



IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit

Cat No. IB-MPDNA-384

System: 96 Silica spin plates (semi automatic workflow)

Sample types: Leafy tissues, woody and fibrous tissue, herbaceous tissue, seed grains and fruits.

USER MANUAL

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1. KIT CONTENTS

The IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit provides all the necessary components for the efficient isolation of high-quality DNA from a variety of plant tissues. This kit is specifically designed to handle tough plant materials, ensuring optimal DNA yield and purity for sophisticated downstream applications such as genotyping, cloning, and sequencing. Below, we detail each component of the kit, explaining their function, required volumes, and storage instructions to guide users through the preparation and execution of their DNA isolation workflow.

1.1 Kit components

Component	Description/Function	Volume per Sample	Short Term Storage	Long Term Storage	Total for 384 Samples
Lysis Buffer	Initiates cell disruption, releasing DNA from plant tissues	600 µL	Room temperature	Room temperature	230 mL
Binding Buffer	Facilitates DNA binding to the silica matrix in columns	240 µL	Room temperature	Room temperature	92 mL
Wash Buffer A	Removes impurities and contaminants from DNA	300 µL	Room temperature	Room temperature	115 mL
Wash Buffer B	Further cleanses DNA, improving purity	600 µL	Room temperature	Room temperature	230 mL
80 % ethanol	User supplied: Final wash step to ensure high DNA purity	600 µL	Room temperature	Room temperature	230 mL
Elution Buffer	Elutes purified DNA from the silica matrix	50 µL	Room temperature	4-8°C	20 mL
Spin Plates	For DNA binding, washing, and elution	-	Sealed in ziplock	4-8°C	9x96 well spin plates
Deep well plates	Used to collect flow through waste	-	Room temperature	Room temperature	4 collection plates
Proteinase K	Used to digest proteins and enhance acid yield and purity	5 µL	Room temperature	4-8°C	2 mL
Booster	Enhances the efficiency of DNA binding to the silica plate, improving yield	5 µL	Room temperature	Room temperature	2 mL



Buffers contain skin irritants



Wear gloves

1.2 IMPORTANT NOTES

Before beginning your work with the IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Extraction Kit, please take a moment to review these important notes. Adhering to these guidelines will ensure optimal results and efficiency throughout your DNA extraction process.

Sample Preparation: Proper sample preparation is crucial for the IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit to function effectively, particularly when dealing with tough plant tissues such as those high in secondary metabolites. It is vital to ensure that samples are homogenised thoroughly to achieve uniformity. This consistency is key to avoiding variability in DNA yield and quality. For tough samples, pre-treatment with a mechanical disruptor or using liquid nitrogen to grind the tissues can enhance lysis efficiency, leading to better DNA recovery. The kit recommends using a Tissue Lyser or a similar device, which mechanically breaks down the plant tissue into fine powder. Using a steel bead, the plant material is vigorously shaken in a Safe Lock tube to ensure even and thorough disruption.

Reagent Preparation: Before commencing your extractions, it is essential to prepare all reagents according to the kit instructions. Some buffers, especially lysis and wash buffers, may show precipitate formation due to cold storage or shipping conditions. If precipitation is observed, gently warm the buffers to dissolve the precipitates completely, ensuring the buffer returns to room temperature before use. This ensures that all chemical components are fully active for optimal performance during the DNA extraction process.

Centrifugation: Centrifugation steps in the DNA extraction protocol are critical for separating cellular components and ensuring that the DNA binds properly to the silica matrix within the spin plates. Use the correct speeds and durations as specified in the manual. Incorrect centrifugation speeds can lead to less efficient separation of phases, potentially contaminating your DNA samples or resulting in lower yields.

Spin Plate Capacity: The spin plates included in the IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit are designed to handle specific volumes efficiently. Overloading these columns can result in decreased DNA purity and yield as the excess material may not thoroughly bind or may carry over impurities. Follow the recommended sample volume guidelines to ensure optimal purification and avoid processing sample volumes that exceed the capacity of the spin plates.

Elution Efficiency: The volume of elution buffer can be adjusted based on the desired concentration of DNA. Lowering the volume will increase the concentration but may decrease the purity. It is essential to balance these factors based on the requirements of subsequent applications. For critical applications, a smaller volume may be preferable to ensure higher DNA concentrations, even if the purity is lower.

Storage and Handling: Proper storage of kit components is paramount to maintain their effectiveness. Most buffers are stable at room temperature, please check Table 1.1 Kit components.

Technical Support: Gene Vantage is committed to supporting our users in achieving the best possible results with our products. Should you encounter any difficulties or have questions about the

IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit, our technical support team is readily available to provide expert advice and troubleshooting tips.

1.3 SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Ensure the safety of all laboratory personnel by adhering to standard laboratory practices when using the IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit.

When working with chemicals, always wear a suitable lab coat, disposable gloves, and protective goggles. Guanidine salts can form highly reactive compounds when combined with bleach. If liquid containing these buffers is spilt, clean with suitable laboratory detergent and water. If the spilt liquid contains potentially infectious agents, clean the affected area first with laboratory detergent and water, and then with 1% (v/v) sodium hypochlorite.

Treat all samples as potentially infectious material. Following the universal precautions for handling biological materials will help protect not only the individual conducting the experiment but also the wider laboratory environment.

Dispose of all waste materials according to your institution's safety guidelines and regulations. This includes the proper disposal of used reagents, consumables, and biological waste to mitigate any potential hazards.

CAUTION: DO NOT add bleach or acidic solutions directly to the sample preparation waste.

2. KIT SPECIFICATIONS

2.1 Basic Principle

The IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit utilizes a streamlined and robust protocol for extracting high-quality DNA from various plant tissues. Here is a breakdown of the fundamental principles:

Mechanical Disruption: For tough samples, pre-treatment with a mechanical disruptor or using liquid nitrogen to grind the tissues can enhance lysis efficiency, leading to better DNA recovery. (See section 1: 'Important notes - Sample preparation' for more details).

Chemical Lysis: After mechanical disruption, the cell contents are further processed using a chemical lysis buffer. This buffer contains a mixture of compounds formulated to lyse cells, solubilise cellular membranes, and release nucleic acids into the solution. It is important to ensure that the lysis buffer is well-mixed with the sample tissue. If necessary, the lysis buffer can be supplemented with reducing agents like BME or DTT to prevent the degradation of DNA by disrupting disulphide bonds in proteins, which can contribute to increased yield and purity.

Centrifugation/Binding: Centrifuge to separate cellular components, aiding in the purification and recovery of the DNA. A binding is used to selectively bind the DNA to the silica membrane within the provided spin plates. The efficiency of this binding step is critical, as it determines both the purity and the overall yield of the DNA.

Washing Steps: To ensure that the DNA is free of any contaminants, multiple washing steps are included. Each wash buffer is specifically formulated to remove remaining impurities such as proteins, salts, and other inhibitors from the bound DNA.

Elution: The final step involves the elution of DNA from the silica membrane using an elution buffer. The elution buffer should be pre-heated to enhance the efficiency of this process, ensuring maximum recovery of DNA.

2.2 Key Features

The IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit is meticulously designed to cater to the specific needs of researchers working with a variety of plant tissues, particularly those that are challenging due to high levels of secondary metabolites or tough cellular structures. Here are the key features of the kit, each contributing to its robustness, and efficiency:

Efficiency: The IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit streamlines the DNA extraction process by reducing the number of steps and minimising the hands-on time required. The kit includes highly effective lysis and binding buffers that quickly release and bind DNA, cutting down overall processing time. This efficiency is crucial for researchers handling large sample volumes or those under time constraints, providing a fast turnaround without sacrificing the quality of the DNA.

Robustness: Designed to deliver consistent results, the kit performs reliably across a range of environmental conditions and sample quality. The robust formulation of the buffers and optimised protocols ensure that the kit can handle variations in sample quality and still produce high yields of pure DNA. This robustness makes the IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit a dependable choice for critical research applications where reproducibility is key.

Compatibility with Downstream Applications: The purity of DNA extracted using the IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit supports its use in sensitive downstream applications such as qPCR, and Sequencing. The high-quality DNA ensures that it can be directly used in these applications without further purification, facilitating seamless integration into various molecular biology workflows.

Semi-Automated Processing Compatibility: Unique to the maxi kit, it includes the option for semi-automated processing using a vacuum manifold. This feature is particularly beneficial in settings where multiple samples are processed simultaneously, reducing manual handling and potential errors, and enhancing throughput efficiency.

2.3 REQUIRED HARDWARE AND CONSUMABLES

To fully leverage the capabilities of the IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit and ensure optimal performance, researchers need to equip their laboratories with specific hardware that facilitates each step of the DNA extraction process. Here's a detailed rundown of the equipment required for using this kit:

- Tissue Lyser or Equivalent Mechanical Disruptor: Effective DNA extraction begins with thorough tissue disruption. A TissueLyser or similar mechanical disruptor is essential for breaking down tough plant cell walls, which is particularly critical for fibrous or woody samples. This equipment uses high-speed shaking with beads or steel balls to pulverize the plant material, ensuring that the cellular contents are fully accessible for subsequent chemical lysis.
- Centrifuge OR vacuum manifold:
 - A reliable centrifuge capable of reaching at least 4000 rpm is crucial for the separation phases of the DNA extraction process. This equipment is used for spinning down the lysate to separate the soluble DNA from the cellular debris and again to remove the wash buffers during the purification steps.

- A vacuum manifold is used to facilitate the simultaneous processing of multiple samples. This equipment helps in applying a consistent vacuum to the spin columns, speeding up the flow-through of buffers and enhancing the efficiency of the washing and elution steps.
- Vortex Mixer: To ensure that reagents are thoroughly mixed with the plant lysates, a vortex mixer is necessary. Proper mixing is critical for the effectiveness of the lysis and binding, as it ensures that the reagents come into complete contact with all components of the sample.
- Heating Device (Oven or Incubator): An accurate heating device capable of maintaining a stable temperature of 60°C is required for the lysis step. Consistent and precise heating is necessary to ensure optimal conditions for the chemical lysis of plant tissues, which aids in the effective release of DNA.
- Pipettes and Tips: Accurate pipetting is crucial for adding precise volumes of buffers and reagents during the DNA extraction process. A set of good-quality pipettes and compatible tips is necessary to handle volumes ranging from micrometers for enzyme additions to millilitres for buffer transfers.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Safety is paramount in any laboratory setting. Appropriate PPE, including gloves, lab coats, and safety goggles, should be used when handling chemicals and biological samples to protect against potential hazards.

2.4 QUICK VIEW PROTOCOL

Detailed procedural steps, based on the provided reference document, are outlined as follows:

1. **Crushing:** Load 10-20 mg of dry plant tissue into a Safe Lock tube with a 5 mm steel bead; crush into fine powder using a Tissue Lyser, Genogrinder or alternative grinding device.
2. **Lysis:** Check lysis buffer for precipitants, heat to dissolve if needed. Add 600 µl Lysis Buffer to each ground sample & pipette to mix. Add reducing agent (BME or DTT) and Proteinase K. Transfer to oven for 30 minutes @ 60°C.
3. **Centrifugation and Binding:** Centrifuge for 4 min @ 4000 rpm in plate centrifuge and transfer cleared lysate to new deep well plate. Add 5 µL Booster per sample and 0.7 volumes of Binding buffer per sample. Thoroughly pipette to mix, incubate for 5 minutes on bench. Load into spin plate, stack spin plate on top of waste plate, spin @ 4000 rpm and discard flow through.
4. **Washing:** Stack spin plate on top of waste plate, add 300 µl Wash A per sample, incubate for 1 minute, spin for 4 min. @ 4000 rpm in plate centrifuge. Discard waste liquid from plate and re-stack. Repeat for Wash B and Wash C. Spin for final time to dry silica membrane.
5. **Elution:** Stack spin plate onto of a collection plate, add 50 µl of pre-heated Elution Buffer, incubate for 5 minutes at room temp. Spin for 4 min. @ 4000 rpm in plate centrifuge to retrieve DNA. Store your DNA or move to downstream assay,

2.5 Quick view of kit specifications

Parameter	Specification
Format	96 well spin plates
Sample Material	Leaf, root, seeds, stems, fruit
Typical Yield	Up to 30 µg
Purity (A260/A280)	1.8 – 2.0
Elution Volume	50 µL
Preparation Time	Approx. 2 hours
Binding Capacity	30 µg

2.6 Workflow tips

To maximise the effectiveness and reliability of the IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit, it is crucial to consider additional aspects of the extraction process that impact both the quality of the DNA obtained and the user's experience. These additional suggestions provide guidance on sample quality and preparation, elution efficiency, and quality control measures:

2.6.1 COLLECTION AND STORAGE OF STARTING MATERIAL

Proper collection and storage of plant material are crucial for preserving the integrity and quality of DNA in preparation for extraction with the IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit. Here are detailed guidelines to ensure optimal conditions:

- **Immediate Processing:** If processing can be done immediately after collection, store the plant samples at 4°C to slow down enzymatic activities and microbial growth that can degrade DNA. This is particularly important for leafy or herbaceous tissues which can quickly deteriorate.
- **Long-Term Storage:** For samples that cannot be processed right away:
 - **Freezing:** Flash-freeze samples in liquid nitrogen and store at -80°C. This method is ideal for most plant tissues as it rapidly halts cellular processes and preserves DNA integrity.
 - **Drying:** For field samples where freezing is not feasible, air-dry samples quickly or use silica gel to remove moisture effectively. Once dried, store the samples in airtight containers at room temperature. This method is suitable for seeds, woody stems, and leaves but may not be ideal for succulent tissues.

- **Handling Light-Sensitive Samples:** Some plant tissues, especially those rich in light-sensitive compounds, should be protected from light to prevent degradation of DNA. Wrap samples in aluminum foil or use opaque containers for storage.
- **Minimising Contamination:** Use sterile tools for sample collection and avoid touching the tissues with bare hands. Cross-contamination can introduce extraneous DNA or degrade the sample quality.
- **Repeated Freeze-Thaw Cycles:** Avoid multiple freeze-thaw cycles as this can lead to DNA fragmentation. If multiple uses from a single sample are anticipated, aliquot the samples into smaller portions before freezing.
- **Special Considerations for Diseased or Infected Tissues:** Extra care should be taken with diseased or pathogen-infected plant materials. Such tissues may contain higher levels of secondary metabolites that can inhibit downstream processes. Consider using additional purification steps or specialised lysis conditions to accommodate these samples.

These storage guidelines are designed to maintain the quality of your plant samples from the field to the lab, ensuring that the DNA remains stable and intact for extraction. Proper handling and storage conditions are pivotal in obtaining high-quality DNA suitable for sensitive molecular biology applications

2.6.2 SAMPLES SIZE CONSIDERATIONS

Adjusting the sample size and corresponding buffer volumes is critical for achieving optimal DNA extraction results with the IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit. Here are detailed guidelines to help ensure efficiency and effectiveness:

- **Optimal Sample Size:** For most plant tissues, a sample size of 10-20 mg of dry weight is recommended. This range is optimal for balancing the efficiency of DNA yield and the capacity of the spin columns used in the kit. If the tissue is particularly dense or fibrous, such as bark or woody stems, err towards the higher end of this range.
- **Scaling Buffer Volumes:** The volume of each buffer should be adjusted proportionally based on the sample size to ensure complete lysis, optimal binding, and effective washing. For example, if increasing the sample size to 40 mg, double the volume of lysis buffer from 600 μ L to 1200 μ L. This ensures that the cellular material is sufficiently solubilised to release the DNA.
- **Processing Multiple Small Samples:** When dealing with smaller samples, such as seeds or tiny leaves, it may be practical to pool multiple samples to reach the optimal sample size. Ensure that the combined weight adheres to the kit's recommended range for efficient processing.
- **Large Sample Processing:** For samples exceeding the standard size, it may be necessary to process the material in multiple batches or adjust the protocol to accommodate larger volumes. This includes scaling up the volumes of all reagents and possibly using larger spin columns or multiple centrifugation steps to handle the increased volume.

- **Sample Homogeneity:** Ensure that the sample is homogenised to a consistent, fine powder to maximise the surface area exposed to lysis buffers. This is crucial for uniform lysis and can significantly impact the yield and purity of the extracted DNA.
- **Considerations for Low Biomass Samples:** In cases where the available biomass is very low, such as with fine rootlets or pollen, special care must be taken to minimise loss during handling and transfer. Use of low-retention pipette tips and tubes can help reduce sample loss.
- **Adjusting for High Metabolite Content:** Some plant tissues contain high levels of secondary metabolites or other substances that can interfere with DNA extraction. In these cases, consider increasing the volume of lysis buffer or adding specific additives to the buffer that can help inactivate these compounds. Please contact technical support for alternative buffers.
- **Elution Efficiency:** The elution step is critical for recovering the purified DNA from the silica matrix. For optimal results, ensure that the elution buffer is pre-heated, as warmer temperatures can help release the DNA more effectively. The volume of the elution buffer can be adjusted based on the required concentration of DNA; smaller volumes yield more concentrated DNA but may decrease the overall purity. It's essential to balance these factors based on the downstream application needs.
- **Vacuum Processing, centrifugation and maintenance:** Since the IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit uses either a vacuum manifold or plate centrifuge for semi-automated processing, it is essential to maintain this equipment to ensure consistent performance. Regular checks and cleaning of the vacuum lines and seals can prevent cross-contamination and loss of vacuum pressure, which might otherwise lead to variations in DNA yield and purity.

3. PREPARING BUFFERS AND EQUIPMENT

3.3.1 REAGENTS SUPPLIED BY THE USER

For successful DNA extraction using the IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit, users are required to supply certain reagents that are not included in the kit. Here's a detailed guide on the reagents you will need to provide, including their purity and concentration requirements, to ensure the integrity and efficiency of the DNA extraction process:

- 80 % ethanol for final wash, as well as for Wash A and Wash B: Used to help remove impurities and concentrate DNA on the silica matrix of the spin plates. Please read buffer labels for instructions. Ethanol should be of molecular biology grade, at least 95-100% pure. Impurities in lower-grade ethanol can inhibit downstream reactions such as PCR.
- β -mercaptoethanol (β -ME), DTT, Thioglycerol: Acts as a reducing agent in the lysis buffer to prevent the oxidation of sensitive molecules and reduce protein disulphide bonds, aiding in cell lysis and nucleic acid preservation. Due to its volatility and strong odour, β -ME should be handled in a fume hood. Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves and goggles.

- Isopropanol: Isopropanol is added to the binding buffers in this kit, please read the buffer labels for the volume required. Isopropanol should be of molecular biology grade to ensure it does not introduce impurities that can affect DNA integrity.
- RNase A (if RNA-free DNA is required): Degrades RNA contaminants in DNA preparations without affecting the DNA. Use RNase A that is certified DNase-free. Contamination with DNase can result in degradation of target DNA. Use RNase A according to the manufacturer's instructions, typically during or after the lysis step to ensure all RNA is degraded before DNA precipitation.

3.3.1 BEFORE STARTING

- Pipette Calibration and Validation:
 - Pipettes: Calibrate pipettes regularly to guarantee accurate volume dispensation. This is crucial for the correct addition of reagents and buffers, directly impacting the efficiency of DNA extraction.
- Setting Up Work Area:
 - Clean and organise the workspace. Ensure that the work area is free of clutter and potential contaminants. A clean workspace helps in maintaining a controlled environment, reducing the risk of sample cross-contamination.
 - Prepare a dedicated area for each stage of the process (e.g., lysis, binding, washing, elution). This helps in preventing mix-ups and contamination between different stages of the protocol.
- Preparation of Reagents and Solutions:
 - Addition of β -mercaptoethanol, DTT or thioglycerol to the lysis buffer: β -ME, DDT & thioglycerol are reducing agents that are crucial for protecting DNA from oxidative damage during the lysis process. They also help in denaturing proteins, which can bind and potentially degrade nucleic acids. Add reducing agent to the buffer immediately before use to maintain its effectiveness, per the manufacturers instructions for each compound. Reducing agents are toxic and should be handled in a fume hood while wearing appropriate protective equipment, including gloves and safety goggles.

4. COMPLETE PROTOCOL

The IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit is designed to extract high-quality DNA from various plant samples with specificity and efficiency. Below, I detail a comprehensive step-by-step protocol for preparing and extracting DNA from diverse plant tissues, ensuring optimal results:

1. Homogenisation

- For Leafy and Herbaceous Tissues:
 - Weigh up to 20 mg of dry or fresh tissue, ensuring a consistent sample size for reproducible results. Place the tissue in a bead beating tube with a 5 mm steel bead. Add 600 μ L of Lysis Buffer that has been supplemented with β -mercaptoethanol or other reducing agent to protect DNA from oxidative damage. Homogenise using a

TissueLyser at maximum speed for 2-5 minutes. The goal is to achieve a fine, uniform powder.

- For Woody or Fibrous Tissues:
 - Given their tough nature, increase homogenisation time to 5-10 minutes. Adjust the lysis buffer volume proportionally if the sample size exceeds 20 mg, typically doubling the volume for every additional 20 mg of tissue.

2. Lysis

- Preheat the lysis buffer to 60°C. Add 5 uL ProK and 600 ul of lysis buffer to each sample in a deep well plate. Incubate at 60°C for 30 minutes, shaking every 10 minutes to ensure the lysis buffer interacts thoroughly with the plant material.

3. Centrifugation

- Centrifuge the deep well plate at 4000 rpm for 5 minutes. Carefully pipette the clear upper lysate into a new deep well plate. For very difficult sample types, chloroform can be used at this step as an optional extra to improve the removal of proteins and polyphenols.

4. DNA Binding

- Add an equal volume of Binding Buffer to the clear lysate, pipette thoroughly to mix and incubate on the bench for 5 minutes.
- Transfer the mixture to a spin plate stacked onto of a deep well plate. Load the samples using a multichannel pipette, ensuring not to overfill each well (maximum of 750 uL per well). Centrifuge in a plate centrifuge at 4 000 rpm for 4 minutes to pass the lysate through the silica membrane. Discard the flow through and stack the spin plate onto of the same deep well plate.

5. Washing

- Add 300 ul Wash A per well using multichannel pipette. Incubate on the bench for 2 minutes. Spin for 4 minutes at 4000 rpm in plate centrifuge. Discard waste liquid from deep well plate and re-stack for the next wash.
- Add 600 ul Wash B per well using multichannel pipette. Incubate on the bench for 2 minutes. Spin for 4 minutes at 4000 rpm in plate centrifuge. Discard waste liquid from deep well plate and re-stack for the next wash.
- Add 600 ul 80 % ethanol well using multichannel pipette. Incubate on the bench for 2 minutes. Spin for 4 minutes at 4000 rpm in plate centrifuge. Discard waste liquid from deep well plate and re-stack.
- Spin for 4 minutes at 4000 rpm in plate centrifuge to dry the membrane. Discard waste liquid from deep well plate. Transfer spin plate onto an elution plate.

6. Elution

- Add 50µL of pre-warmed Elution Buffer to the centre of the spin membrane membrane.
- Incubate on the bench for 5 minutes at room temperature.
- Centrifuge at 4000 rpm for 2 minutes to collect the eluted DNA.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

The troubleshooting guide for Gene Vantage's IsoBind Maxi Plant DNA Kit provides detailed solutions to common issues encountered during sample preparation and extraction. Each entry includes a comprehensive analysis of the problem, its potential causes, and clear, actionable solutions.

Problem Description	Possible Causes	Suggestions
Low DNA Yield	Inadequate homogenization of tissue can result in incomplete disruption of cell walls, leading to poor DNA release. Insufficient lysis time may not allow complete digestion of cellular components. Poor quality or expired reagents may have reduced effectiveness.	To improve DNA yield, ensure that tissue is thoroughly homogenized; a bead mill or mortar and pestle are effective for this. Increase the lysis time to fully break down cellular materials. Always check reagents for clarity and expiration date; prepare fresh solutions if necessary.
DNA Degradation	Extended exposure to room temperature can lead to enzymatic degradation of DNA. Contaminated reagents might introduce nucleases that degrade DNA.	Process samples quickly and keep them on ice or at low temperatures until lysis buffer is added. Use only nuclease-free reagents and ensure all labware is sterile to avoid introducing DNases.
High Contamination in DNA Samples	Incomplete washing steps can leave proteins and other contaminants in the sample. Residual ethanol from incomplete drying of the spin column can interfere with downstream applications.	Perform all washing steps as per the protocol, ensuring that each is complete and thorough. After the final ethanol wash, centrifuge the spin column for an additional 1-2 minutes to fully dry the matrix before elution.
Clogging of Spin Columns	Excess plant material or debris can block the silica membrane. Insufficient centrifugation might not adequately clear the lysate.	Reduce the amount of starting material or increase homogenization efficiency. Check that the centrifuge is operating at the correct speed and that the spin time is adequate to fully pass the liquid through the column.
Inconsistent DNA Quality	Variability in sample size can lead to inconsistent DNA concentration and quality. Improper storage of samples or reagents can degrade DNA or introduce variability.	Standardize the amount of tissue used in each extraction. Ensure that samples and reagents are stored according to the manufacturer's guidelines, typically at -20°C for long-term storage.
Equipment Malfunction	Calibration errors in centrifuges or pipettes can lead to inconsistent results, affecting DNA yield and purity.	Regularly schedule maintenance and calibration for all critical laboratory equipment. Ensure centrifuges and pipettes are functioning properly before beginning the extraction process.

Buffer Preparation Errors	Incorrectly prepared buffers, especially with wrong pH or contamination, can significantly impact the effectiveness of the extraction process.	Always follow the buffer preparation instructions carefully. Use high-purity water and check the pH to ensure it is within the recommended range. Prepare fresh buffers if any signs of contamination are evident.
Failure to Bind DNA to Column	If the ethanol concentration in the binding buffer is incorrect, DNA may not efficiently bind to the silica column.	Verify the concentration of ethanol in the binding buffer. Adjust the ethanol volume to ensure optimal conditions for DNA binding, as specified in the kit's protocol.
RNA Contamination in DNA Sample	Incomplete removal of RNA during the DNA extraction process can contaminate the final sample.	Increase the amount of RNase A during the lysis step to ensure complete degradation of RNA. Confirm that the RNase treatment is effective by running an agarose gel to check for RNA absence in the DNA sample.

6. PRODUCT USE RESTRICTION / WARRANTY

GENE VANTAGE kit components are intended, developed, designed, and sold for research purposes only. All kit components are for general laboratory use only and should only be used by qualified personnel wearing the appropriate protective clothing. GENE VANTAGE does not assume any responsibility for damages due to improper application of our products in other fields of application. Any user, whether by direct or resale of the product, is liable for any and all damages resulting from any application outside of research.

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