

EPFL



ViTEST



The Origin of the Project



Maxime Guérinot
Professional
winegrower

Flavescence Dorée



Flavescence Dorée symptoms
on grapevine

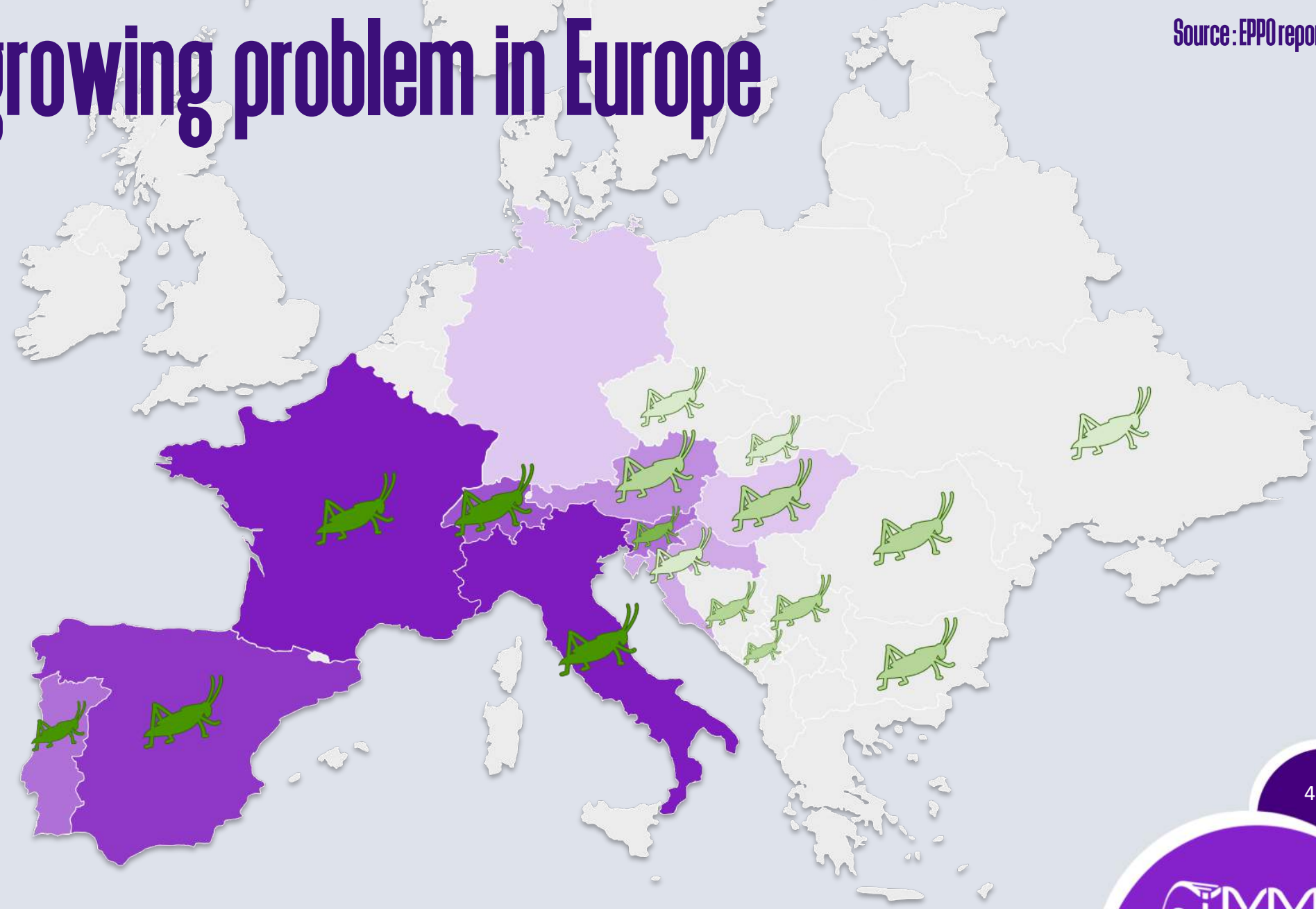
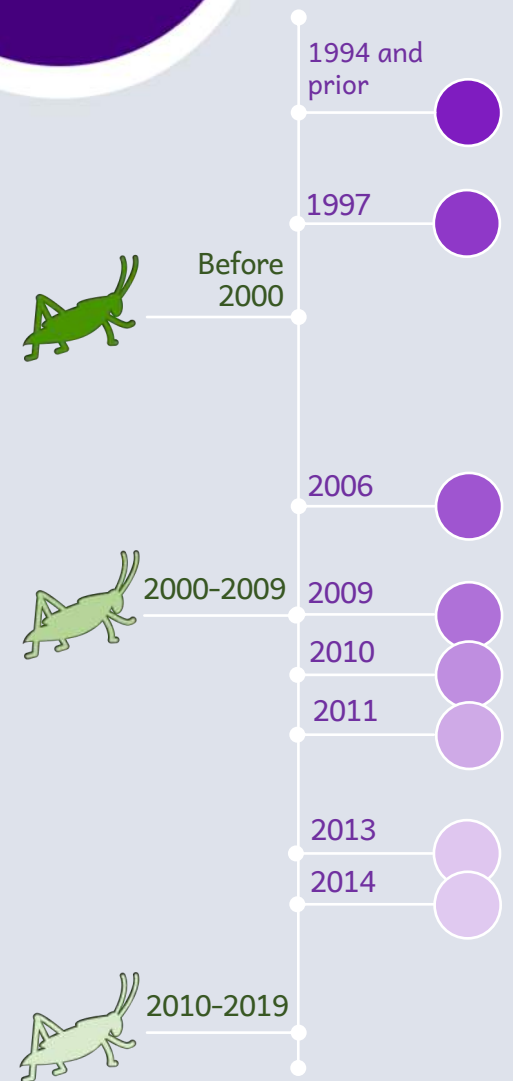
QUARANTINE

- Deadly
- No cure
- Highly contagious



A growing problem in Europe

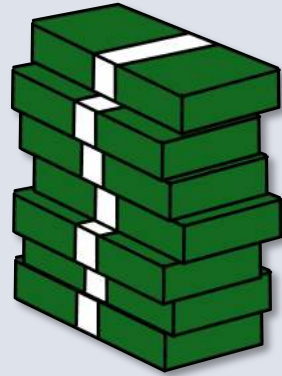
Source: EPPO reports



Timeline of 1ST reports of Flavescence Dorée and its vectors in Europe

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.”

Two diseases, same symptoms



Flavescence Dorée



Bois Noir



Bois Noir

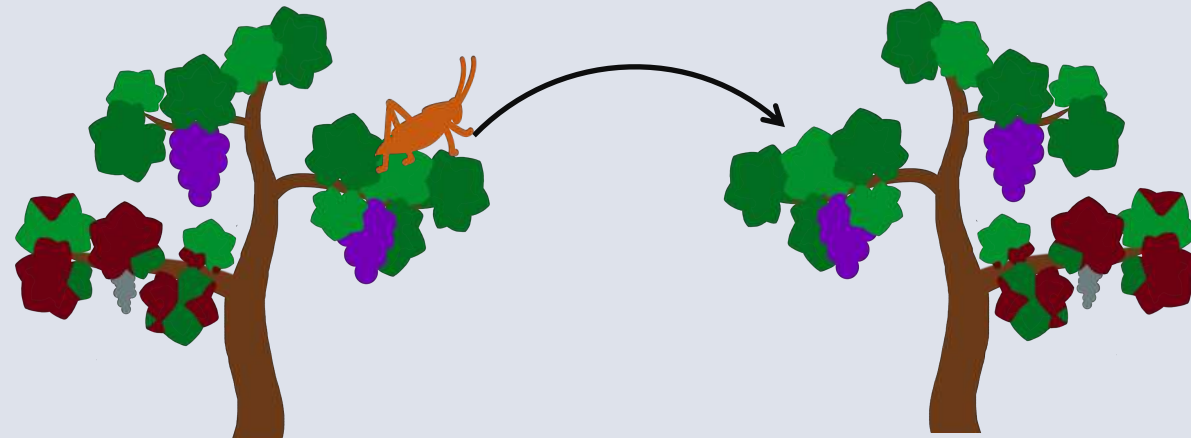


Flavescente Dorée

Disease transmission



Scaphoideus
titanus

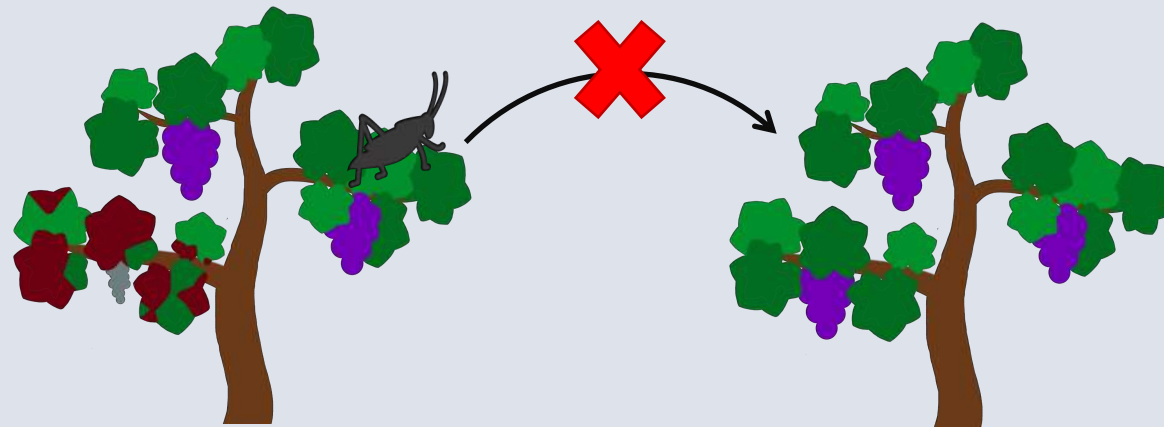


Flavescence dorée

INFECTED



Hyalesthes
obsoletus



Bois Noir

NOT INFECTED



Interacting with local stakeholders



Winegrower

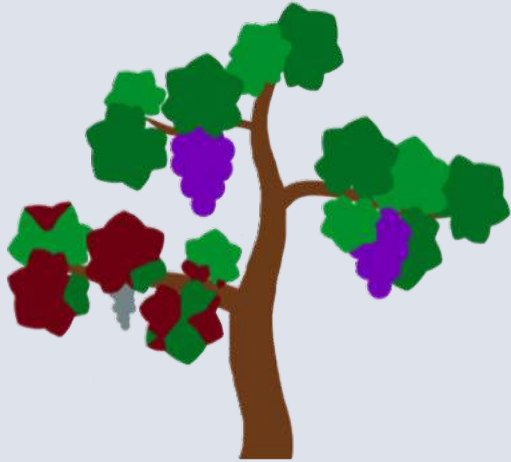


Phytosanitary police

Today's diagnostic

①

WINEGROWER



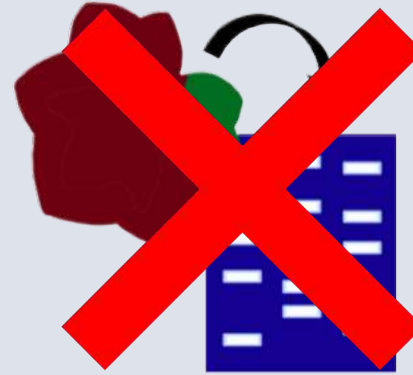
②

PHYTOSANITARY POLICE



③

AGROSCOPE



④

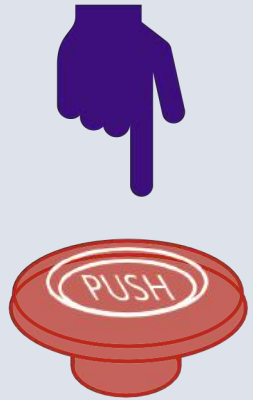
WINEGROWER



2-5 weeks



Our solution



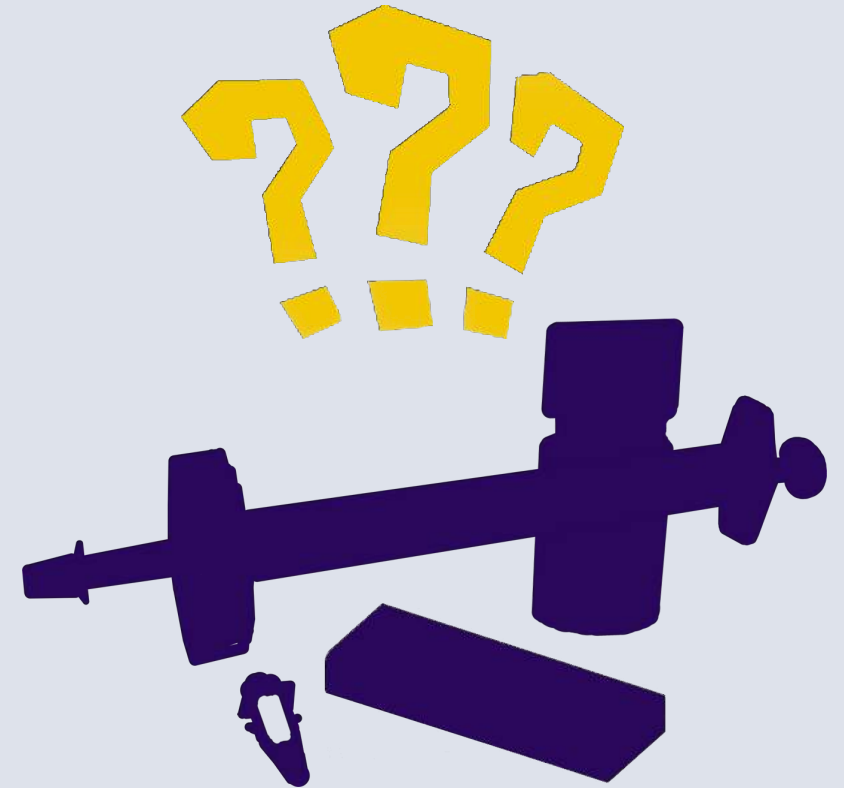
Easy-to-use



Fast



Field-based





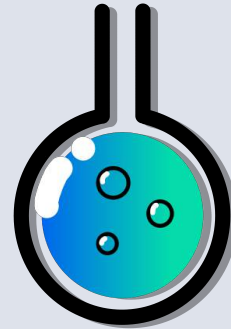
Method



DNA Extraction



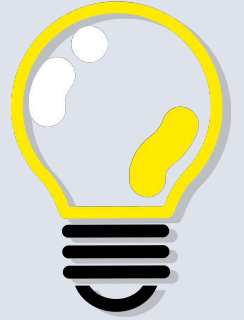
DNA Amplification



Expression System



Toehold Switch



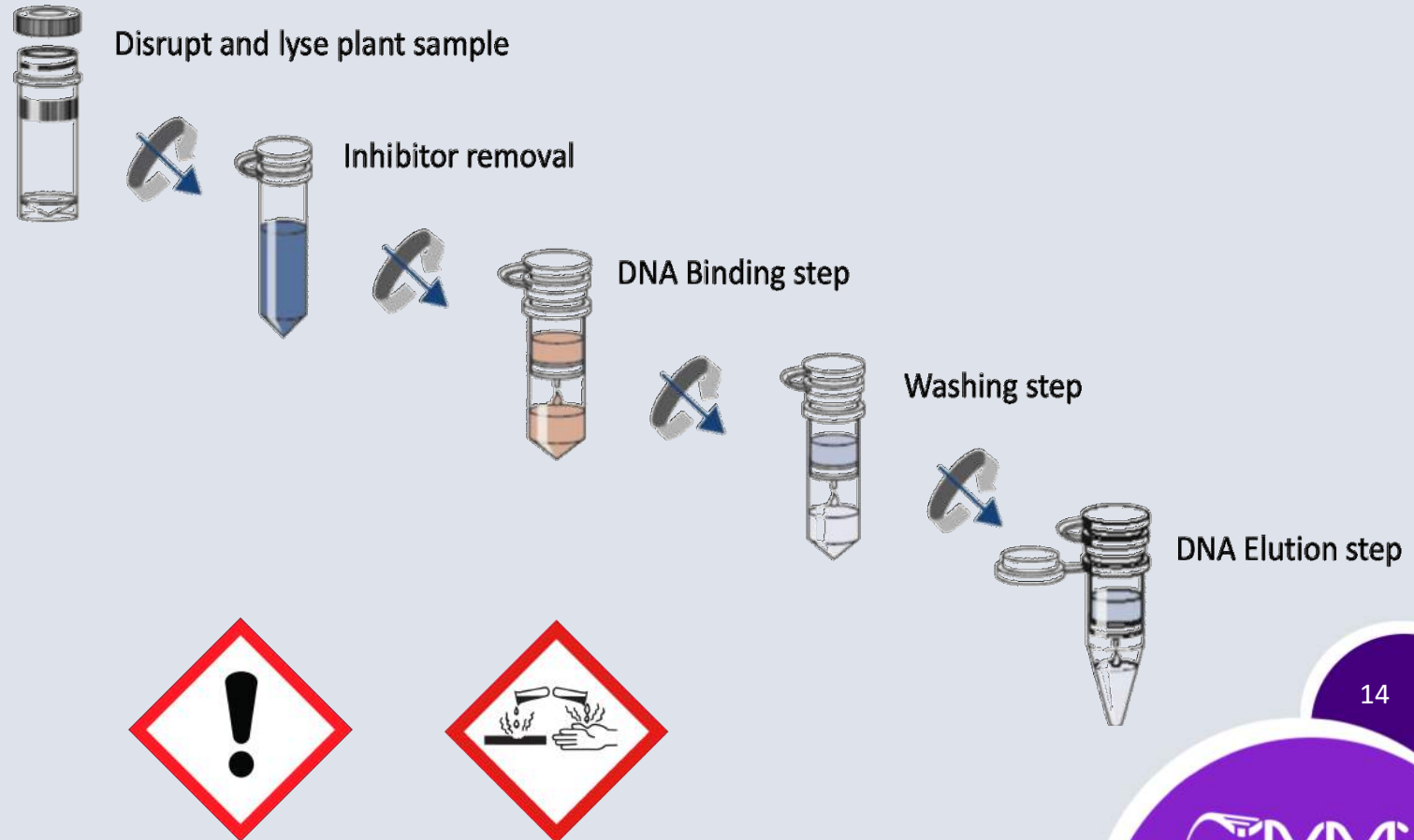
Signal Generation

DNA extraction

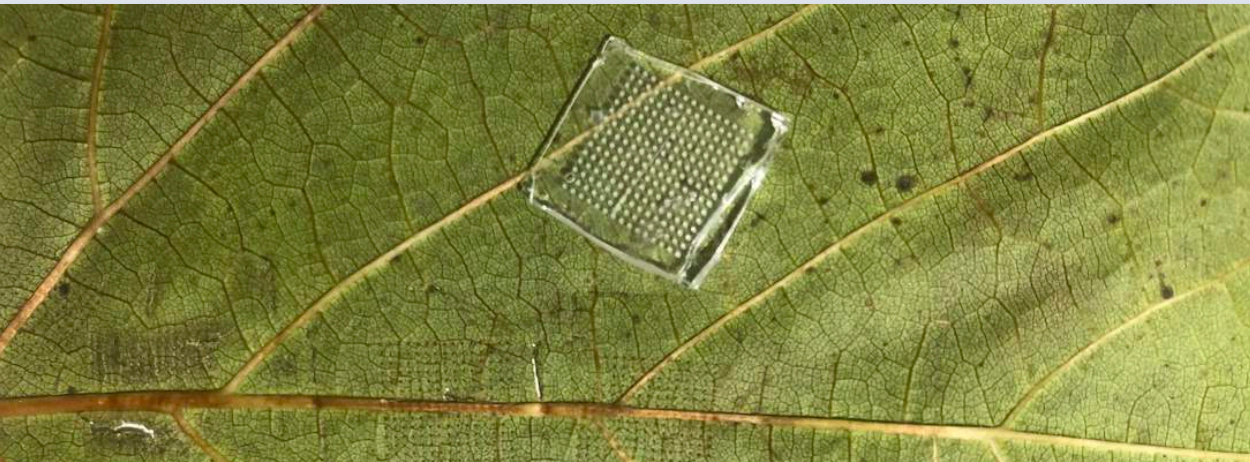
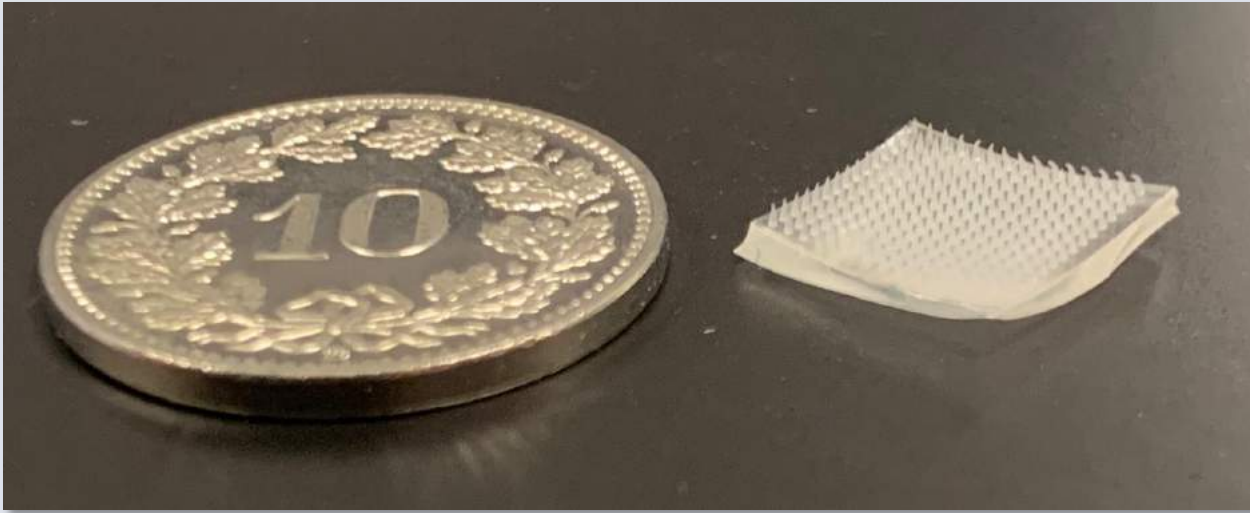


Conventional plant DNA extraction method

- Chemical cell lysis
- 3 hours
- Lab bound



DNA extraction using Microneedle patches



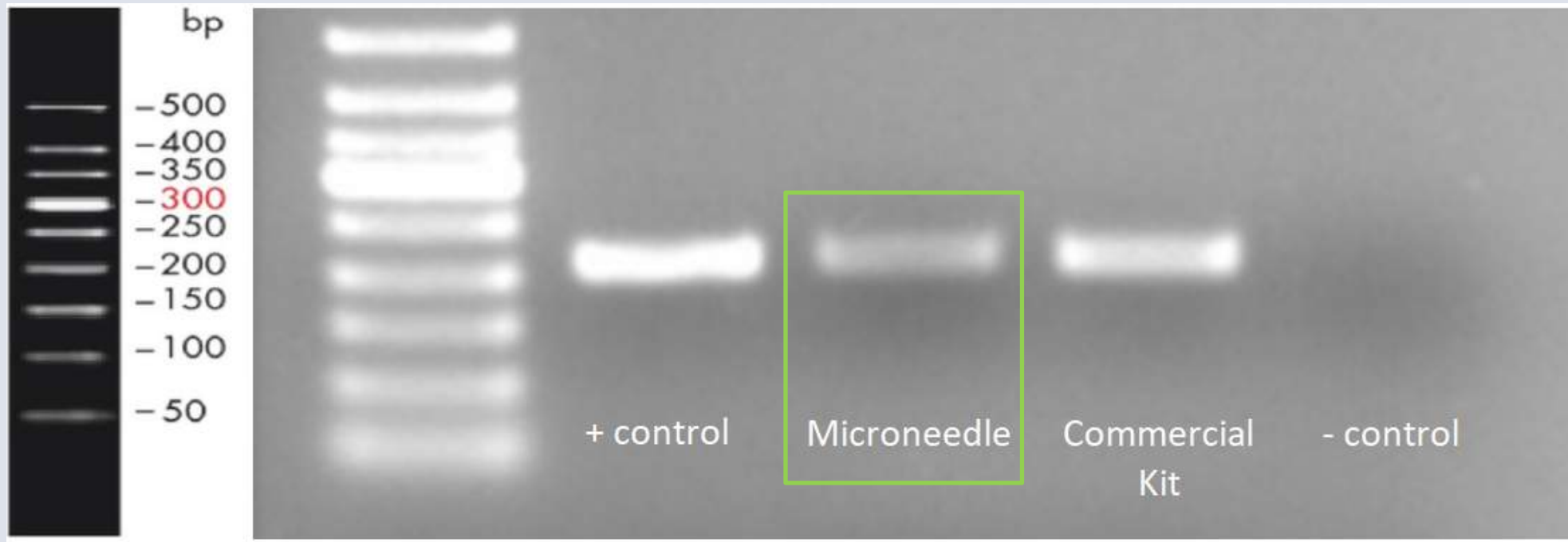
- No chemicals
- No DNA purification
- 1 minute



Prof. Zhen Gu

Rajesh Paul, et al, 2019.

Comparison of different DNA extraction techniques



Different extraction methods

DNA amplification





Choosing the Amplification Method

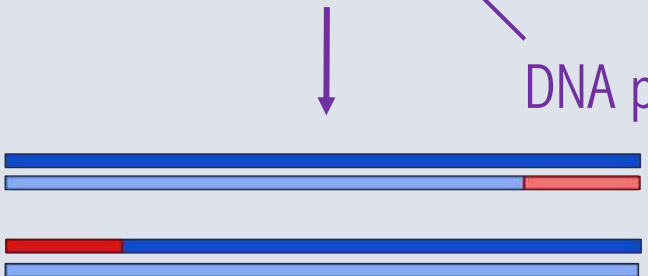
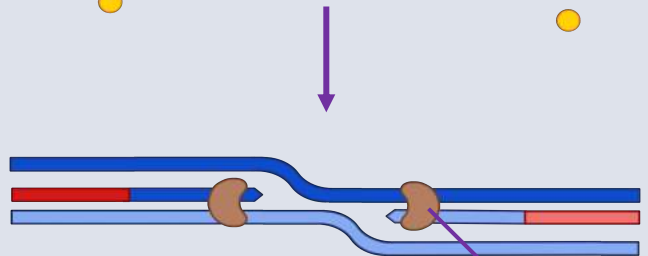
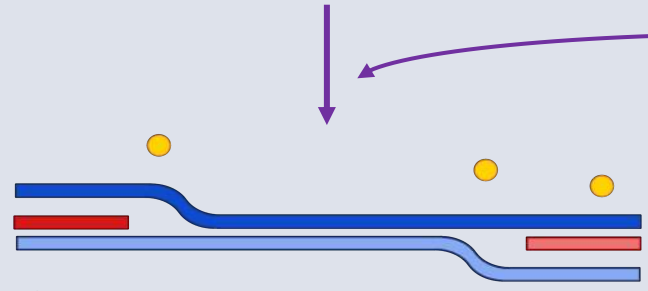
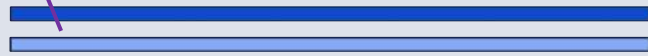
Loop Mediated Amplification (LAMP)

- Isothermal
- 60 min
- **Not Multiplexable**



Recombinase Polymerase Amplification (RPA)

Template dsDNA



DNA polymerase

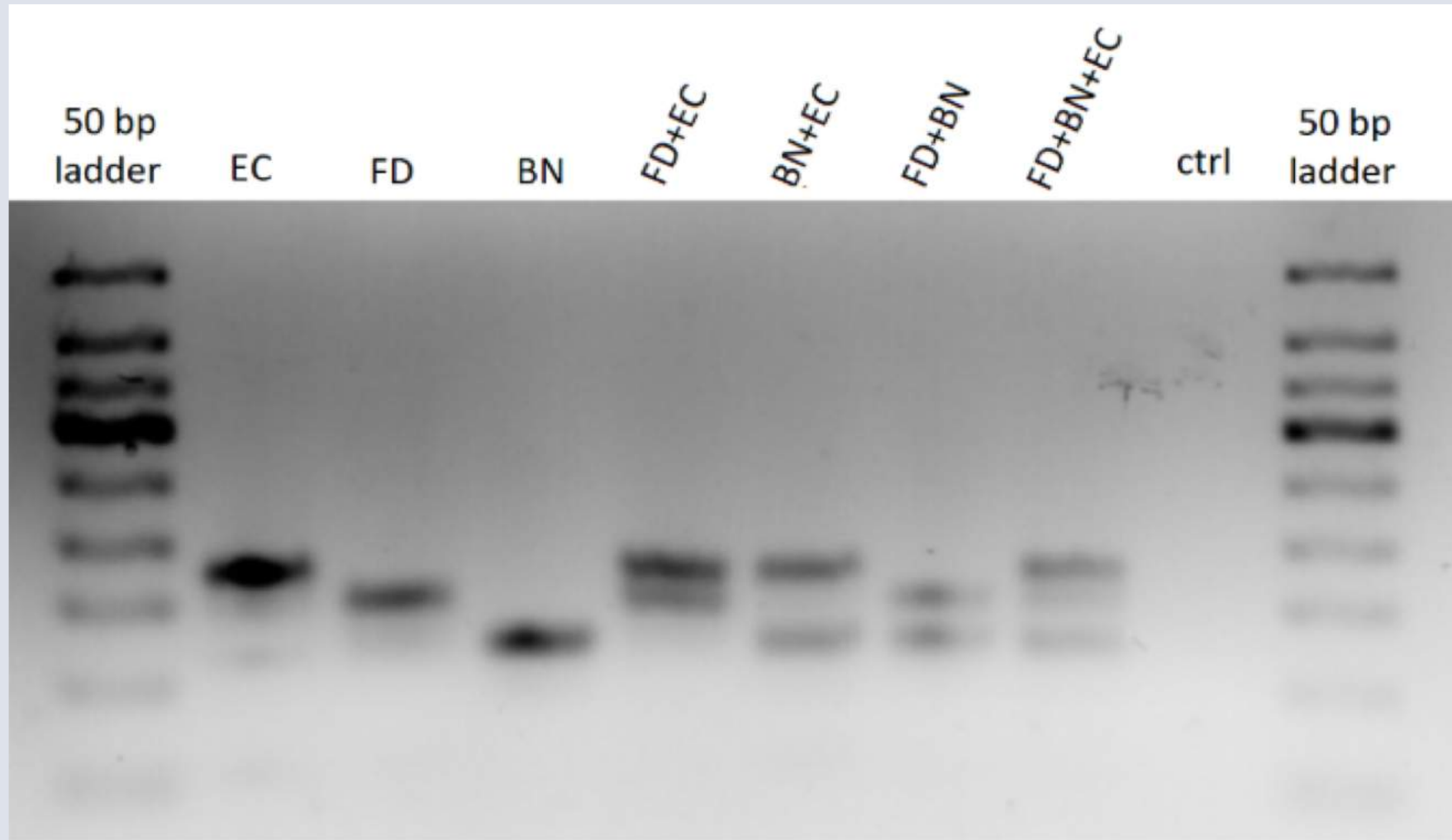
Primers

Recombinase

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

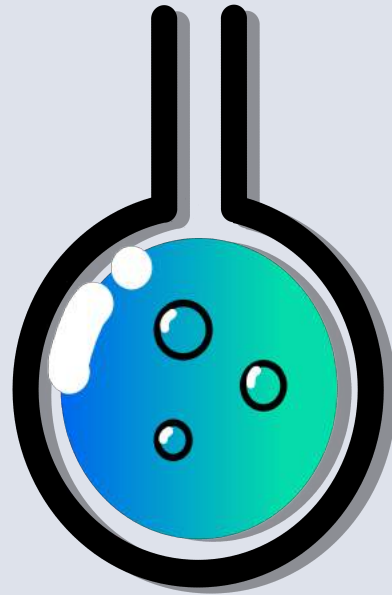
Adapted from Piepenburg, et al, 2006.

Simultaneous amplification of 3 DNA targets using RPA



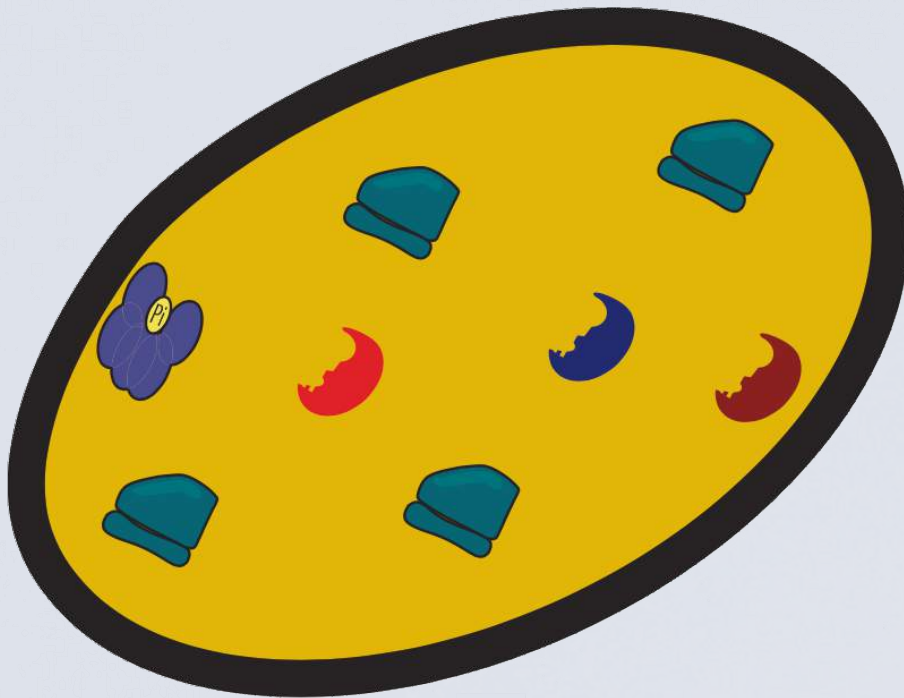
Agarose gel electrophoresis of multiplexed RPA reactions.

Expression system



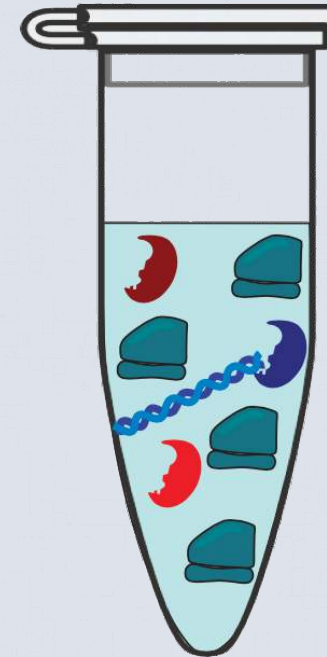
Transcription-Translation System

Bacteria



Schemes from Lavickova Barbora

Cell-Free system





Transcription-Translation System

Bacteria

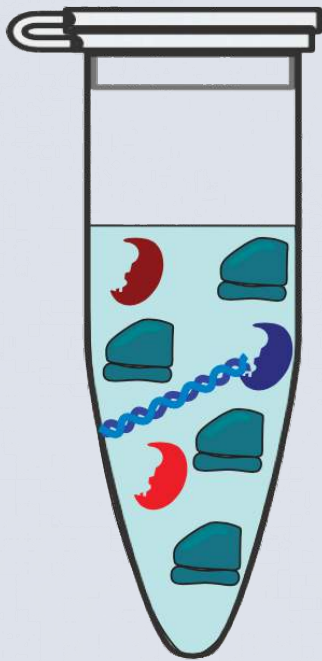
- Time consuming
- Complex
- Strict regulations
- \$

Cell-Free system

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



In-house “OnePot” PURE



36 purified Proteins

Ribosomes

Energy solution

One co-culture

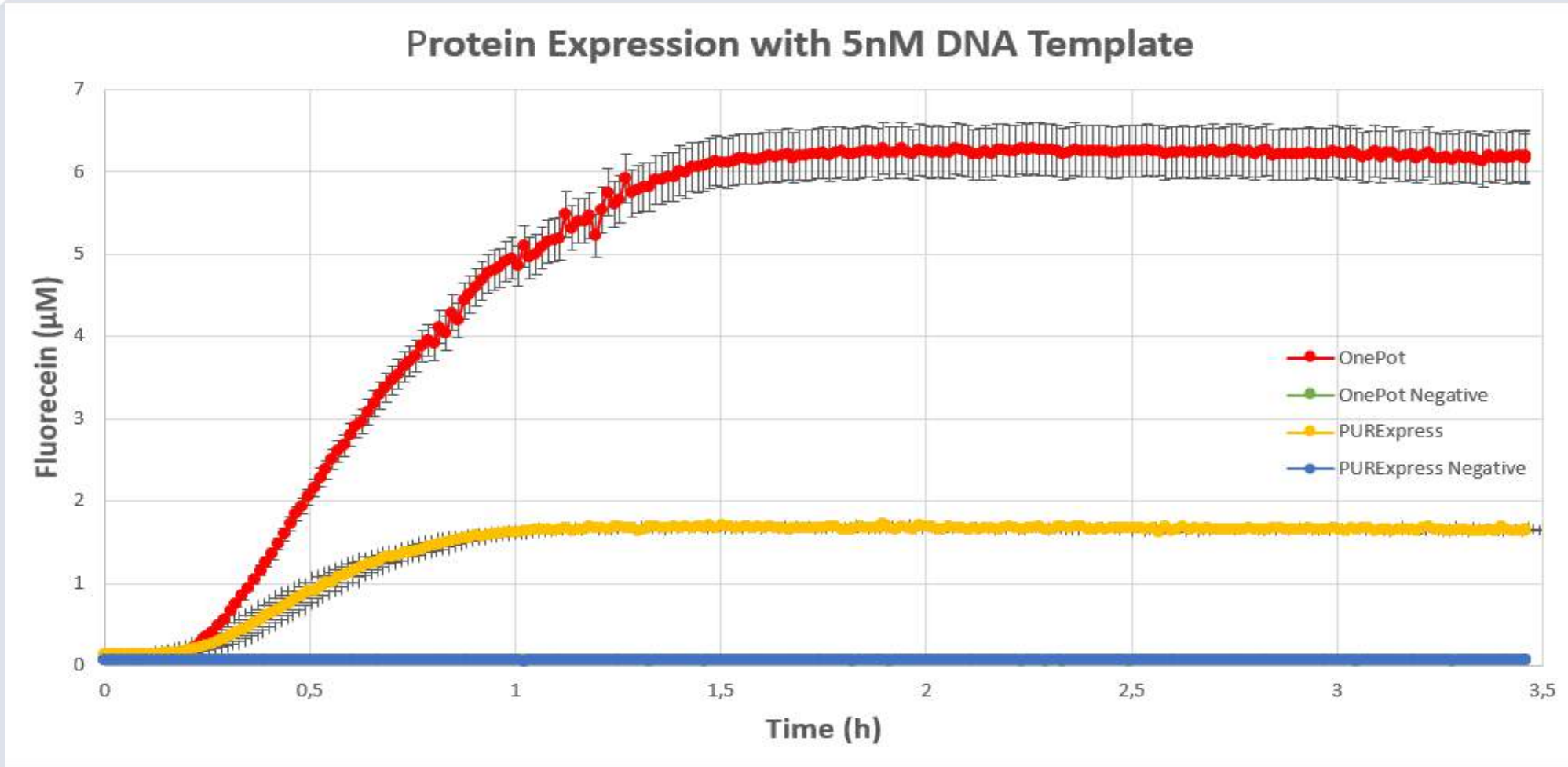


One Purification



14x cheaper

Characterization of “OnePot” PURE

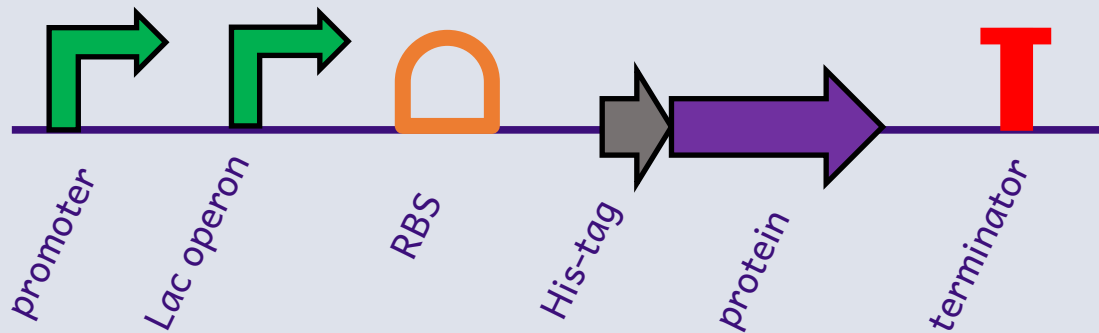


sfGFP Gene Expression (in fluorescein con.)



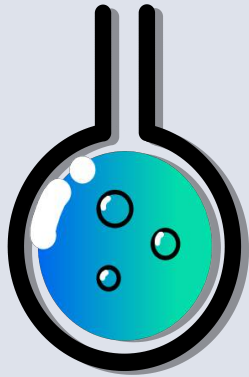
Part collection

Proteins:

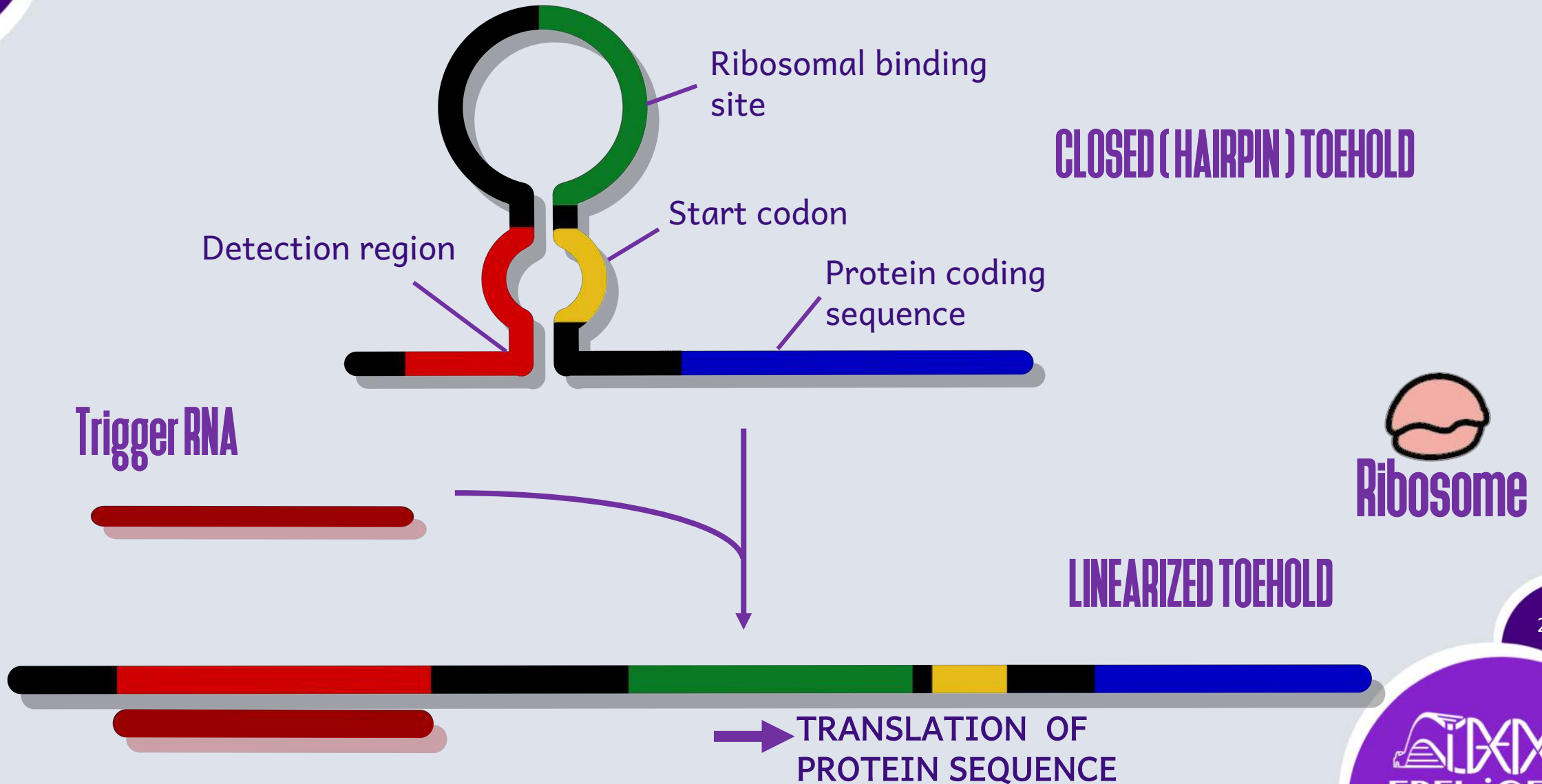


1. Registry(BBa_K2916000 to 49)
2. Protocol
3. Video tutorial (Search: “OnePot iGEM EPFL”)

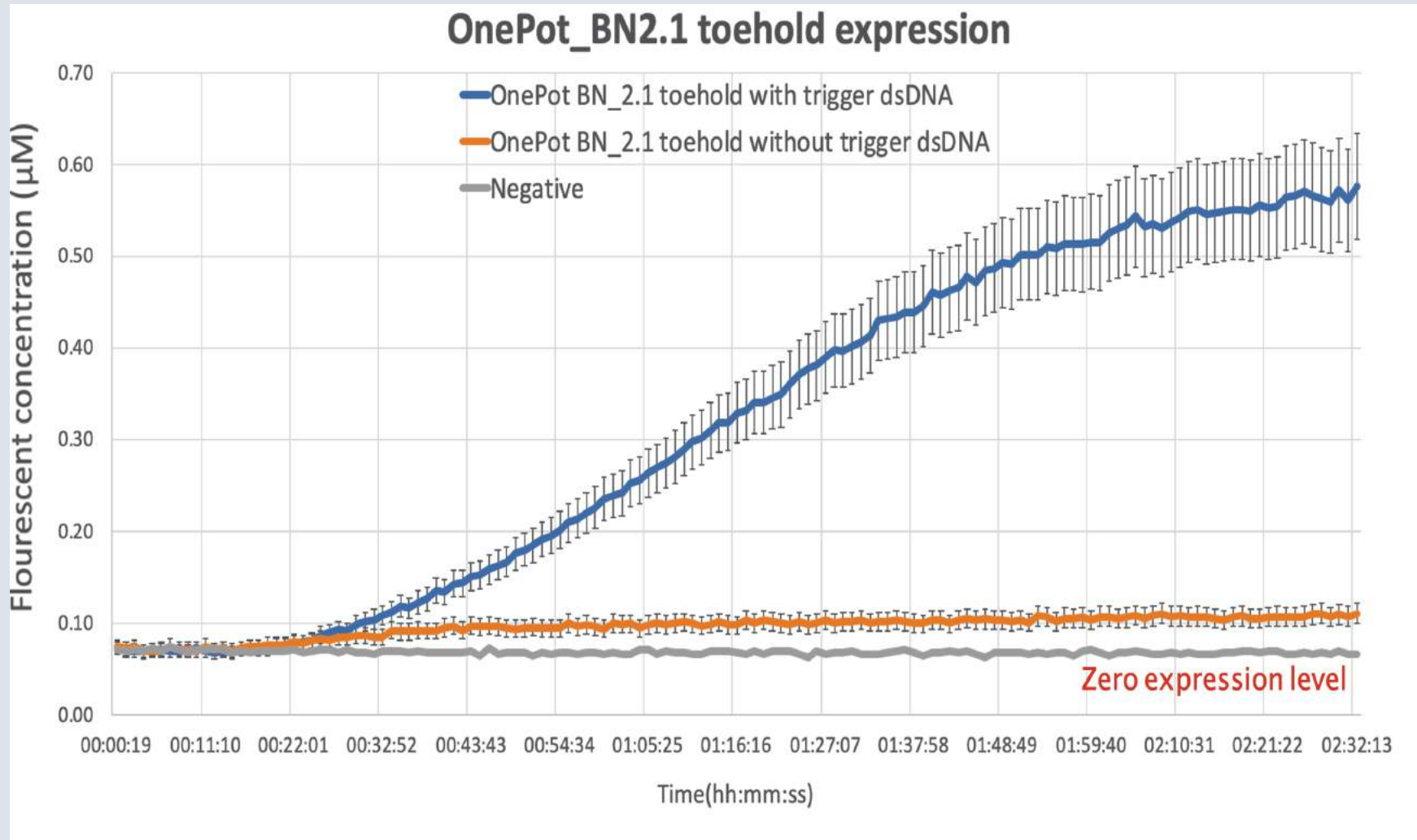
Toehold switch



How Toehold works:

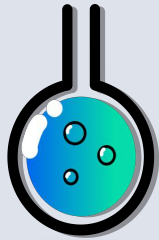


Toehold Regulation of GFP expression

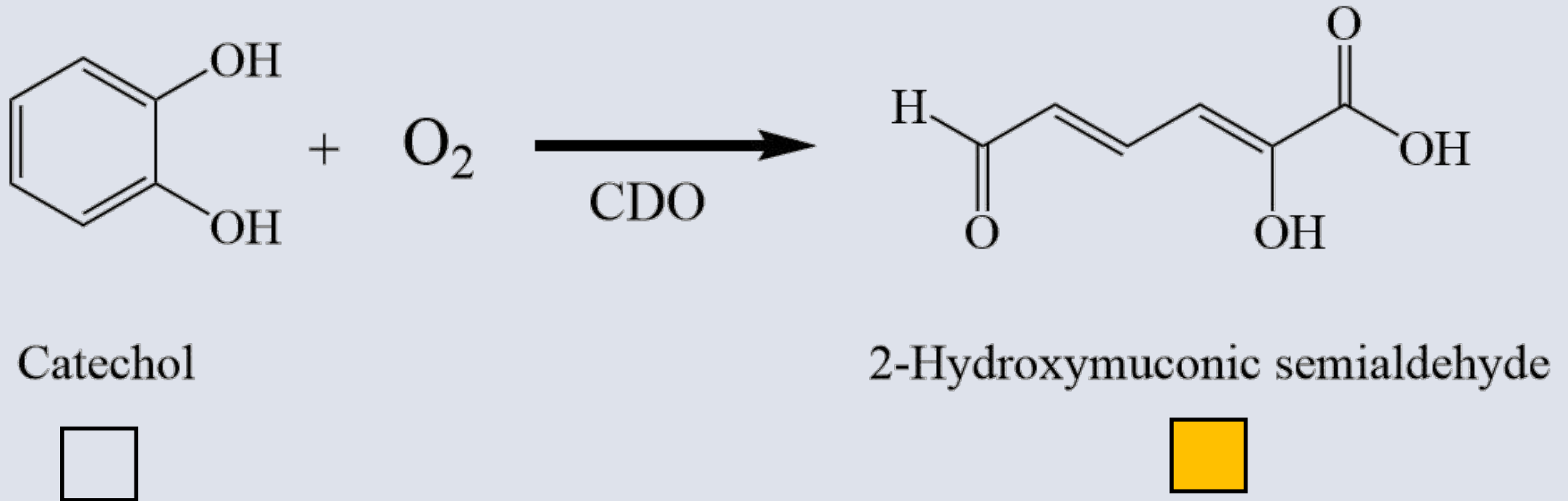


*Toehold functionality test
(Bois Noir 2.1 toehold v.s. commercially available toehold)*

Signal generation

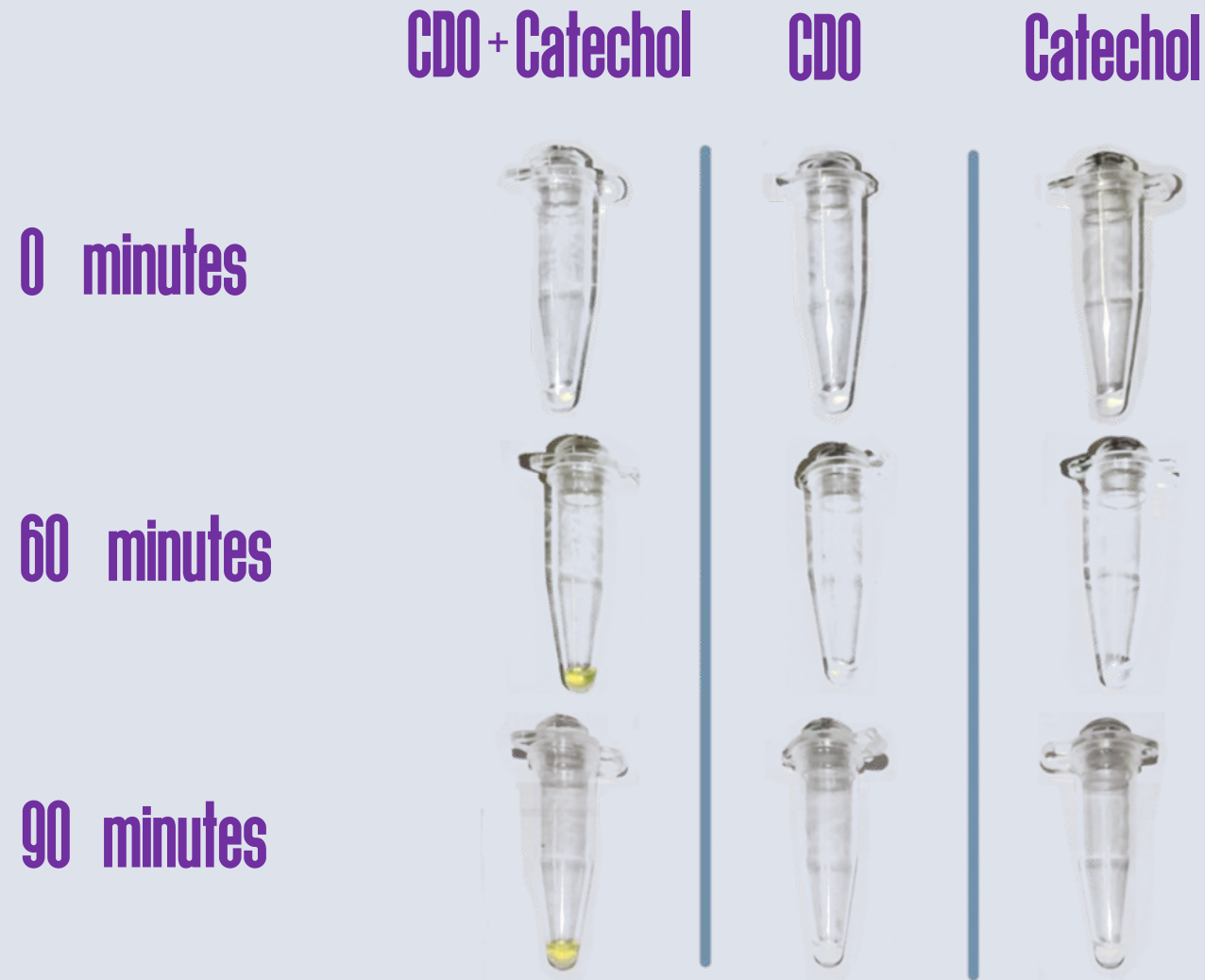


Signal Generation with CDO (catechol 2,3-dioxygenase)



Verosloff, M., et al., 2019

Colorimetric Signal in OnePot PURE



Colorimetric signal preservation

Summary





Winegrowers

- 2 Similar Diseases
- How it affects them
- Feedback





Phytopsanitary Police



- Symptoms Identification
- Diagnostic Process
- Collect Infected Samples



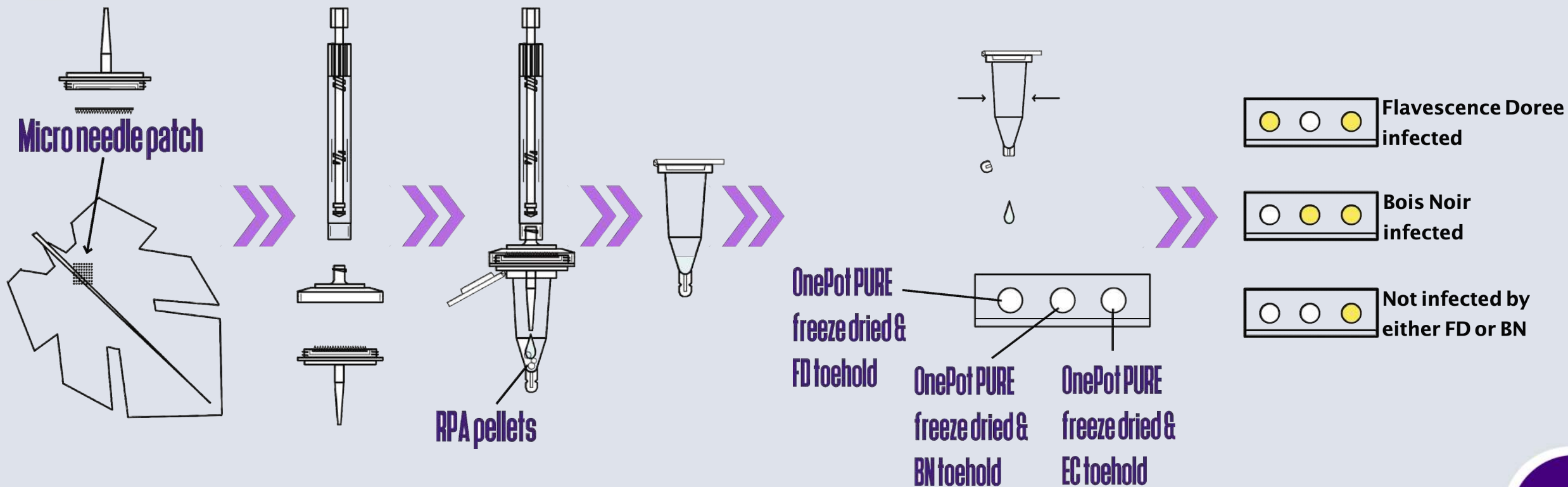
Agroscope

- Underlying biology of phytoplasma
- Technical Guidance
- Test Requirements



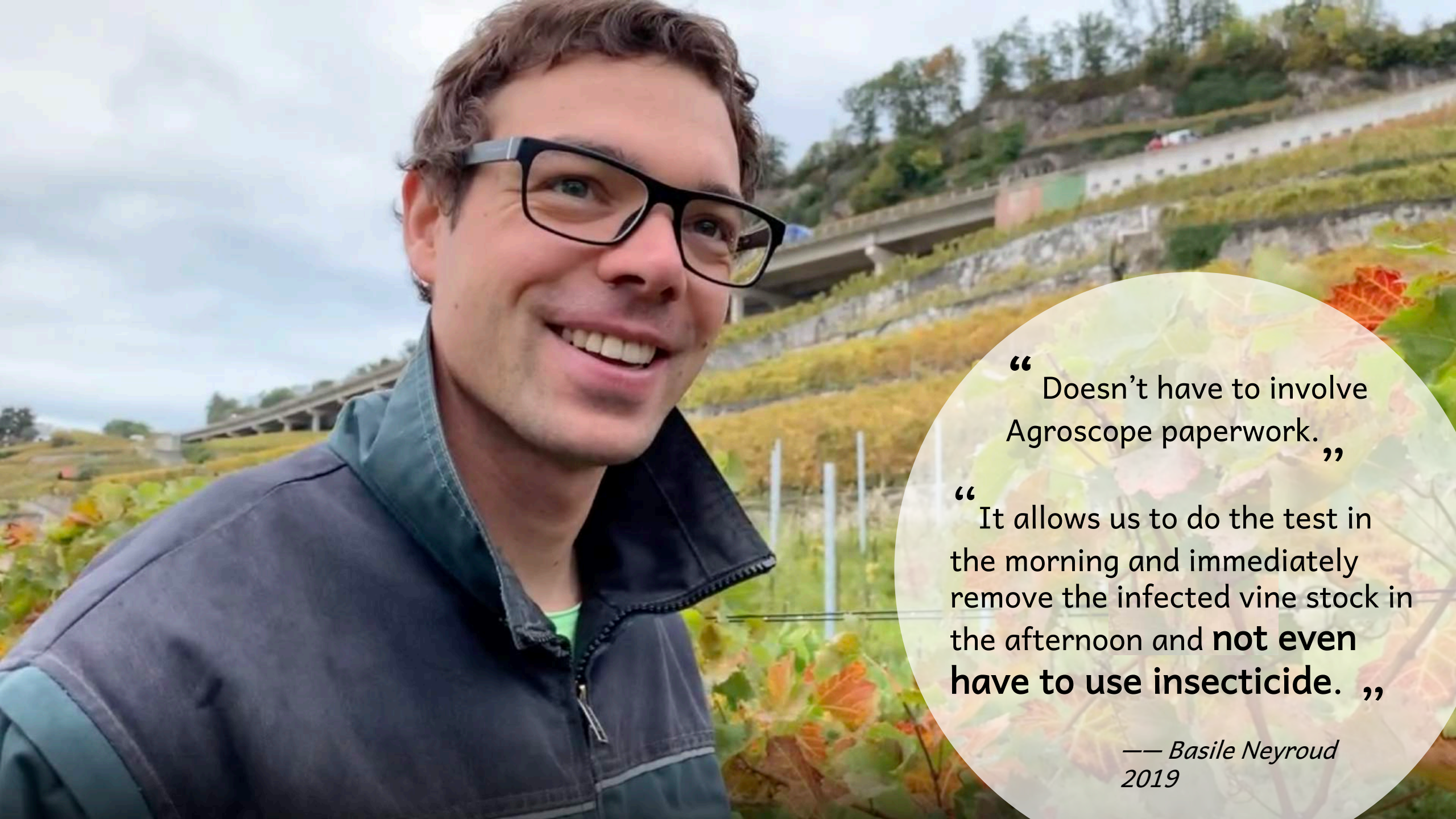
Agroscope

Hardware design



Hardware demonstration





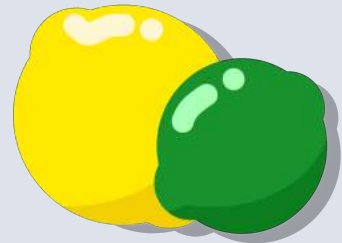
“ Doesn't have to involve Agroscope paperwork. ”

“ 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



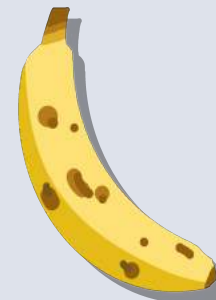
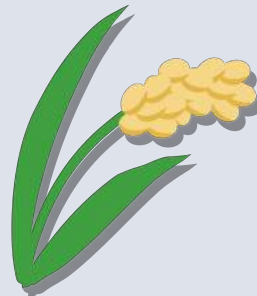
A local solution to a global problem



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

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Lena Bruhin

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 **Promega**

T W I S T
BIOSCIENCE

 **Microsynth**
THE SWISS DNA COMPANY

Nikon

 NEW ENGLAND
BioLabs Inc.
enabling technologies in the life sciences

 **Agroscope**

robooooly



JEAN-FRANÇOIS CHARDONNE

NEYROUD
FONJALLAZ
VIGNERON-ENCAVEUR


EPFL iGEM

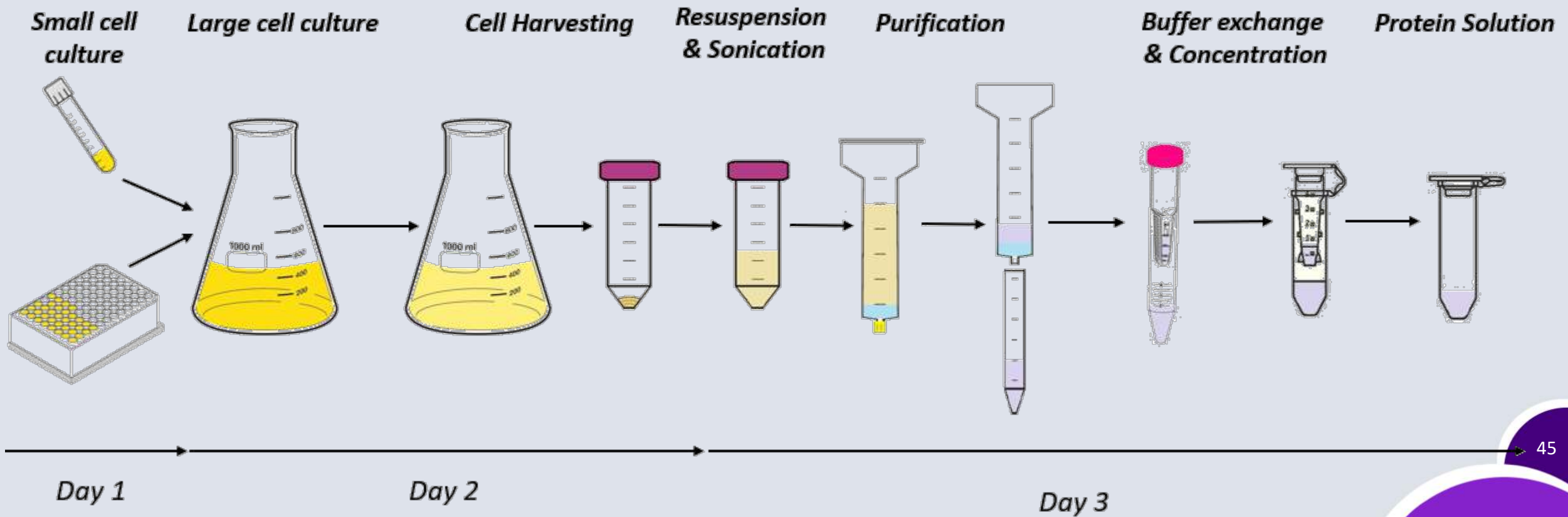




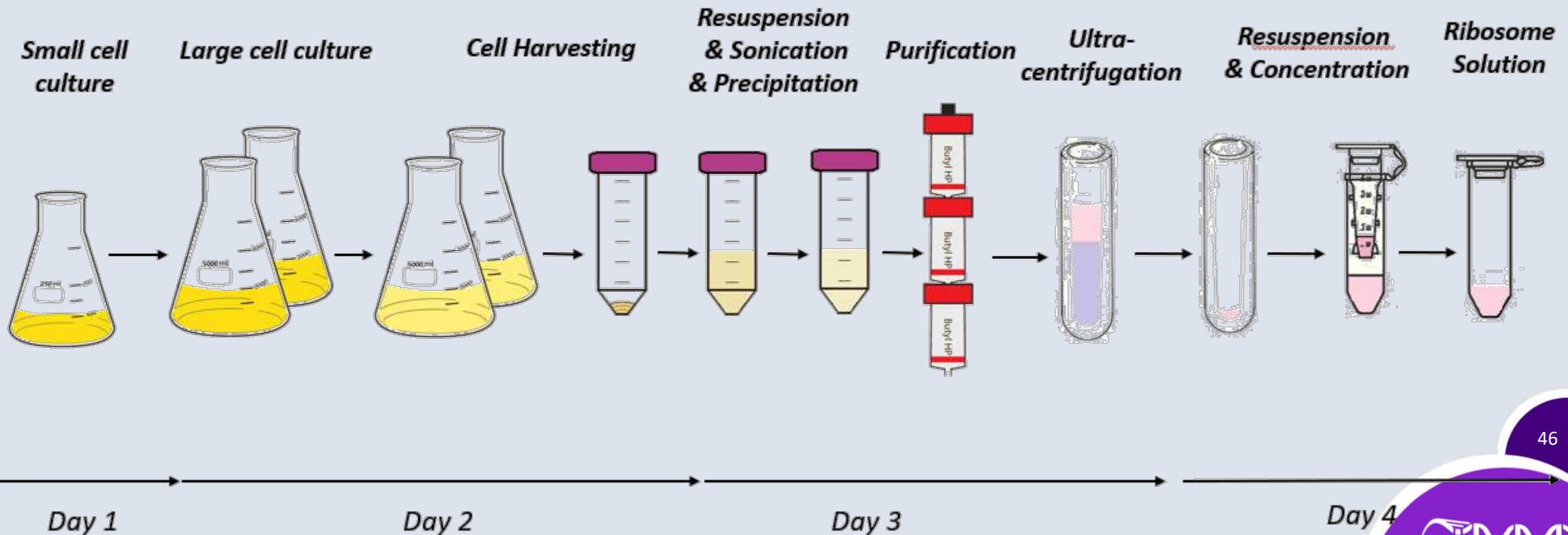
Appendix



Protein Purification

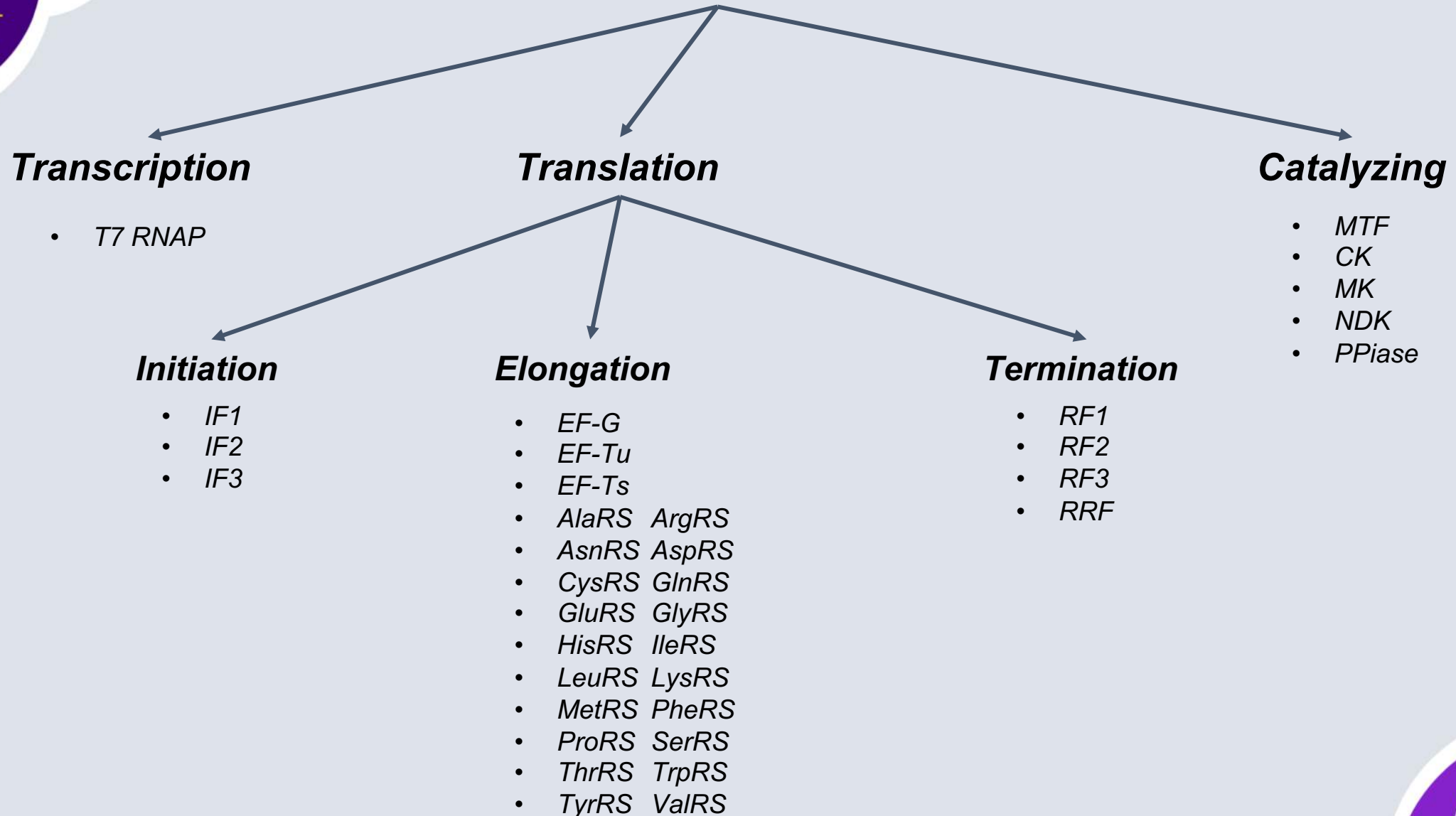


Ribosome Purification

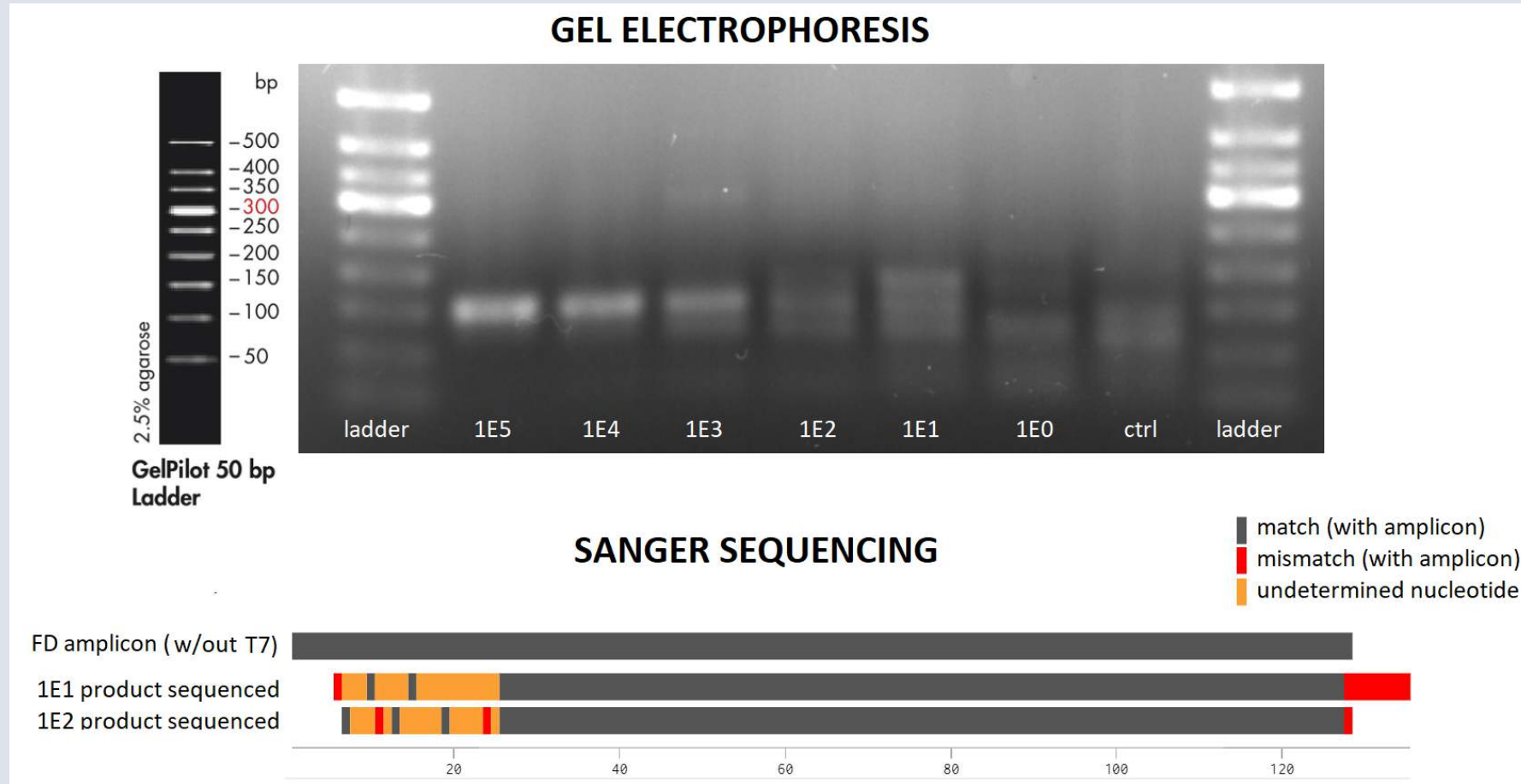




36 Proteins



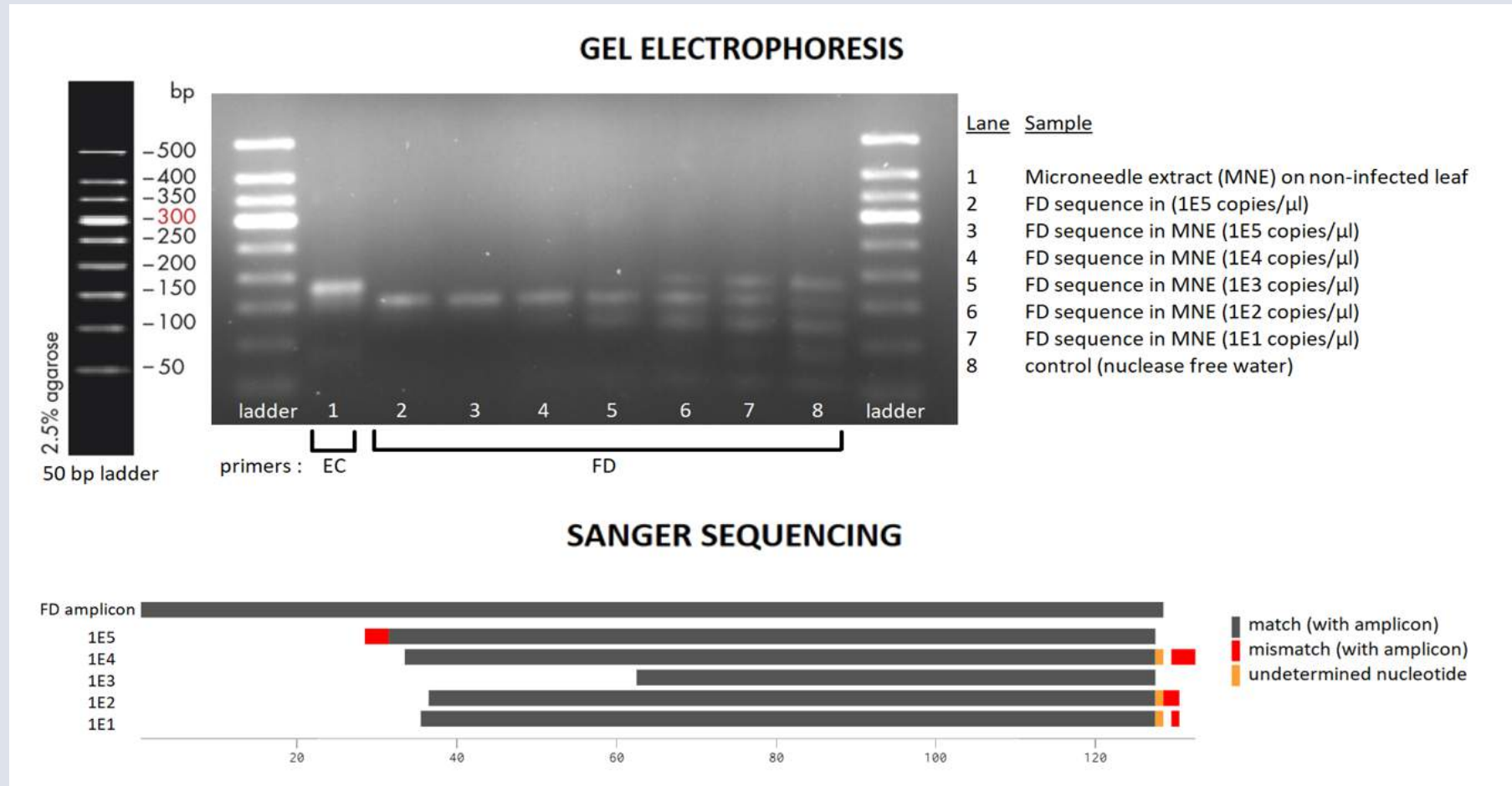
Limit of detection



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



Limit of detection in microneedle extract

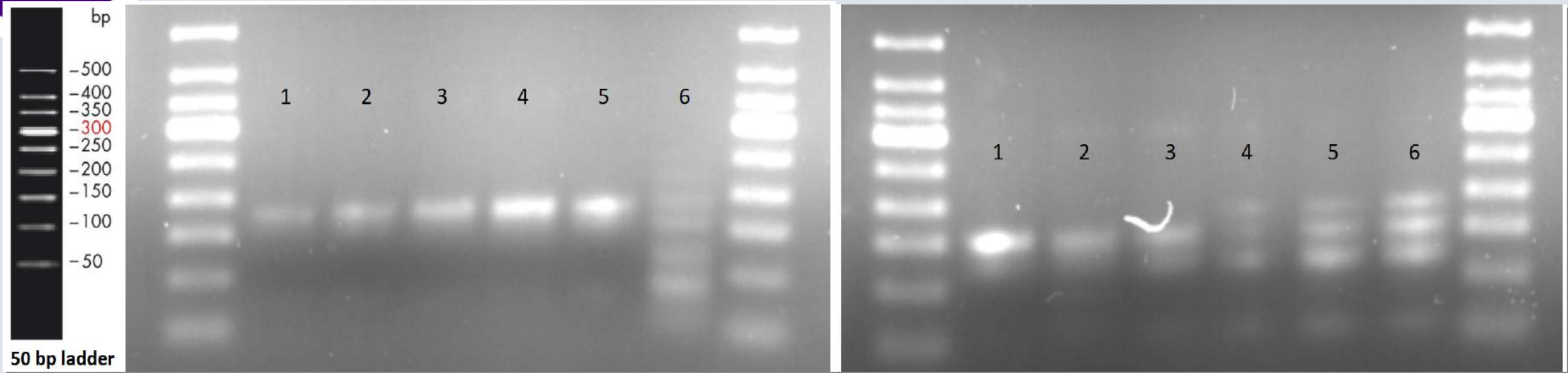


Agarose gel electrophoresis and sequence alignments of limit of detection of FD synthetic DNA in presence of plant extract





Testing on grapevine



Lane

Template

- | | |
|---|--|
| 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
Total:		7.58

OnePot protein



*Reproducibility of
OnePot protein*