

EPFL



ViTEST



# The Origin of the Project



**Maxime Guérinot**  
Professional  
winegrower

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# Flavescence Dorée



Flavescence Dorée symptoms  
on grapevine

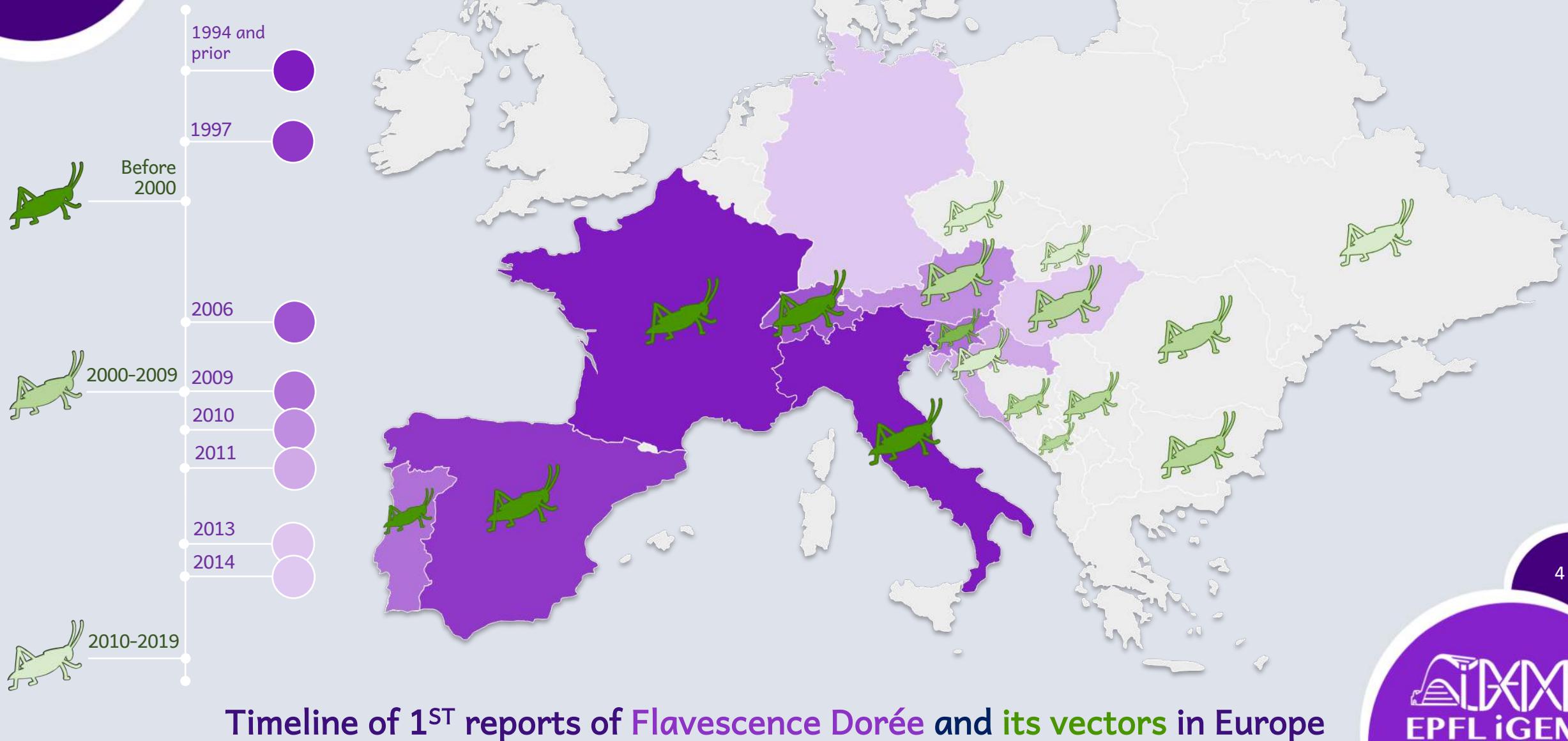
**QUARANTINE**

- Deadly
- No cure
- Highly contagious



# A growing problem in Europe

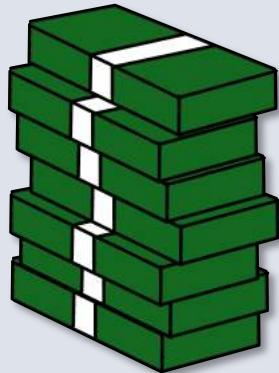
Source: EPPO reports





# An epidemic with far-reaching consequences

## Economical



## Ecological



*“Despite mandatory control in Europe for [flavescence dorée], it is still spreading and need permanent monitoring to detect new infected areas.”*

Source: <http://www.winetnetwork-data.eu/intranet/libretti/0/libretto16625-01-1.pdf>



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# Two diseases, same symptoms



Flavescence Dorée



Bois Noir

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ViTEST



Bois Noir



Flavescence Dorée



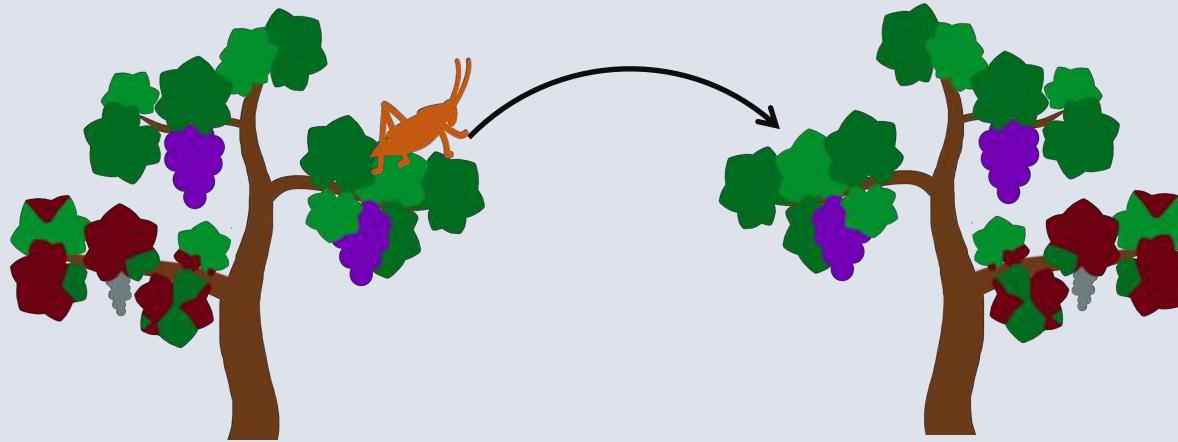
# Disease transmission



Scaphoideus  
titanus

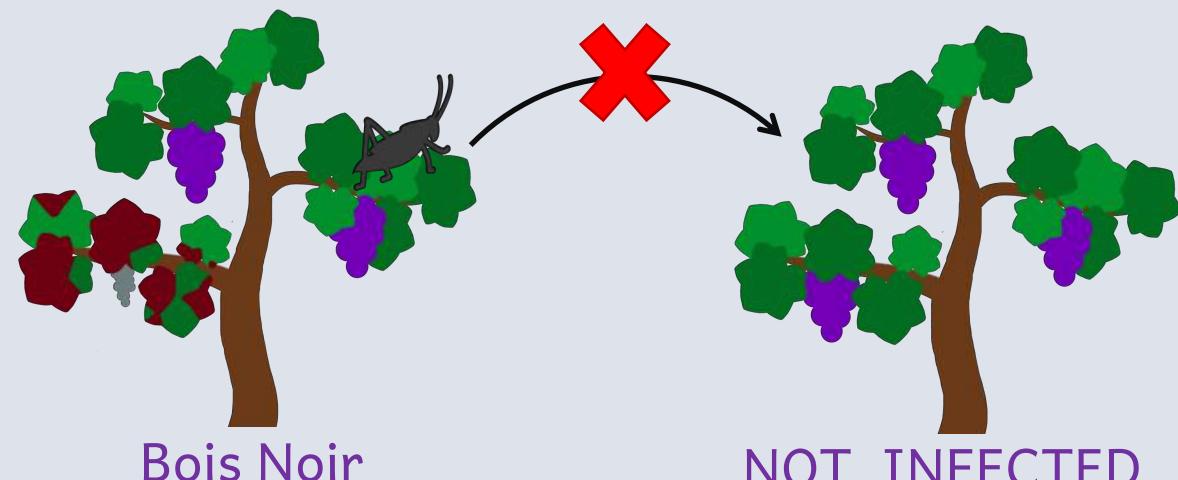


Hyalesthes  
obsoletus



Flavescence dorée

INFECTED



Bois Noir

NOT INFECTED



# Interacting with local stakeholders



Winegrower



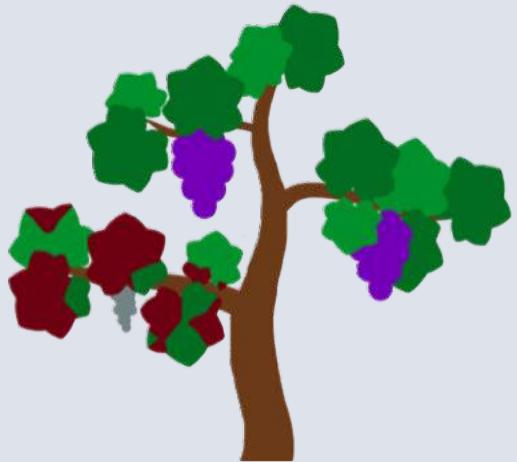
Phytosanitary police



# Today's diagnostic

1

WINEGROWER



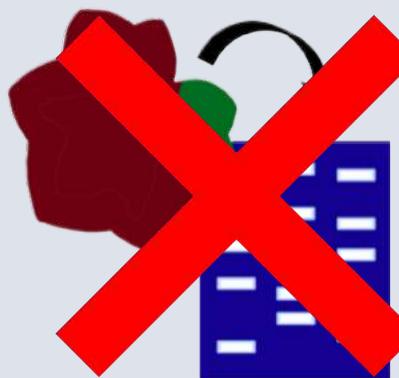
2

PHYTOSANITARY POLICE



3

AGROSCOPE



4

WINEGROWER

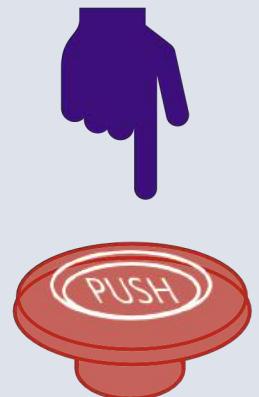


2-5 weeks

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# Our solution



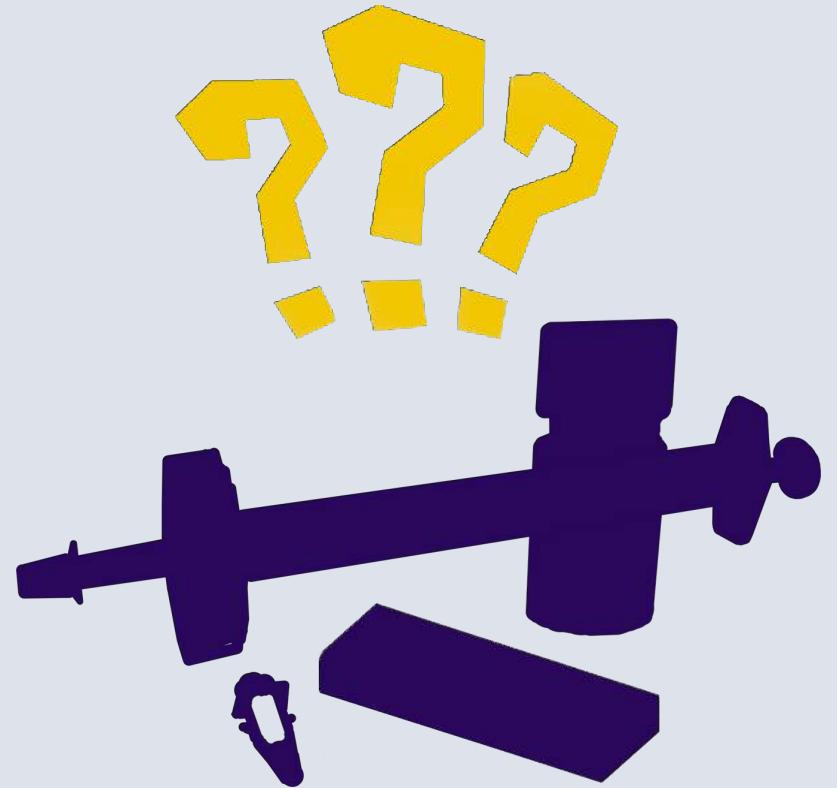
Easy-to-use



Fast

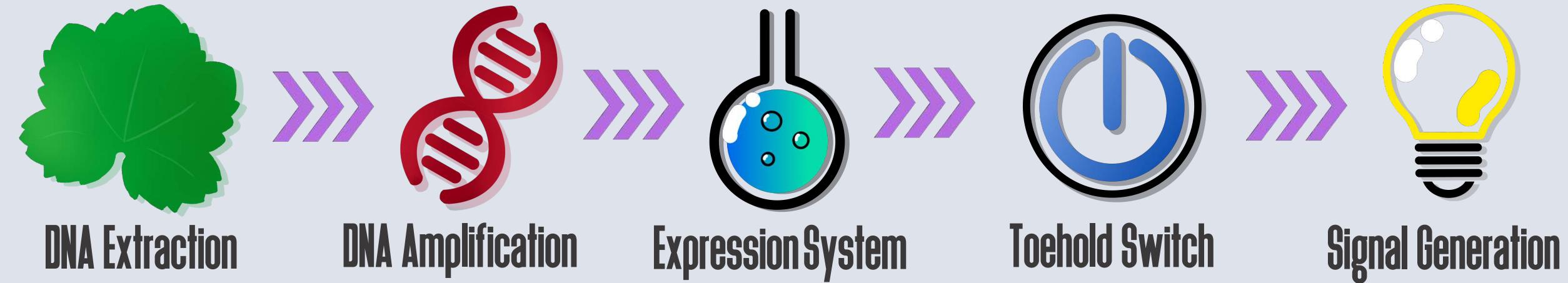


Field-based





# Method





# DNA extraction

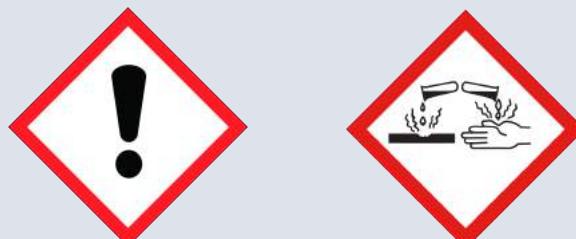
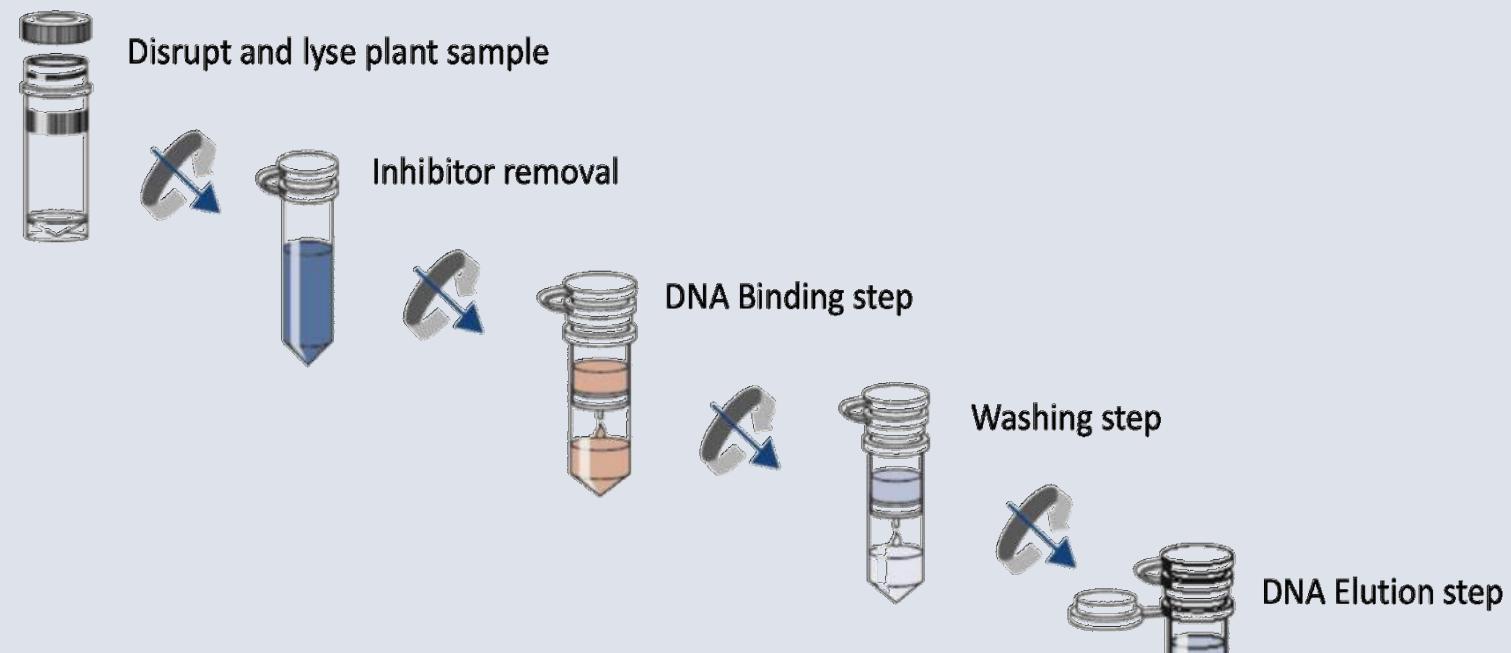


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# Conventional plant DNA extraction method

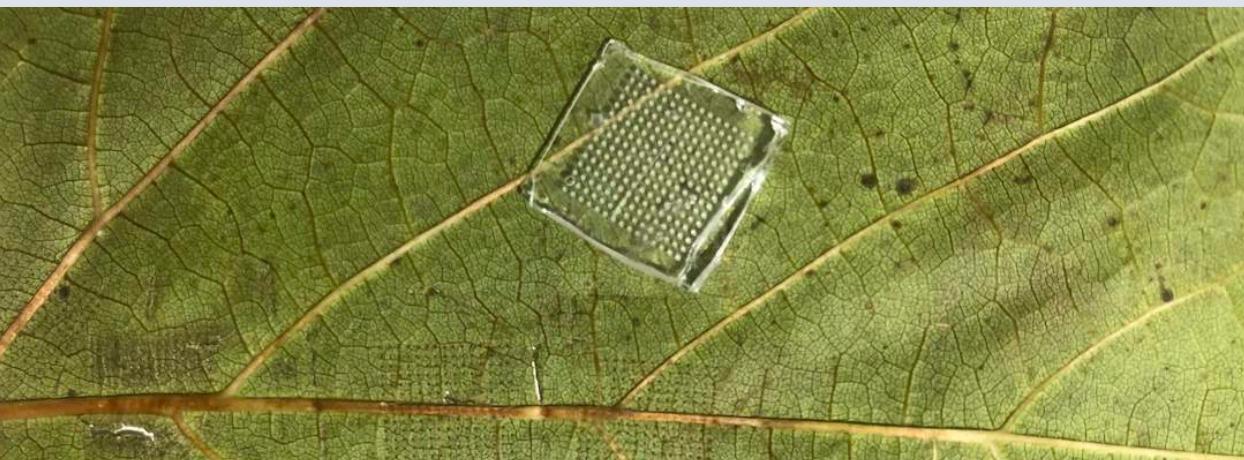
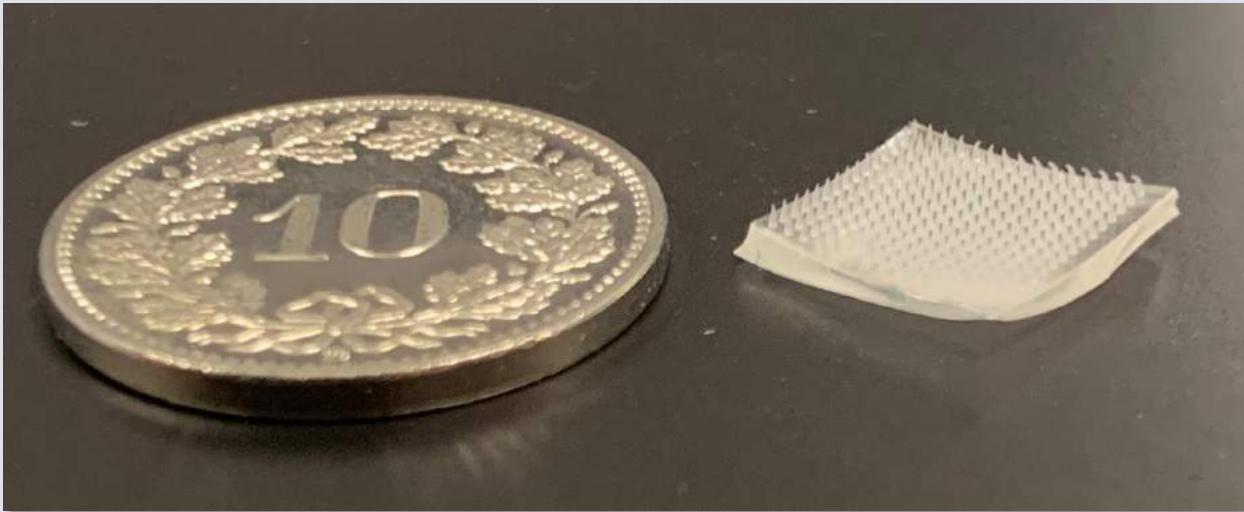
- Chemical cell lysis
- 3 hours
- Lab bound



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# DNA extraction using Microneedle patches



- No chemicals
- No DNA purification
- 1 minute

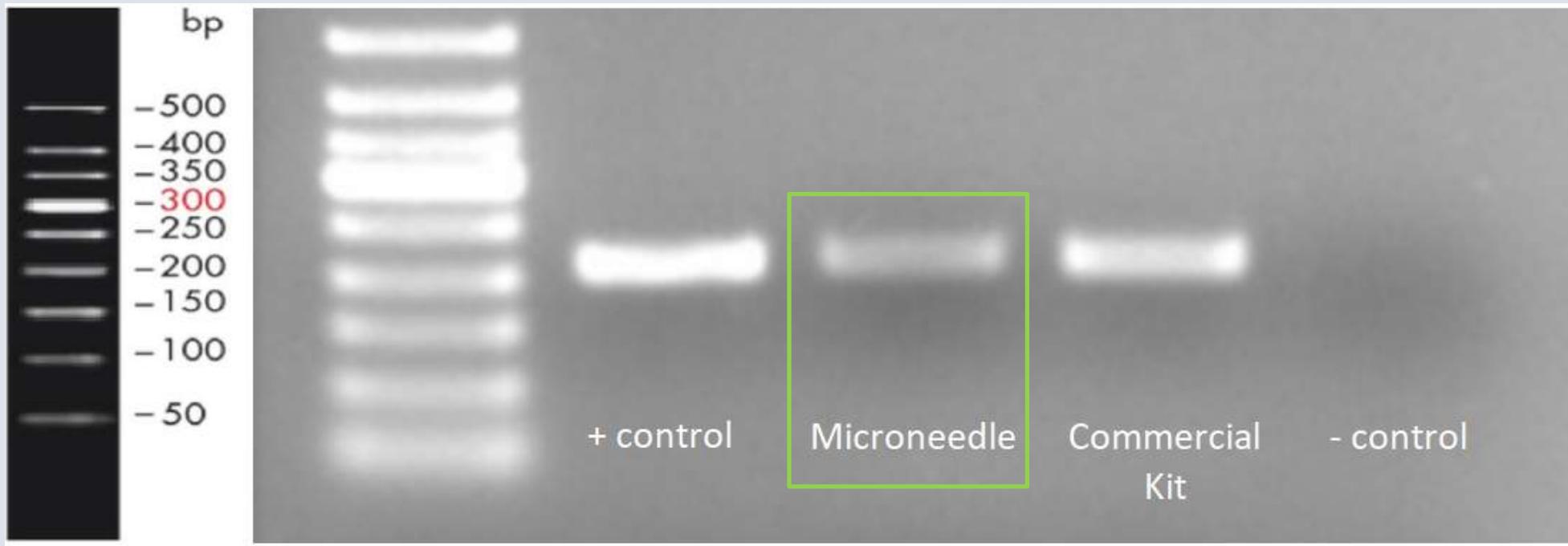


Prof. Zhen Gu

Rajesh Paul, et al, 2019.



# Comparison of different DNA extraction techniques

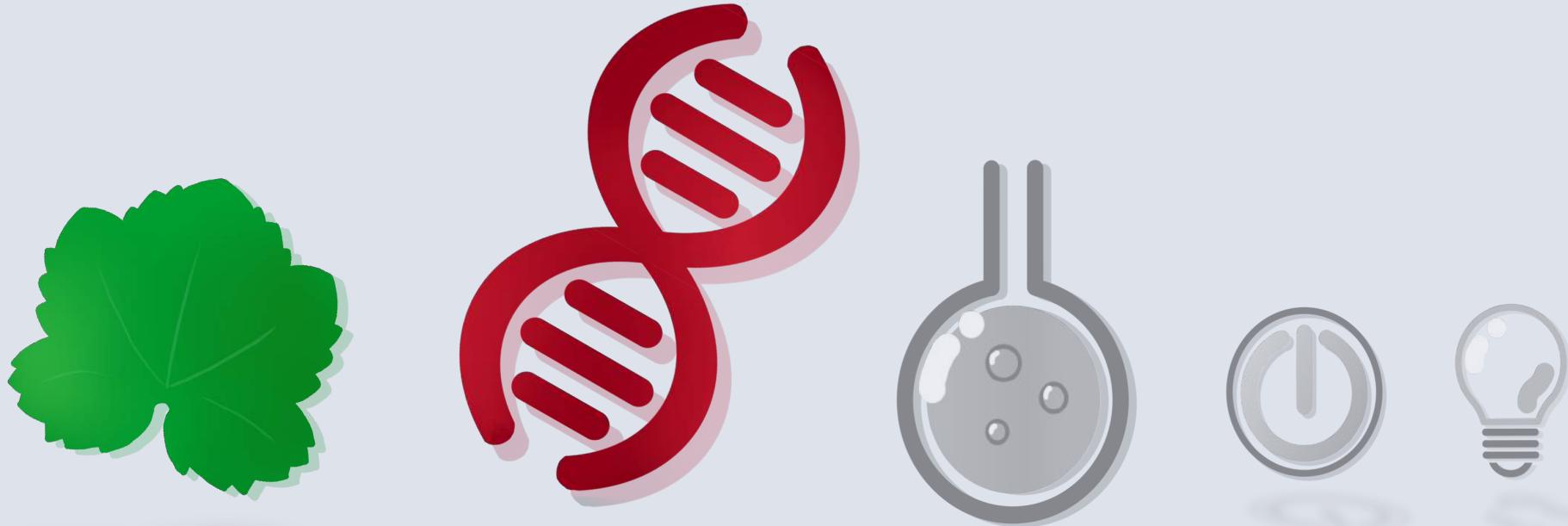


Different extraction methods

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# DNA amplification





# Choosing the Amplification Method

## Loop Mediated Amplification (LAMP)

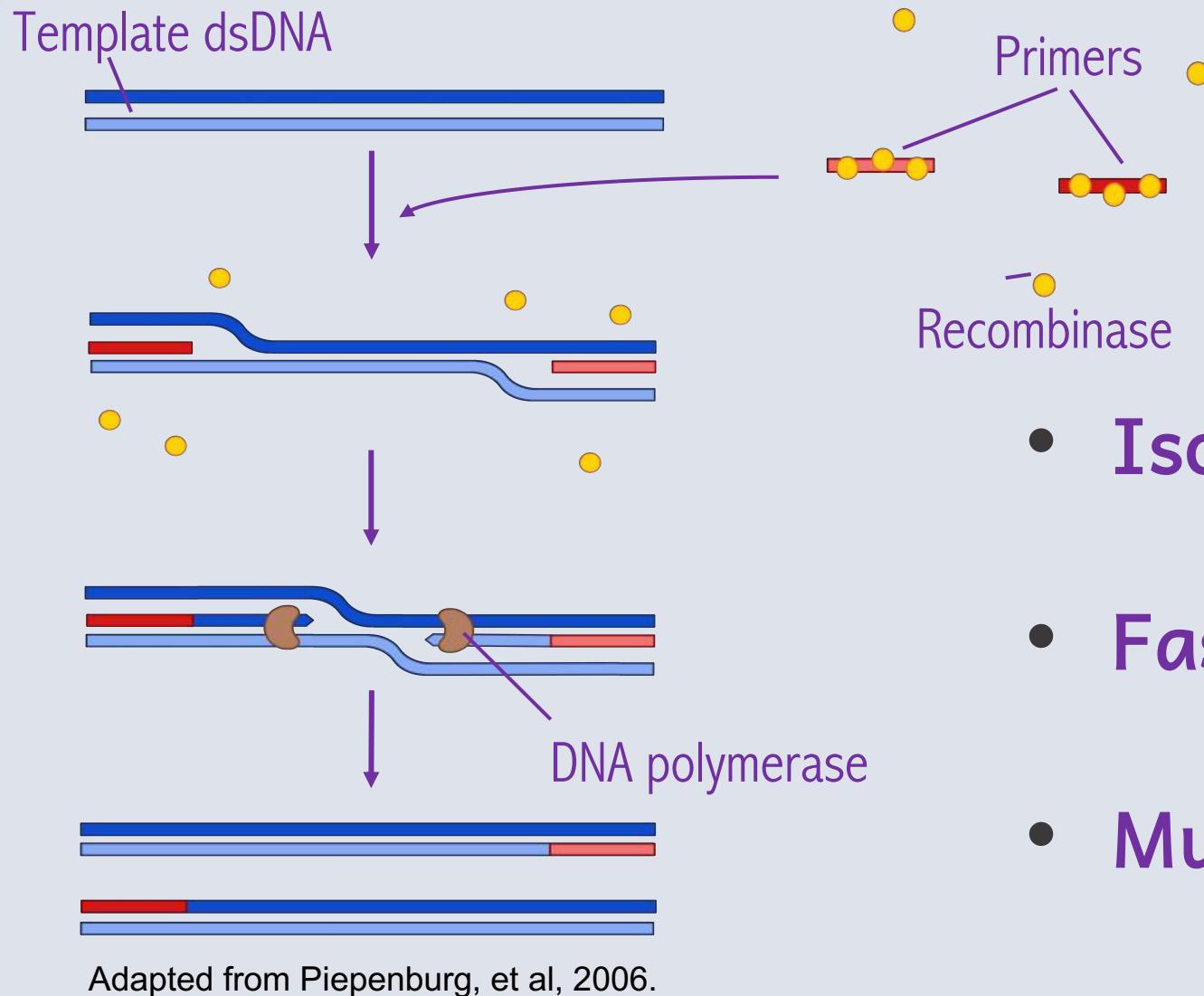
- Isothermal
- 60 min
- Not Multiplexable



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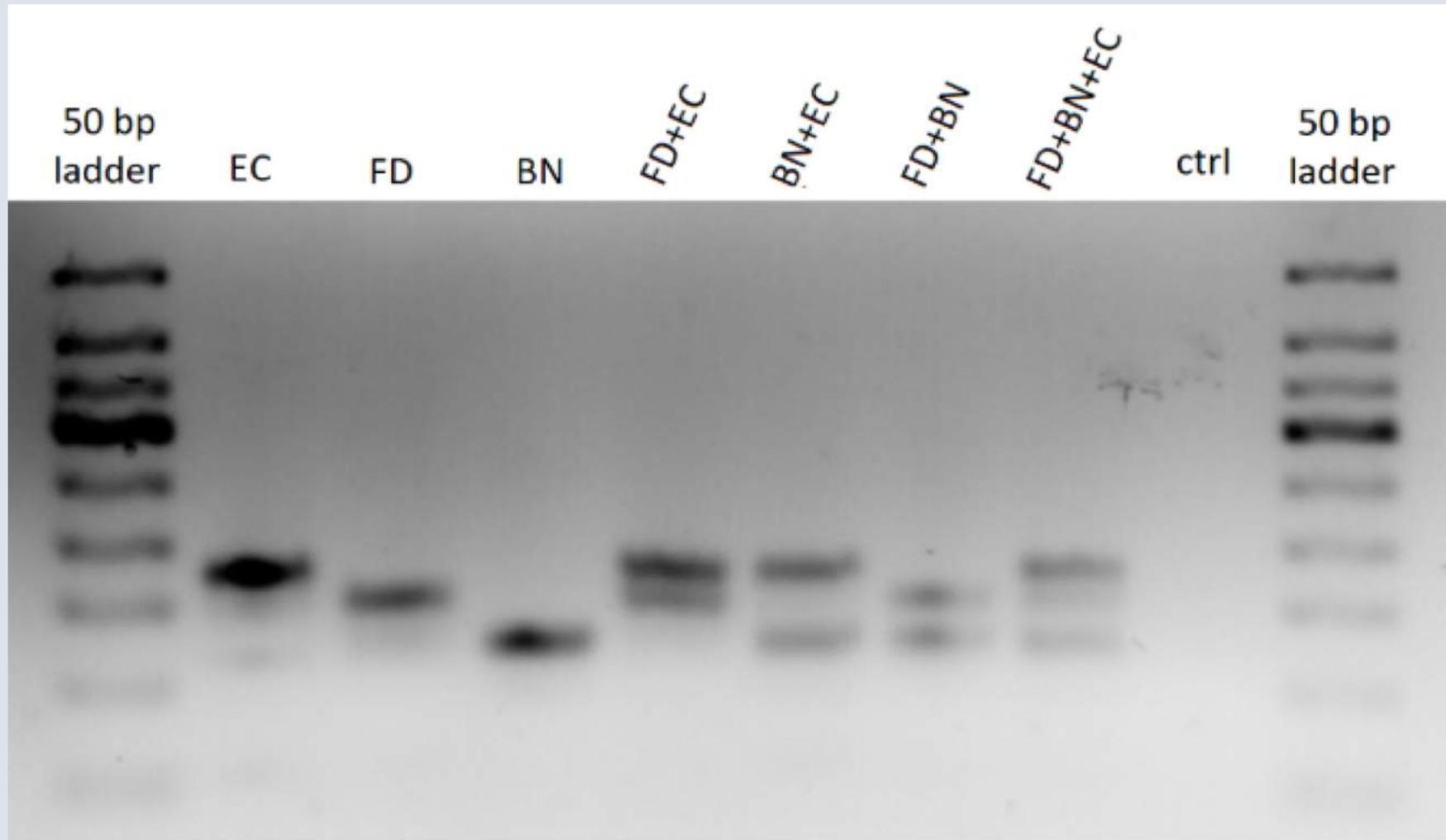
# Recombinase Polymerase Amplification (RPA)



- Isothermal: 37°C
- Fast: 20 min
- Multiplexable



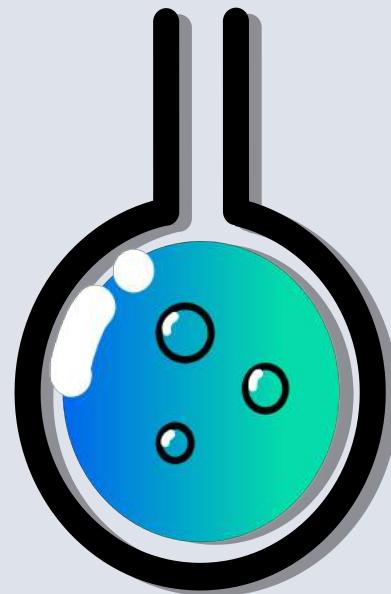
# Simultaneous amplification of 3 DNA targets using RPA



Agarose gel electrophoresis of multiplexed RPA reactions.



# Expression system

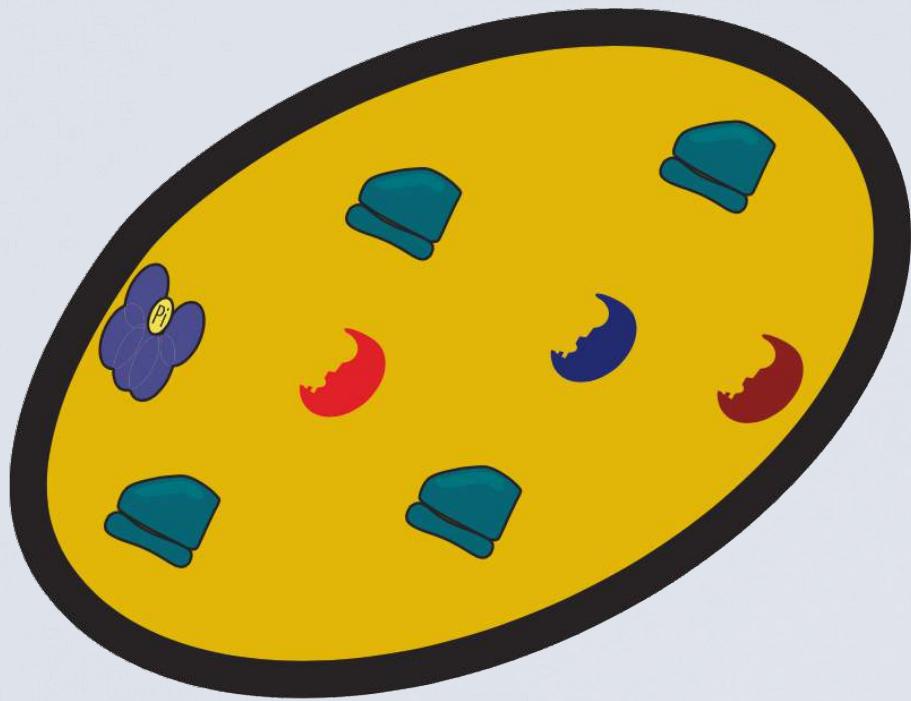


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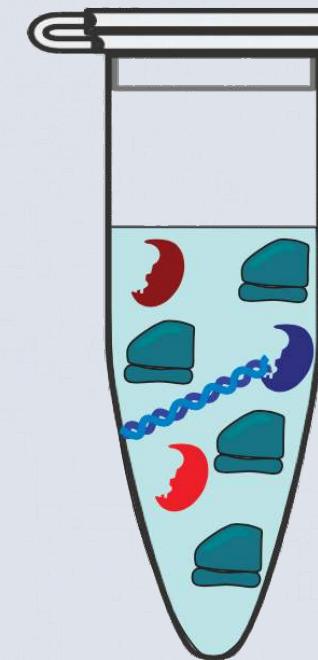
# Transcription-Translation System

Bacteria



*Schemes from Lavickova Barbora*

Cell-Free system



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# Transcription-Translation System

## Bacteria

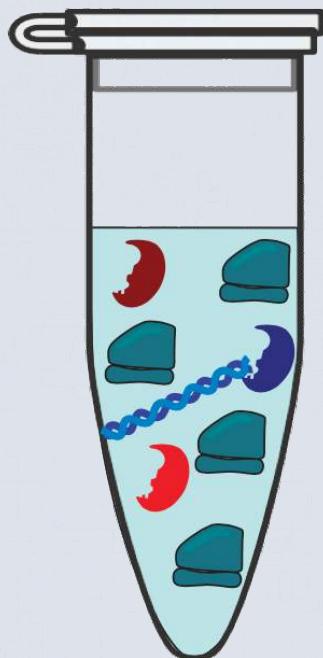
- Time consuming
- Complex
- Strict regulations
- \$

## Cell-Free system

- Quick
- Easy to use
- Field deployable
- \$\$\$ (eg:PURExpress®)



# In-house “OnePot” PURE



36 purified Proteins

Ribosomes

Energy solution

One co-culture



One Purification

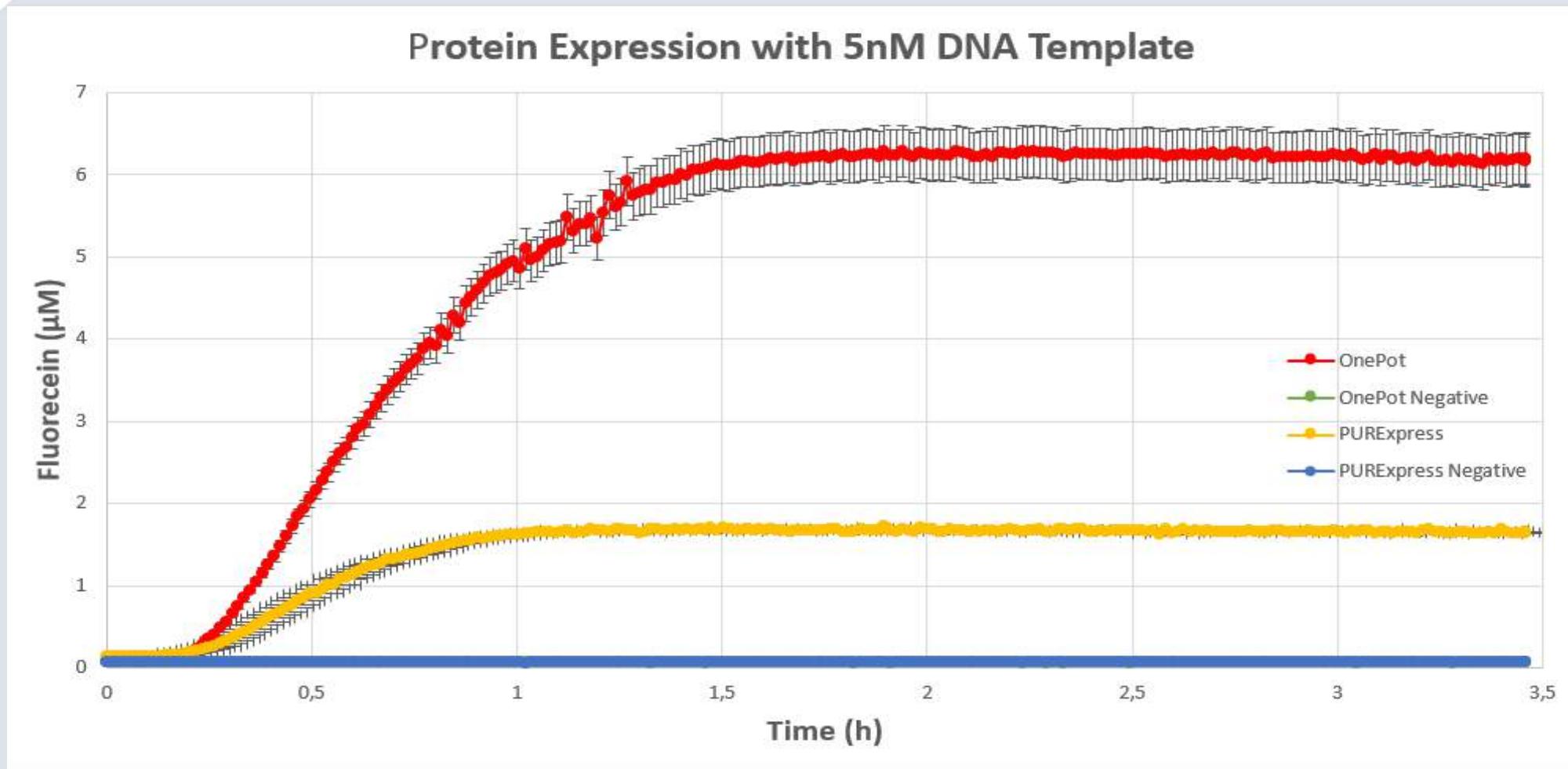


14x cheaper

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# Characterization of “OnePot” PURE



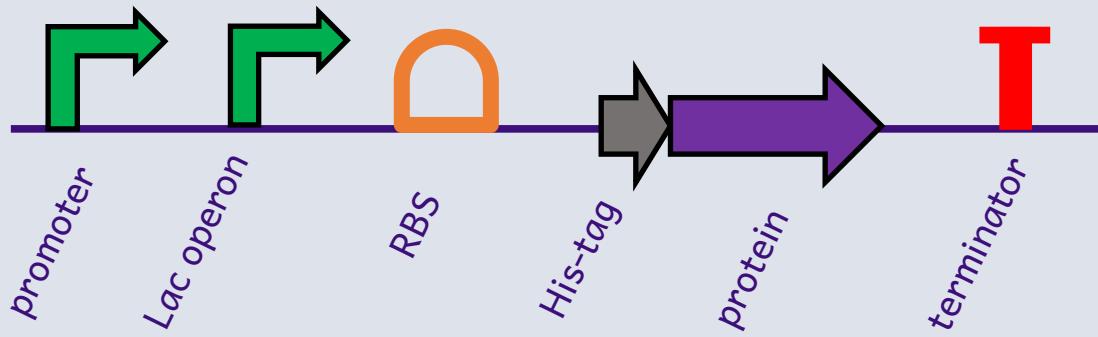
sfGFP Gene Expression (in fluorescein con.)

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# Part collection

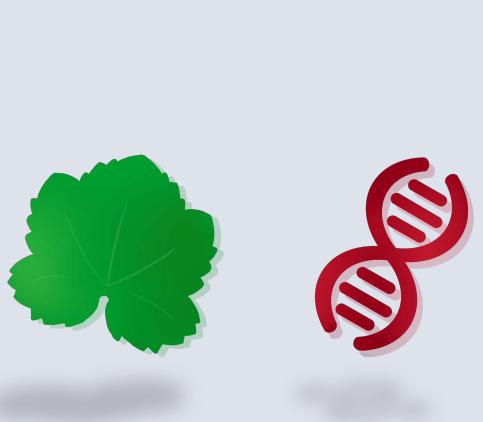
## Proteins:



1. Registry(BBa\_K2916000 to 49)
2. Protocol
3. Video tutorial ( Search: “OnePot iGEM EPFL”)

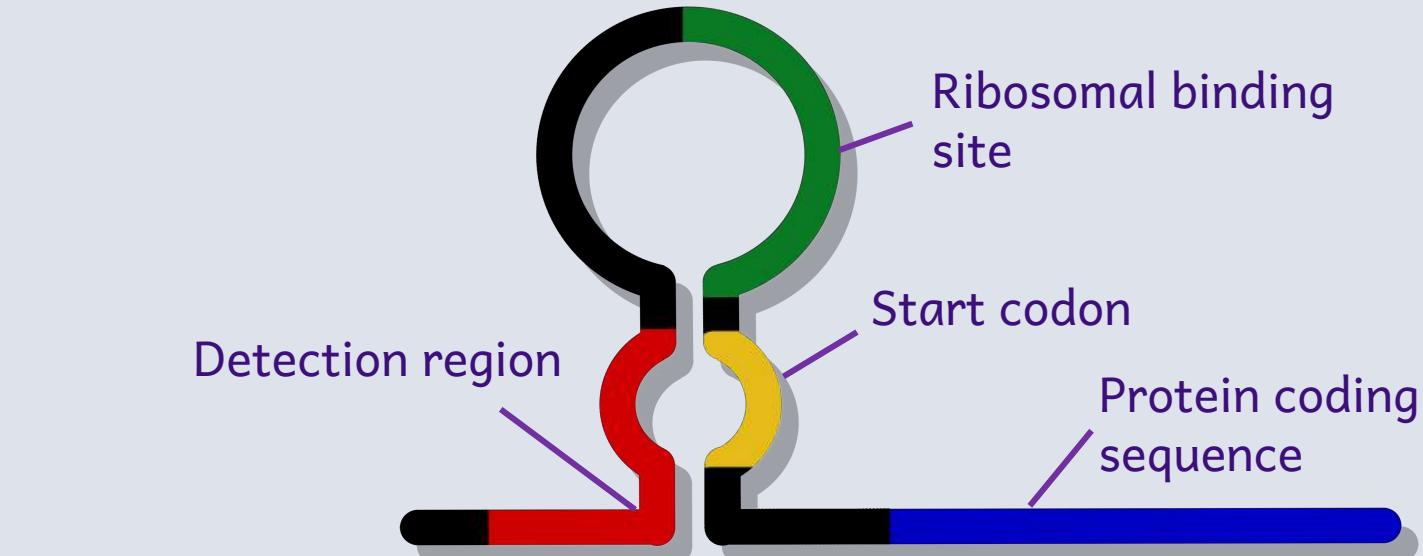


# Toehold switch





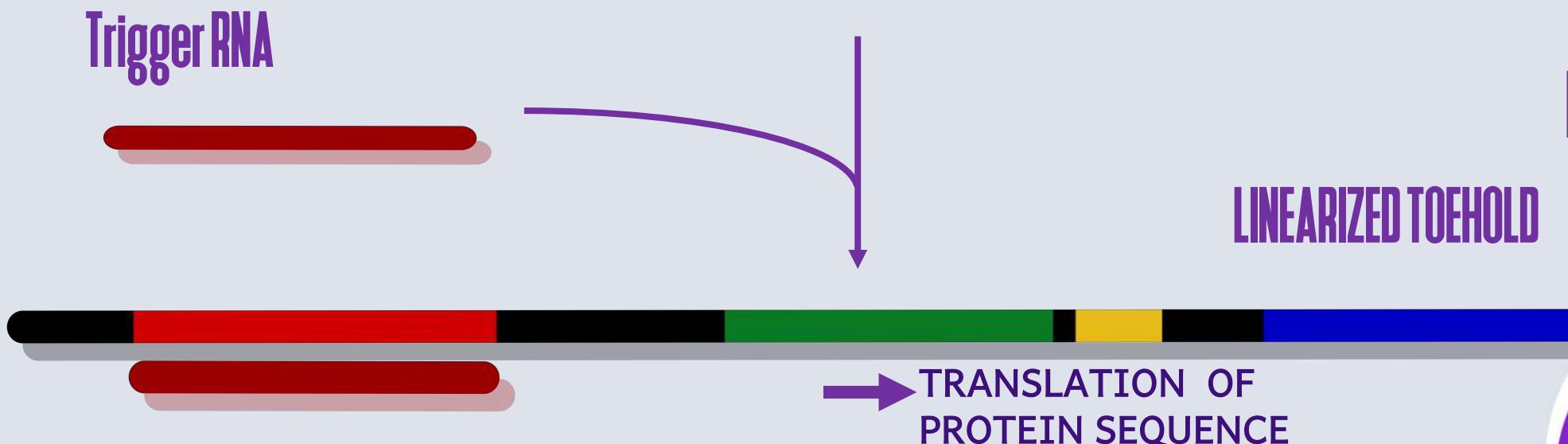
# How Toehold works:



CLOSED (HAIRPIN) TOEHOLD



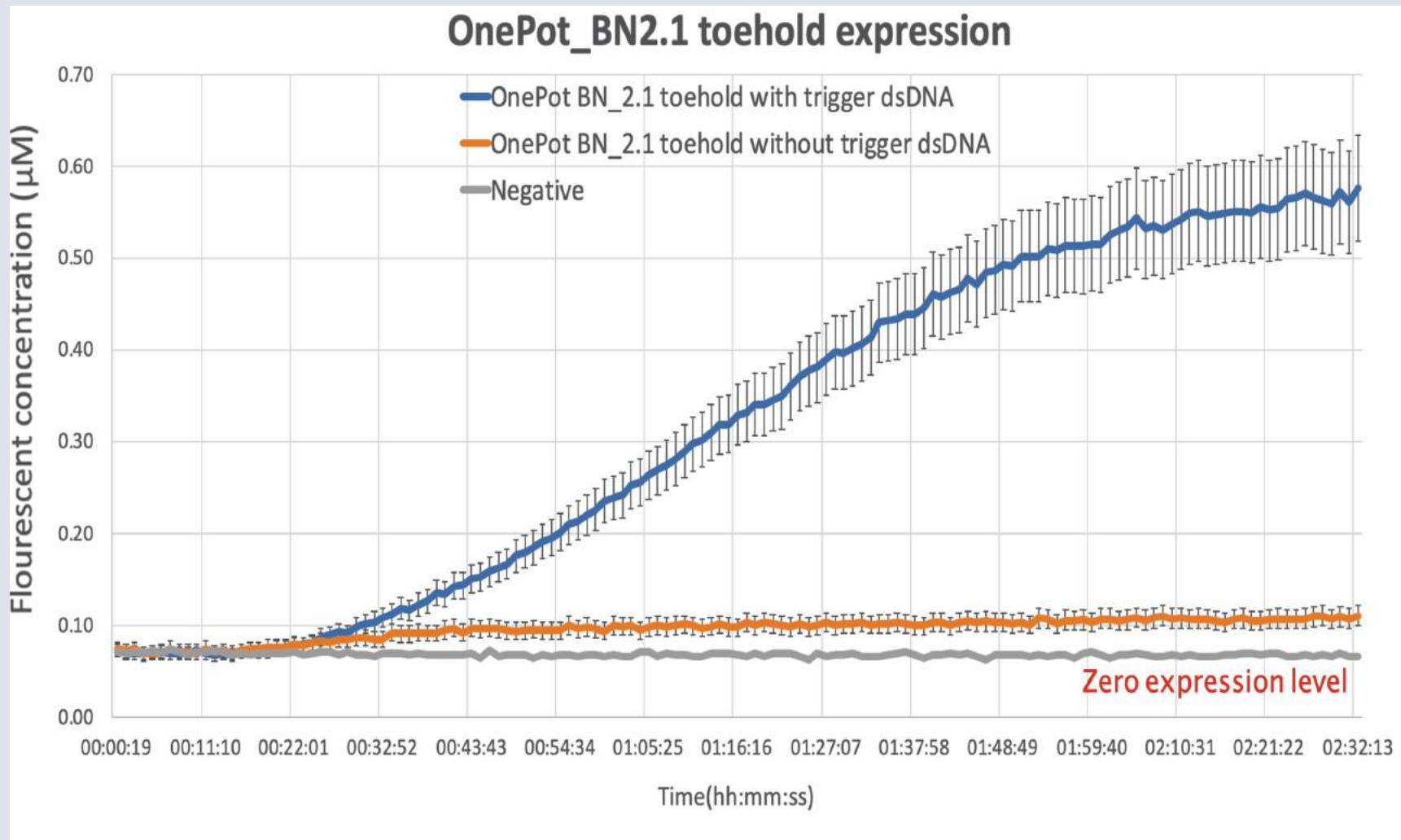
Ribosome



LINEARIZED TOEHOLD



# Toehold Regulation of GFP expression



*Toehold functionality test  
(Bois Noir 2.1 toehold v.s. commercially available toehold)*



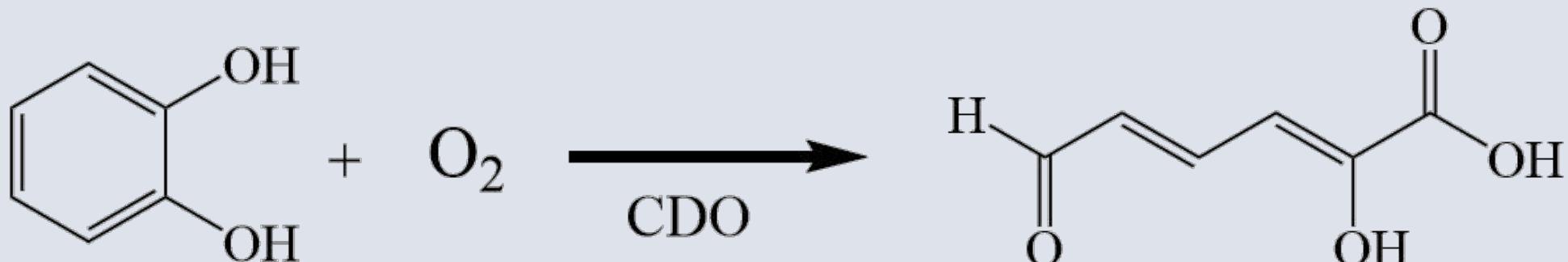
# Signal generation



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# Signal Generation with CDO (catechol 2,3-dioxygenase)



Catechol



2-Hydroxymuconic semialdehyde

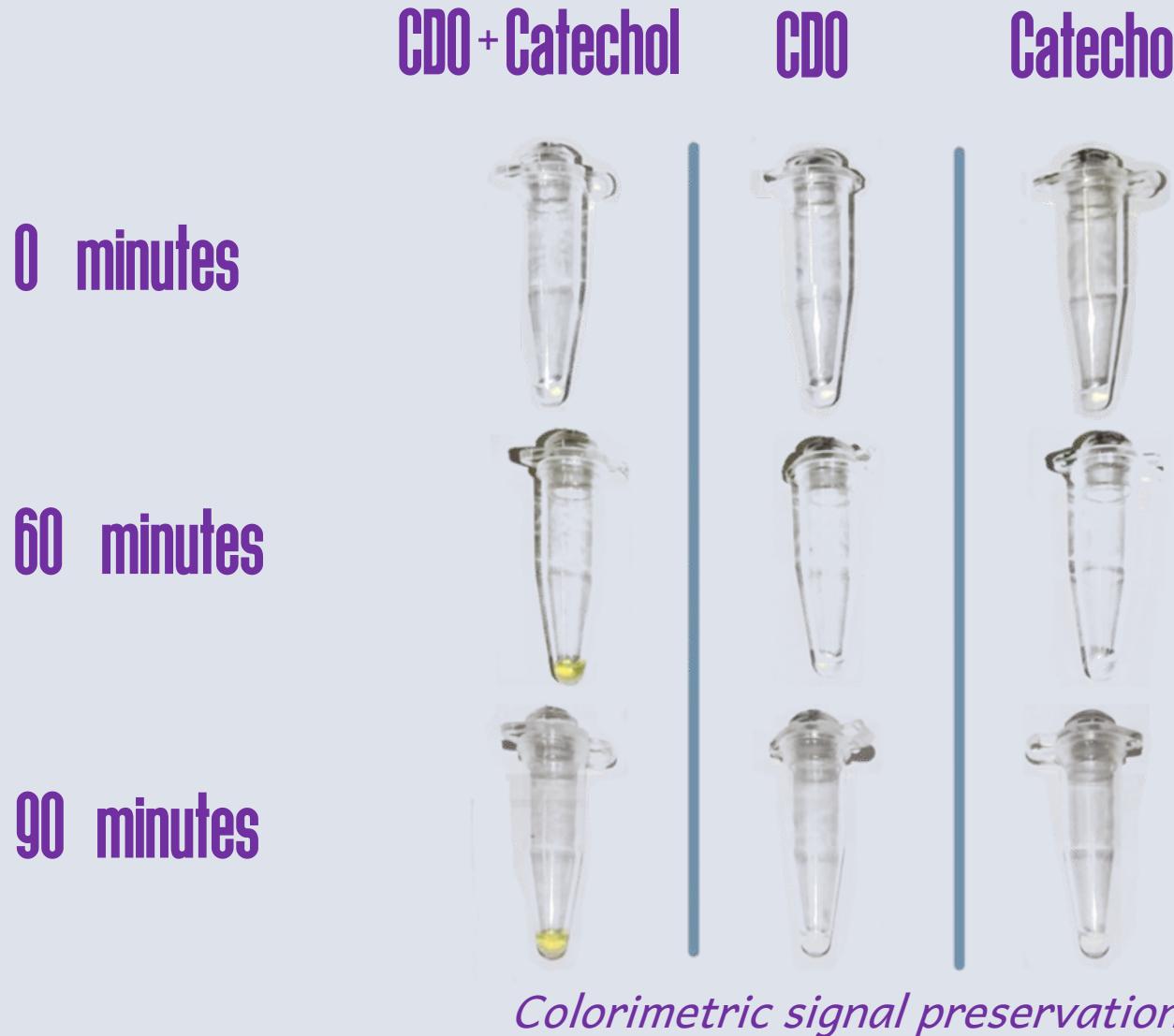


Verosloff, M., et al., 2019

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# Colorimetric Signal in OnePot PURE





# Summary



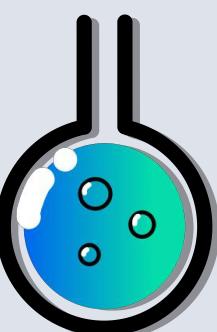
Plant Extract DNA

Extraction



DNA amplification

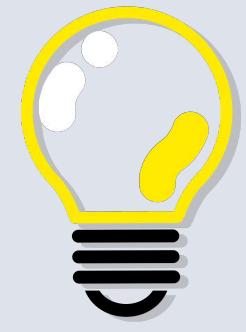
Polymerase  
Amplification



ExpressiBULGE system



Toehold switch



Signal generation

signal



# Winegrowers

- 2 Similar Diseases
- How it affects them
- Feedback



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# Phytosanitary Police



- Symptoms Identification
- Diagnostic Process
- Collect Infected Samples



# Agroscope

- Underlying biology of phytoplasma
- Technical Guidance
- Test Requirements

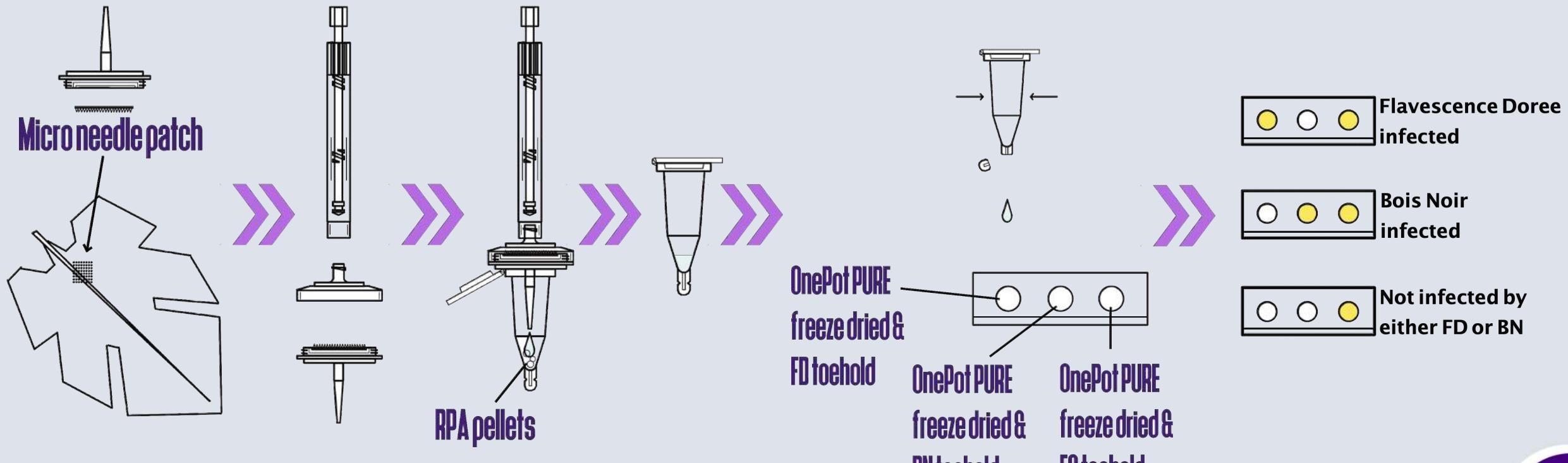


# Agroscope

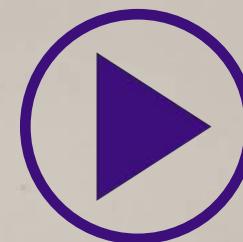
36

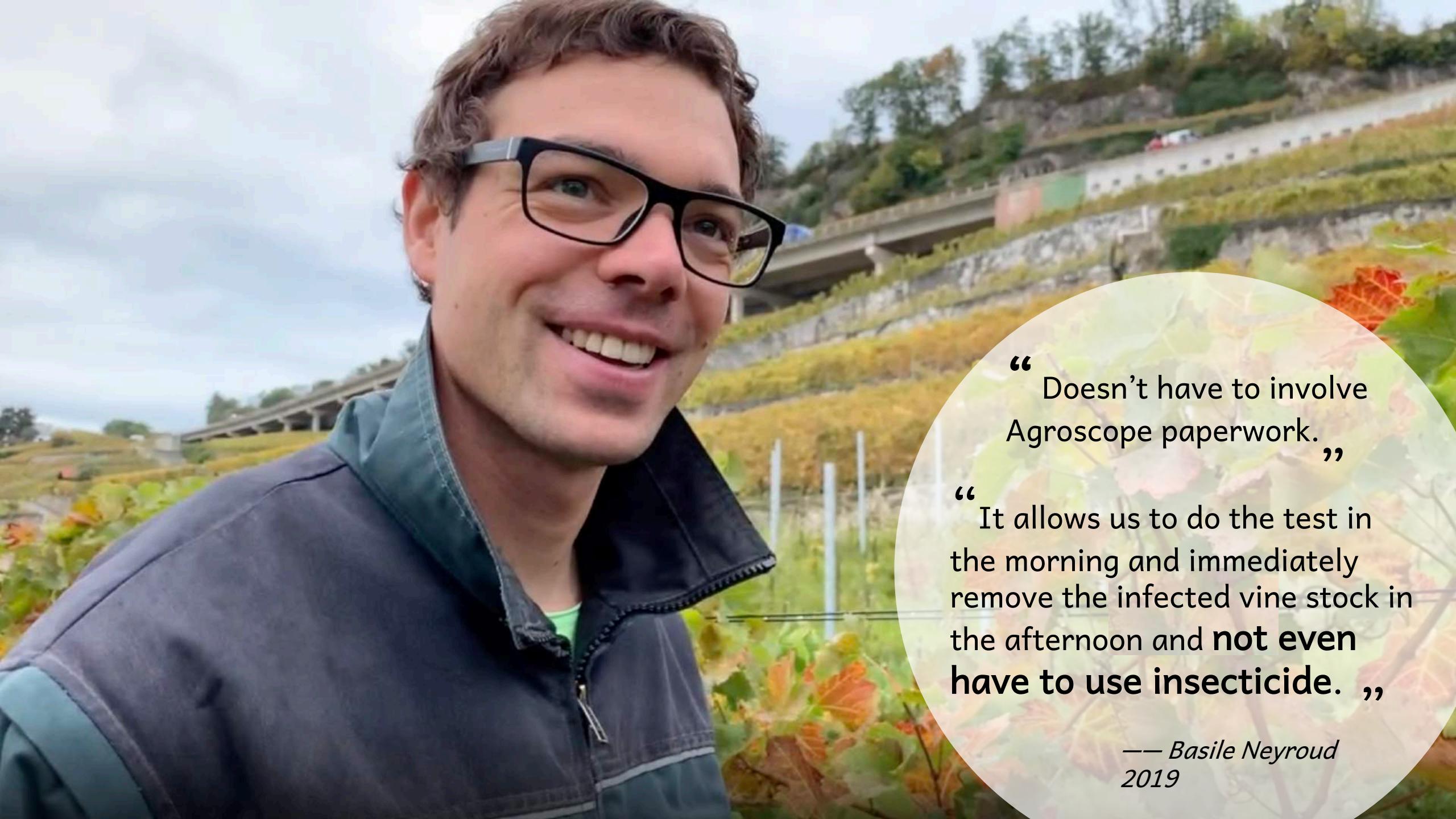


# Hardware design



# Hardware demonstration





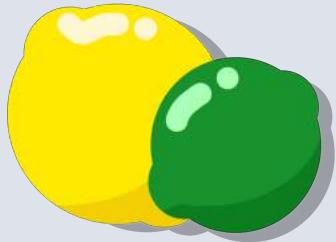
“ Doesn't have to involve Agroscope paperwork. ”

“ It allows us to do the test in the morning and immediately remove the infected vine stock in the afternoon and **not even have to use insecticide.** ”

— Basile Neyroud  
2019



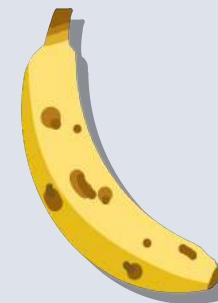
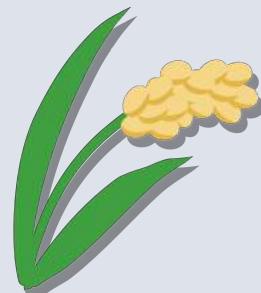
# A local solution to a global problem



10% decline in citrus population in Iran



€100 million loss in apple production in Italy and €25 million in Germany.







# Thank You!

## Supervisor

Prof. Sebastian Maerkl

## Advisors

Chun-jie Cai

Shiyu Cheng

Barbora Lavickova

Thomas Jordan

Lena Bruhin

## Special Thanks to

Dr. Santiago Schaeerer

Basile Neyroud

Michel Jeanrenaud

Josiane Smith-Clerc

## Sponsors and attributions:

EPFL

Promega

T W I S T  
• • • • • BIOSCIENCE

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Agroscope

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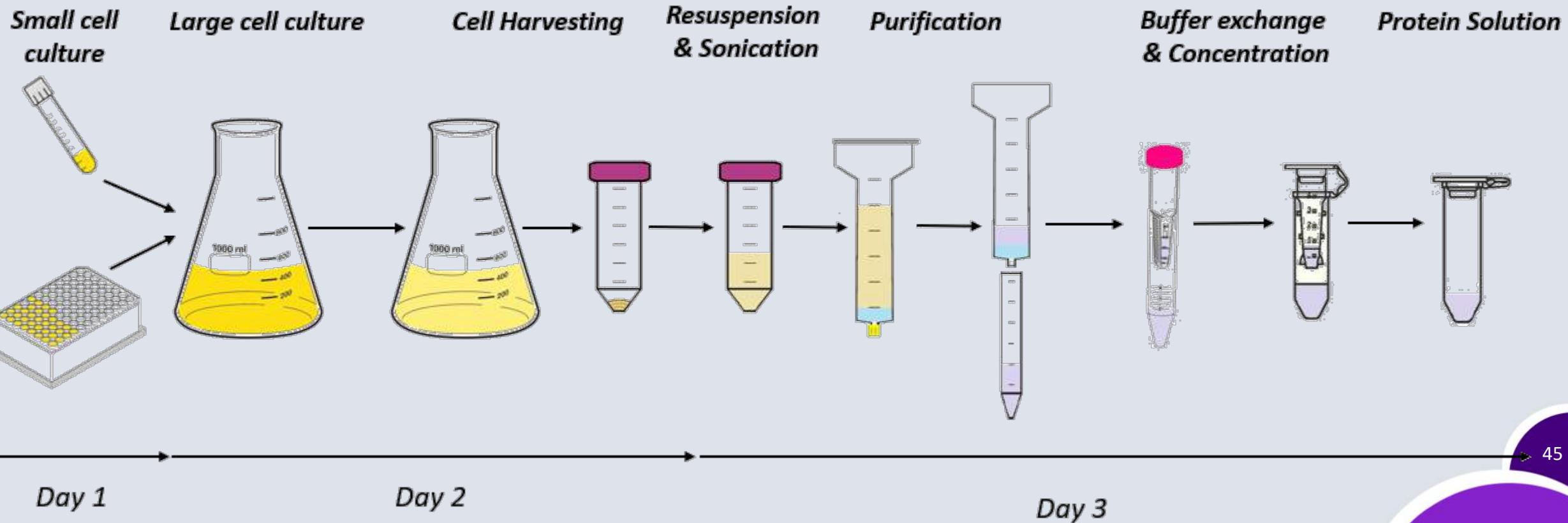




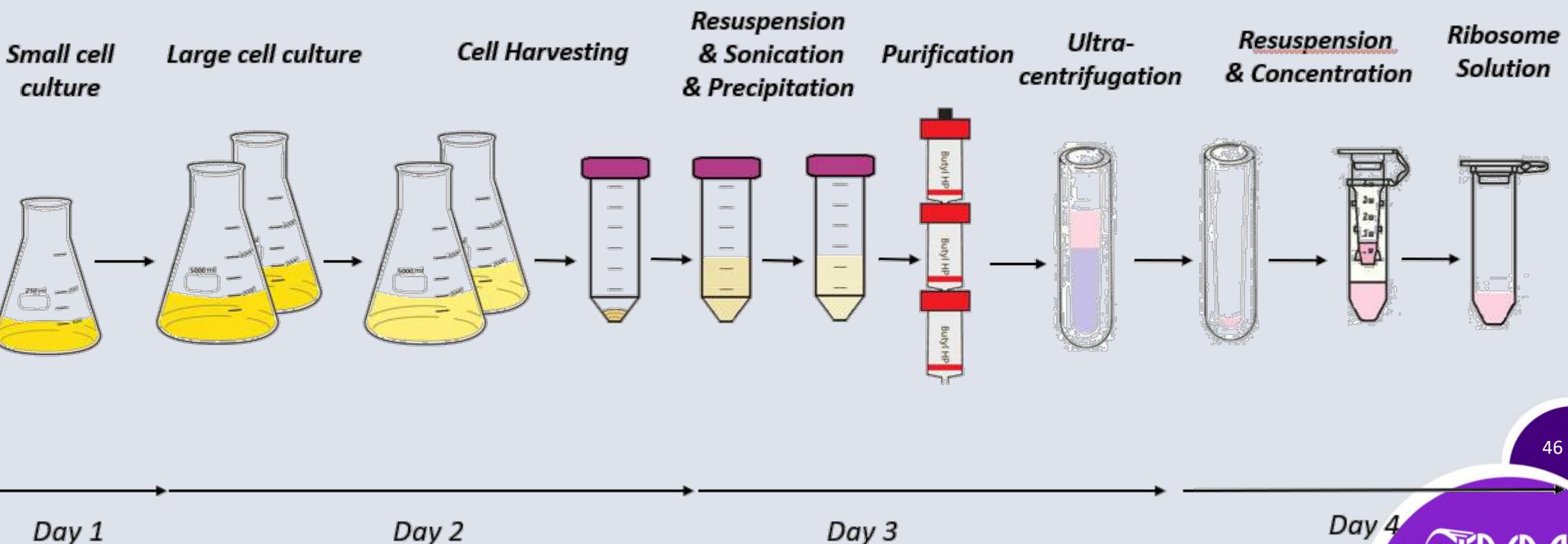
# Appendix



# Protein Purification

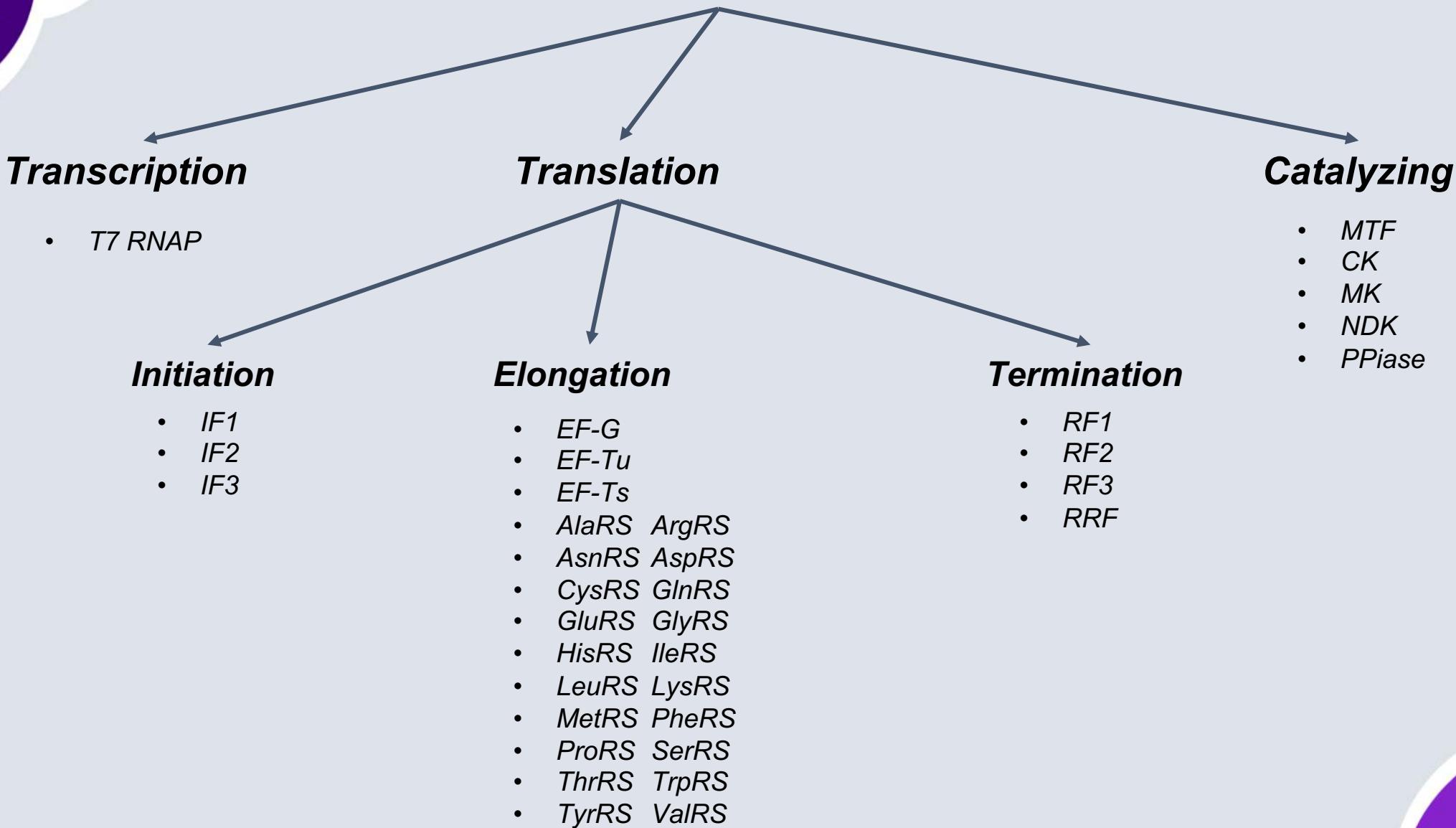


# Ribosome Purification



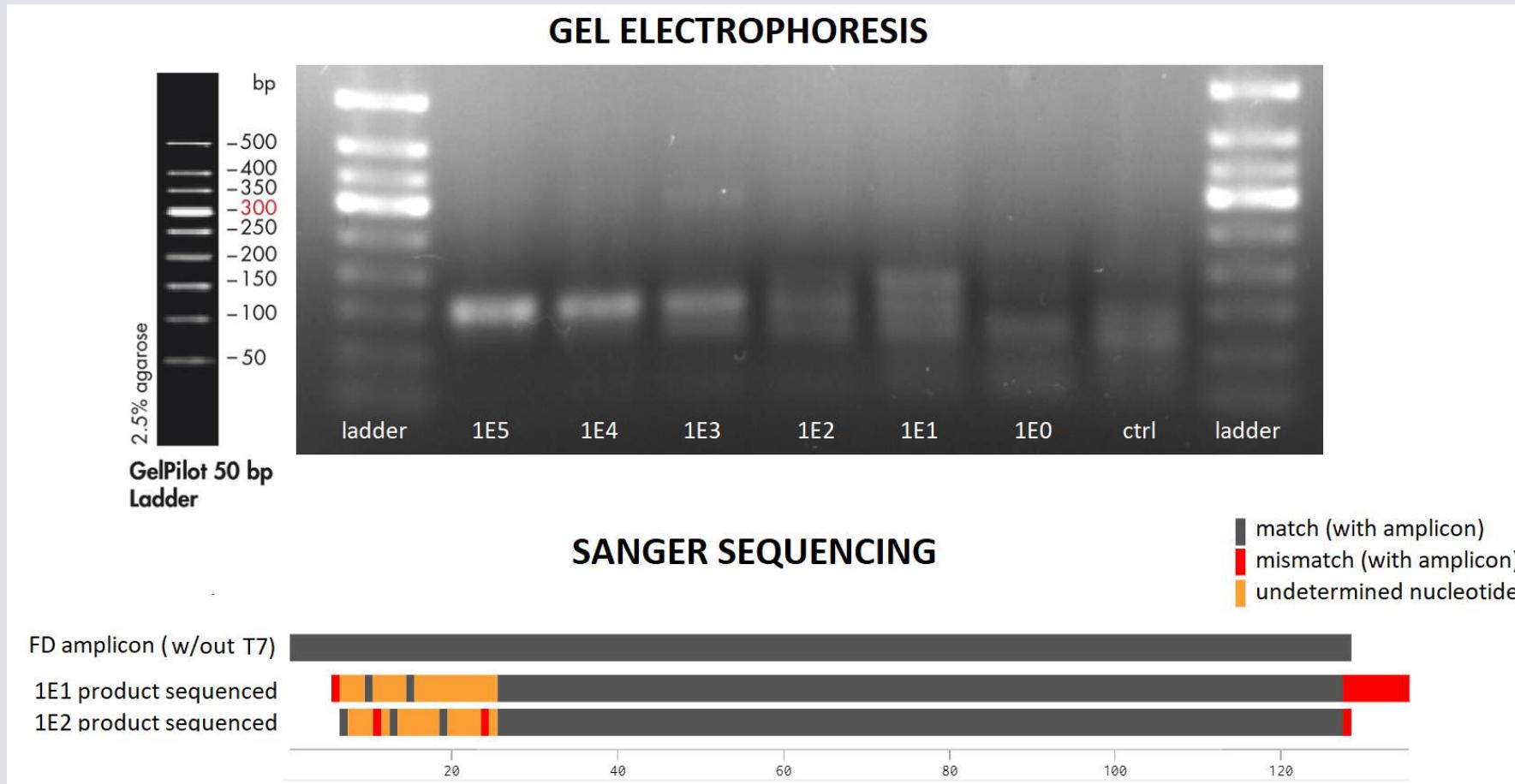


# 36 Proteins



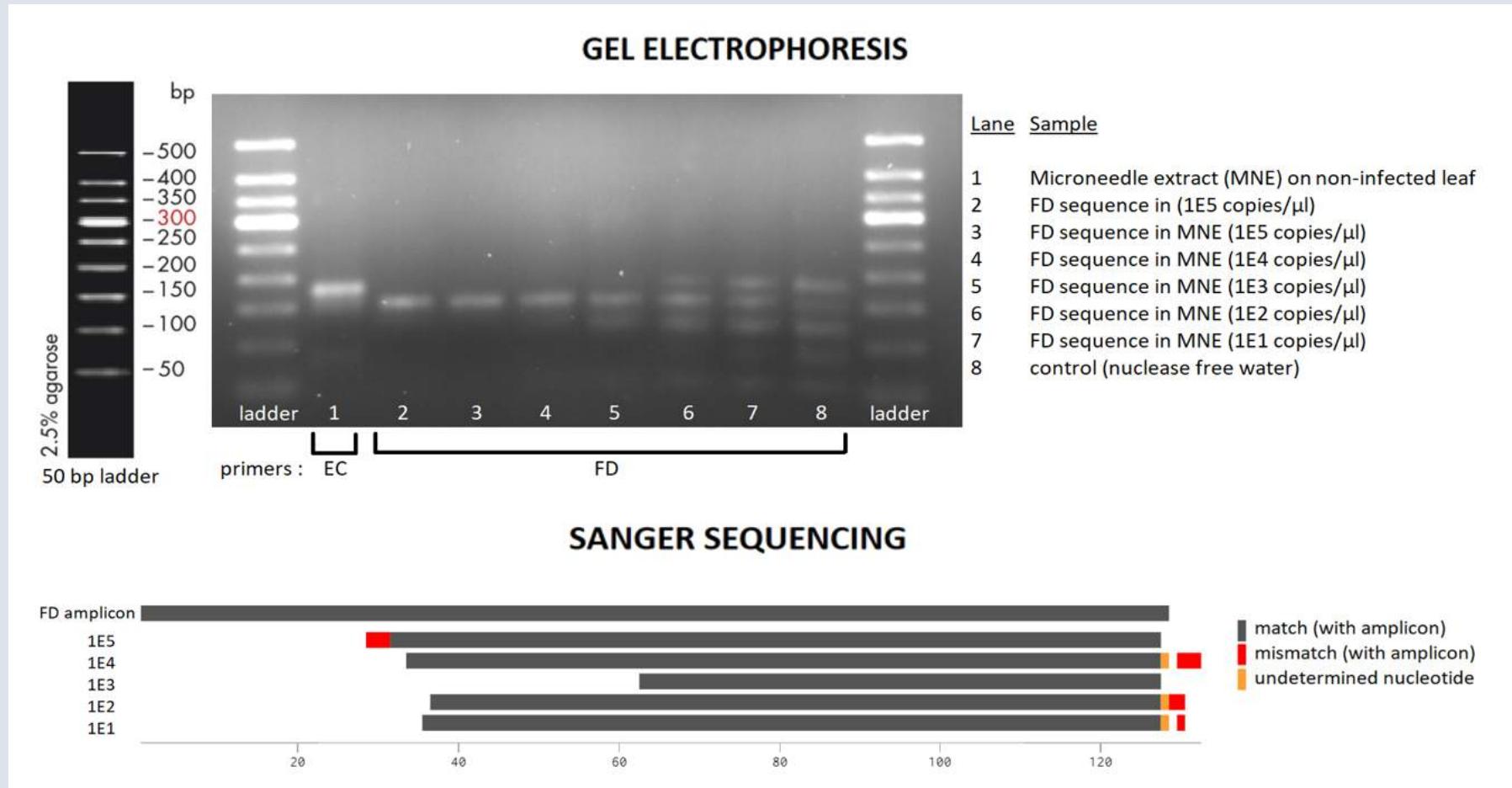


# Limit of detection



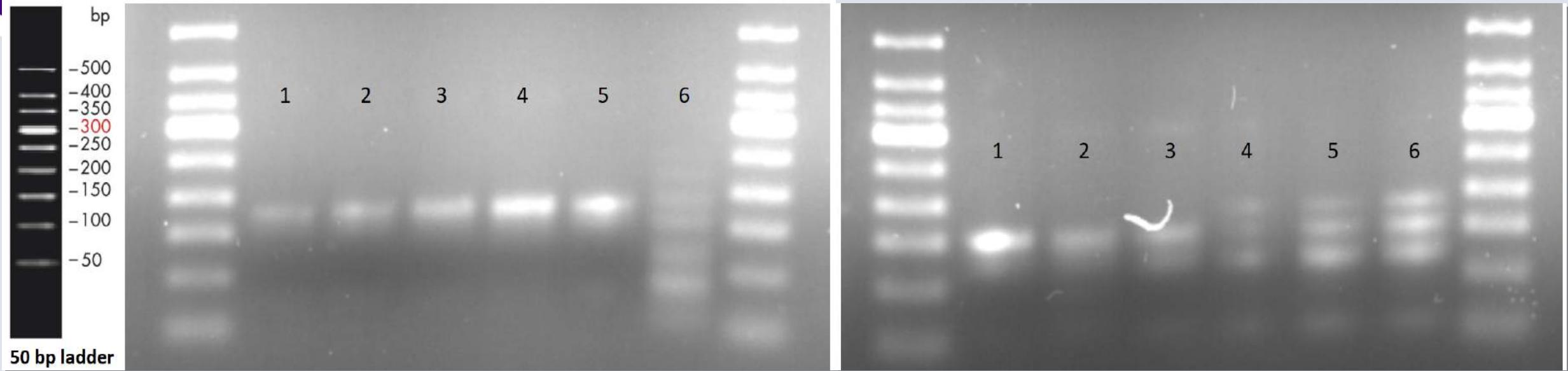
Agarose gel electrophoresis and sequence alignments of limit of detection of FD synthetic DNA

# Limit of detection in microneedle extract



Agarose gel electrophoresis and sequence alignments of limit of detection of FD synthetic DNA in presence of plant extract

# Testing on grapevine



<u>Lane</u>	<u>Template</u>
1	Respective synthetic sequence
2	Microneedle extraction (MNE) on non-infected plant
3	MNE on FD-infected plant
4	MNE on BN-infected plant
5	Prototype extraction on non-infected plant
6	Water



# Summary

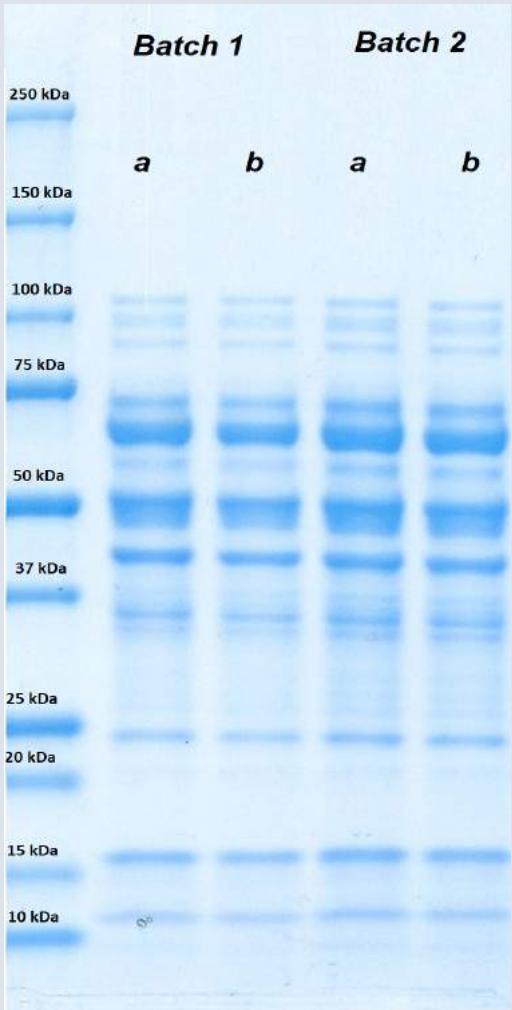
- Detection of phytoplasma plant diseases in 4 steps including DNA extraction with microneedle patch, isothermal amplification (RPA), toehold regulation, signal generation by using our in-house OnePot PURE system.
- An easy-to-use field-based diagnostic hardware was developed to allow us to detect the infectious grapevine diseases within 3 hours.

# Fabrication cost:

ViTest Mk I	Amount:	Fabrication cost (\$):
BD 1ml Syringe	1	0.34
Micro-needle patch	1	2.50
ER Buffer	0.3ml	0.10
3D printing	1	0.85
TwistAmp® Basic	1rxn	3.16
Test discs	3	0.61
Plastic dropper 0.5ml	1	0.02
<b>Total:</b>		<b>7.58</b>



# OnePot protein



*Reproducibility of  
OnePot protein*