverting 3-5 times to mix. Next, add 200µl of 100% cold ethanol and invert 3-5 times to mix. Centrifuge at 10,000 x g for 15 minutes. Incubation at -20°C for 30 minutes will help in precipitating the DNA. Decant all liquid. (If sterile DNA is desired, wash the DNA pellet with 70% cold ethanol. Be sure not to disturb the pellet.) Remove residual ethanol in a speed vac, dessicator, or ambient air. Resuspend precipitated DNA in sterile water or sterile 10 mM Tris.

Note: This procedure must be done individually after transferring the eluted sample to a microcentrifuge tube.

Storing DNA

DNA is eluted in Solution C6 (10mM Tris). Store the DNA at -20°C to prevent degradation. DNA can be eluted in TE without DNA loss, but the EDTA may inhibit downstream reactions such as PCR and automated sequencing. DNA may also be eluted with sterile DNA-Free PCR Grade Water (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number 17000-10). DNA that has been eluted into sterile water should be stored at -70°C. Prolonged storage in the Microplates at 4°C will result in the loss of liquid due to evaporation.

Additional Applications and References

Root tips/Mycorrhizae

Microbial colonization of root tips and microbial growth penetrating the root tips, are both common phenomenon occurring in many plant species. For optimal processing of these samples, please follow the suggested sample processing method above. Transfer the powdered mass into the PowerSoil™-htp Bead Plate supplied with this kit and proceed with the soil protocol. This procedure ensures that organisms colonizing the root tips, both externally and internally, are released for efficient lysis.

Reference

De Souza, F.A., G.A. Kowalchuk, P. Leeflang, J.A. van Veen, and E. Smit. 2004. PCR-Denaturing Gradient Gel Electrophoresis Profiling of Inter- and Intraspecies 18s rRNA Gene Sequence heterogeneity is an Accurate and Sensitive method to Assess Species Diversity of Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi of the Genus *Gigaspora*. Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 70 (3): 1413-1424.

Microbial Mats and Biofilms

Microbial mats and biofilms are a common occurrence in many natural environments. The mats or biofilms provide protection for the microbial community that is growing within the biofilms; direct lysis of the microbial cells within this protected community is inefficient. Depending on the size or amount of the mat, the PowerSoil™-htp 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit can be efficiently used with slight modifications. For optimal processing of these samples, follow any of the suggested sample processing methods above. Depending on the type of microbial mat, a Proteinase-K digestion (20 mg/ml solution-15 µl/sample, MO BIO Laboratories catalog number 1222-2) is recommended. Add Solution C1 followed by the addition of an appropriate amount of Proteinase-K and incubate the samples at 40 - 50°C for 30 minutes. This step can be combined with the final thaw step in the freeze-thaw cycles mentioned above.

Fungal Mats

The PowerSoil™-htp 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit is suitable for isolating DNA from fungi grown in pure culture. Harvesting a freshly grown culture is suggested because the growing hyphal tips of the fungal mat are a rich source of DNA. This is accomplished by harvesting the fungal mat using cheesecloth; this will separate single cell organisms from the fungal mat. After filtering, transfer an appropriate amount of the retained moist fungal mat into the PowerSoil™ Plate. To improve the lysing efficiency of this kit, the application of the above mentioned freezing technique is suggested.

Spores (bacterial and fungal) in soils

Fungal spores are tougher than bacterial spores because of their high polysaccharide content. Follow the freeze-thaw protocol detailed in the Microbial Mats and Biofilms section. Use of Proteinase-K digestion on the crushed spores will aid in improving the lysis efficiency of the protocol. Please follow any of the suggested sample processing methods above to help in weakening the spore coats and thus improve the DNA extraction efficiency. When dealing with spores harvested from pure cultures, please use the UltraClean™ Microbial DNA Kit (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number 12224-50).



Additional Applications and References (cont'd)

Fecal samples and Cattle Manure

The PowerSoil™-htp 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit can be used without significant modifications on a wide variety of fecal materials.

References

1. Clement, B.G., and C.L. Kitts. 2000. Isolating PCR Quality DNA from Human Feces with a Soil DNA Kit. *Biotechniques* 28(4): 640-644.
2. Ibekwe, A.M., P. Watt, C. Grieve, V. Sharma, and S. Lyons. 2002. Multiplex Fluoregenic Real-Time PCR for Detection and Quantification of Escherichia coli O157:H7 in Dairy Wastewater Wetlands. *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* 68(10): 4853-4862.
3. Ibekwe, A.M., C.M. Grieve, and S.R. Lyon. 2003. Characterization of Microbial Communities and Composition in Constructed Dairy Wetland Wastewater Effluent. *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* 69(9): 5060-5069.
4. Trochimchuk, T., J. Fotheringham, E. Topp, H. Schraft, and K.T. Leung. 2003. A comparison of DNA extraction and purification methods to detect Escherichia coli O157:H7 in cattle manure. *J. Microbiol. Methods* 54: 165-175.

Rumen Samples

The PowerSoil™-htp 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit can be used to extract PCR-quality DNA from rumen samples as described in the reference below. Rumen has an actively metabolizing microbial community; unfortunately it is also rich in phenolic compounds and polysaccharides. These contaminants often inhibit downstream molecular analyses. Using the MO BIO Laboratories UltraClean™ Soil DNA Isolation kit or PowerSoil™ DNA Isolation Kit, with the modifications in the publication below, will result in application ready DNA.

Reference

Mackie, R.I., R.I. Aminov, W. Hu, A.V. Klieve, D. Ouwerkerk, M.A. Sundest, and Y. Kamagata. 2003. Ecology of Uncultivated *Oscillospira* Species in the Rumen of Cattle, Sheep and Reindeer as Assessed by Microscopy and Molecular Approaches. *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* 69(11): 6808-6815.

Insects

The UltraClean™ Tissue DNA Kit, (MO BIO Laboratories catalog number 12334-50), is recommended for this type of starting material.

Coral Reef

The PowerSoil™-htp^M 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit is also suitable for isolating PCR-quality DNA from microbial communities living within Coral reef samples. Briefly, 1.3 cm diameter core samples were drilled from coral reefs and the microorganisms were washed off the cores in 10X TE buffer. Both the slurry and pelleted microbial cells were directly used to extract microbial DNA using the UltraClean Soil DNA Isolation Kit. The methodology employed is described in more detail in the following reference.

Reference

Rohwer, F., M. Breitbart, J. Jara, F. Azam, and N. Knowlton. 2001. Diversity of bacteria associated with the Caribbean coral *Montastraea franksi*. *Coral Reefs* 20: 85-91.

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Note: Kit components have been used with the sample types listed above. This 96 Well version of the kit has been developed based on the success of the single prep kit.

Other quality products available from MO BIO Laboratories, Inc.

<u>Kit Description</u>	<u>Catalog Number</u>
DNA Isolation Kits	
PowerSoil™ DNA Isolation Kit (10 preps)	12988-10
PowerMax™ Soil DNA Isolation Kit (50 preps)	12888-50
UltraClean™ Fecal DNA Isolation Kit (50 preps)	12811-50
UltraClean™ Microbial DNA Isolation Kit (50 preps)	12224-50
RNA Isolation Kits	
RNA PowerSoil™ Total RNA Isolation Kit (25 preps)	12866-25
UltraClean™ Microbial RNA Isolation Kit (50 preps)	15800-50
DNA Purification Kits	
UltraClean™ 15 DNA Purification Kit (300 preps)	12100-300
UltraClean™ GelSpin™ DNA Purification Kit (100 preps)	12400-100
UltraClean™ PCR Clean-Up™ Kit (100 preps)	12500-100

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