PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit

Catalog No. 12888-50
Quantity: 50 preps

Catalog No. 12888-100
Quantity: 100 preps

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

Version 07272016

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INTRODUCTION

The PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit is comprised of a novel and proprietary method for isolating genomic DNA from environmental samples utilizing our patented Inhibitor Removal Technology® (IRT). The kit is intended for use with environmental samples containing a high humic acid content including difficult soil types such as compost, sediment, and manure. Other more common soil types have also been used successfully with this kit. The isolated DNA has a high level of purity allowing for more successful PCR amplification of organisms from the sample. PCR analysis has been performed to detect a variety of organisms including bacteria (e.g. *Bacillus subtilis*, *Bacillus anthracis*), fungi (e.g. yeasts, molds), algae and Actinomycetes (e.g. *Streptomyces*).

PROTOCOL OVERVIEW

The PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit is effective at removing PCR inhibitors from even the most difficult soil types. Environmental samples are added to a bead beating tube for rapid and thorough homogenization. Cell lysis occurs by mechanical and chemical methods. Total genomic DNA is captured on a silica membrane in a spin column format. DNA is then washed and eluted from the membrane. DNA is then ready for PCR analysis and other downstream applications.

BEAD BEATING OPTIONS

The PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit does not require homogenization using a high velocity bead beater. However, if the microorganism of interest requires stronger homogenization than provided by a vortex, or if using a bead beater is desired, the PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit may be used in conjunction with the PowerLyzer® 24 homogenizer. MO BIO now offers the PowerLyzer® PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit (cat# 12855-50) with a Bead Tube suitable for high powered bead beating of soil. For more information about these products, or for references using the PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit with a FastPrep® instrument, please contact Technical Service at 1-800-606-6246 or technical@mobio.com.

Additional information can be found at www.mobio.com/blog in the following articles:

https://mobio.com/blog/cat/technical-tips/post/Molecular_Biology_of_Soil_an_introduction/

https://mobio.com/blog/cat/technical-tips/post/Molecular_Biology_of_Soil_DNA_Isolation_Part_I/
PowerLyzer® 24 Bench Top Bead-Based Homogenizer
The PowerLyzer® 24 Bench Top Bead-Based Homogenizer is a bead beating instrument uniquely designed for the most efficient and complete lysis and homogenization of any biological sample. In as little as 30 seconds, the PowerLyzer® 24 homogenizer is capable of processing up to 24 samples in 2 ml tubes. With true “hands-free” operation, the downtime associated with manipulating samples through multiple cycles is eliminated. Even the toughest and most difficult samples such as pine needles, seeds, spores, fungal mats, and clay soils are easily and effectively lysed. For more information and protocols, call technical service.

PowerLyzer® 24
Bench Top Bead-Based Homogenizer
Catalog#13155
www.mobio.com/powerlyzer

High Throughput Options
MO BIO offers a vacuum based protocol for faster processing without centrifugation for the DNA binding and column washing steps for Spin Filters. The MO BIO PowerVac™ Manifold allows for processing of up to 20 spin filter preps at a time using the PowerVac™ Mini Spin Filter Adapters. For additional high throughput options MO BIO offers the PowerSoil®-htp 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit for processing up to 2 x 96 samples using a centrifuge capable of spinning two 96 Well Blocks stacked (13 cm x 8 cm x 5.5 cm) at 2500 x g. For 96 well homogenization of soil, MO BIO offers the 96 Well Plate Shaker and Plate Adapter Set (MO BIO Catalog# 11996 & 11990, respectively.)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Related Products</th>
<th>Catalog #</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PowerMax® Soil DNA Isolation Kit</td>
<td>12988-10</td>
<td>10 preps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PowerSoil®-htp 96 Well Soil DNA Isolation Kit</td>
<td>12955-4</td>
<td>4 x 96 preps</td>
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</table>
PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit

Prepare Sample
- Add soil sample to PowerSoil® Bead Tube
- Add Solution C1
- Attach to Vortex Adapter
- Vortex

Centrifuge

Cell Lysis
- Add Solution C2
- Incubate at 4°C

Centrifuge

Inhibitor Removal Technology®
- Add Solution C3
- Incubate at 4°C

Centrifuge

Bind DNA
- Add Solution C4
- Load into Spin Filter

Centrifuge

Wash
- Wash with Solution C5

Centrifuge

Elute
- Elute with Solution C6

Vacuum

Elute
- Elute with Solution C6

Alternate Protocol for PowerVe™ Mini Spin Filter Adapter
**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED**

- Microcentrifuge (10,000 x g)
- Pipettors (50 μl - 500 μl)
- Vortex-Genie® 2 Vortex (MO BIO Catalog# 13111-V or 13111-V-220)
- Vortex Adapter (MO BIO Catalog # 13000-V1-24)

**REAGENTS REQUIRED BUT NOT INCLUDED**

- 100% ethanol (for the PowerVac™ Manifold protocol only)

**KIT CONTENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Kit Catalog #</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Catalog #</th>
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<tr>
<td>PowerBead Tubes (contain 750 μl solution)</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>12888-100-PBT</td>
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<td>PowerSoil® 2 ml Collection Tubes</td>
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<td>12888-100-T</td>
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**KIT STORAGE**

Kit reagents and components should be stored at room temperature (15-30°C).
PRECAUTIONS

Please wear gloves when using this product. Avoid all skin contact with reagents in this kit. 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 SDS information is available upon request (760-929-9911) or on our web site at www.mobio.com. Reagents labeled flammable should be kept away from open flames and sparks.

WARNING: Solution C5 contains ethanol. It is flammable. Do not use bleach to clean the inside of the PowerVac™ Manifold or to rinse the PowerVac™ Mini Spin Filter Adapters when attached to the manifold.

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR USE: Make sure the 2 ml PowerBead Tubes rotate freely in your centrifuge without rubbing. Shake to mix Solution C4 before use.
EXPERIENCED USER PROTOCOL
PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit
Catalog No. 12888-50 & 12888-100

Please wear gloves at all times

1. To the PowerBead Tubes provided, add 0.25 grams of soil sample.
2. Gently vortex to mix.
3. Check Solution C1. If Solution C1 is precipitated, heat solution to 60°C until dissolved before use.
4. Add 60 μl of Solution C1 and invert several times or vortex briefly.
5. Secure PowerBead Tubes horizontally using the MO BIO Vortex Adapter tube holder for the vortex (MO BIO Catalog# 13000-V1-24) or secure tubes horizontally on a flat-bed vortex pad with tape. Vortex at maximum speed for 10 minutes.

Note
If you are using the 24 place Vortex Adapter for more than 12 preps, increase the vortex time by 5-10 minutes.

6. Make sure the PowerBead Tubes rotate freely in your centrifuge without rubbing. Centrifuge tubes at 10,000 x g for 30 seconds at room temperature. CAUTION: Be sure not to exceed 10,000 x g or tubes may break.
7. Transfer the supernatant to a clean 2 ml Collection Tube (provided).

Note
Expect between 400 to 500 μl of supernatant. Supernatant may still contain some soil particles.

8. Add 250 μl of Solution C2 and vortex for 5 seconds. Incubate at 4°C for 5 minutes.
9. Centrifuge the tubes at room temperature for 1 minute at 10,000 x g.
10. Avoiding the pellet, transfer up to, but no more than, 600 μl of supernatant to a clean 2 ml Collection Tube (provided).
11. Add 200 μl of Solution C3 and vortex briefly. Incubate at 4°C for 5 minutes.
12. Centrifuge the tubes at room temperature for 1 minute at 10,000 x g.
13. Avoiding the pellet, transfer up to, but no more than, 750 μl of supernatant into a clean 2 ml Collection Tube (provided).
14. Shake to mix Solution C4 before use. Add 1200 μl of Solution C4 to the supernatant and vortex for 5 seconds.
15. Load approximately 675 μl onto a **Spin Filter** and centrifuge at 10,000 x g for 1 minute at room temperature. Discard the flow through and add an additional 675 μl of supernatant to the **Spin Filter** and centrifuge at 10,000 x g for 1 minute at room temperature. Load the remaining supernatant onto the **Spin Filter** and centrifuge at 10,000 x g for 1 minute at room temperature.

**Note**

A total of three loads for each sample processed are required.

16. Add 500 μl of **Solution C5** and centrifuge at room temperature for 30 seconds at 10,000 x g.
17. Discard the flow through.
18. Centrifuge again at room temperature for 1 minute at 10,000 x g.
19. Carefully place spin filter in a clean **2 ml Collection Tube** (provided). Avoid splashing any **Solution C5** onto the **Spin Filter**.
20. Add 100 μl of Solution C6 to the center of the white filter membrane. Alternatively, sterile DNA-Free PCR Grade Water may be used for elution from the silica Spin Filter membrane at this step (MO BIO Catalog# 17000-10).
21. Centrifuge at room temperature for 30 seconds at 10,000 x g.
22. Discard the **Spin Filter**. The DNA in the tube is now ready for any downstream application. No further steps are required.

We recommend storing DNA frozen (-20° to -80°C). **Solution C6** contains no EDTA. To concentrate the DNA see the Hints & Troubleshooting Guide.

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Thank you for choosing the PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit!
Please wear gloves at all times

1. To the **PowerBead Tubes** provided, add 0.25 grams of soil sample.

   **What’s happening:** After your sample has been loaded into the PowerBead Tube, the next step is a homogenization and lysis procedure. The PowerBead Tube contains a buffer that will (a) help disperse the soil particles, (b) begin to dissolve humic acids and (c) protect nucleic acids from degradation.

2. Gently vortex to mix.

   **What’s happening:** Gentle vortexing mixes the components in the PowerBead Tube and begins to disperse the sample in the PowerBead Solution.

3. **Check Solution C1.** If **Solution C1** is precipitated, heat solution to 60°C until the precipitate has dissolved before use.

   **What’s happening:** Solution C1 contains SDS and other disruption agents required for complete cell lysis. In addition to aiding in cell lysis, SDS is an anionic detergent that breaks down fatty acids and lipids associated with the cell membrane of several organisms. If it gets cold, it will form a white precipitate in the bottle. Heating to 60°C will dissolve the SDS and will not harm the SDS or the other disruption agents. Solution C1 can be used while it is still warm.

4. Add 60 μl of **Solution C1** and invert several times or vortex briefly.

5. Secure **PowerBead Tubes horizontally** using the MO BIO Vortex Adapter tube holder for the vortex (MO BIO Catalog# 13000-V1-24) or secure tubes horizontally on a flat-bed vortex pad with tape. Vortex at maximum speed for 10 minutes.

   **Note:** If you are using the 24 place Vortex Adapter for more than 12 preps, increase the vortex time by 5-10 minutes.

   **Note:** The vortexing step is critical for complete homogenization and cell lysis. Cells are lysed by a combination of chemical agents from steps 1-4 and mechanical shaking introduced at this step. By randomly shaking the beads in the presence of disruption agents, collision of the beads with microbial cells will cause the cells to break open.
What’s happening: The MO BIO Vortex Adapter is designed to be a simple platform to facilitate keeping the tubes tightly attached to the vortex. It should be noted that although you can attach tubes with tape, often the tape becomes loose and not all tubes will shake evenly or efficiently. This may lead to inconsistent results or lower yields. Therefore, the use of the MO BIO Vortex Adapter is a highly recommended and cost effective way to obtain maximum DNA yields.

6. Make sure the PowerBead Tubes rotate freely in your centrifuge without rubbing. Centrifuge tubes at 10,000 x g for 30 seconds at room temperature. **CAUTION:** Be sure not to exceed 10,000 x g or tubes may break.

7. Transfer the supernatant to a clean 2 ml Collection Tube (provided).

**Note**

Expect between 400 to 500 μl of supernatant at this step. The exact recovered volume depends on the absorbency of your starting material and is not critical for the procedure to be effective. The supernatant may be dark in appearance and still contain some soil particles. The presence of carry over soil or a dark color in the mixture is expected in many soil types at this step. Subsequent steps in the protocol will remove both carry over soil and coloration of the mixture.

8. Add 250 μl of Solution C2 and vortex for 5 seconds. Incubate at 4°C for 5 minutes.

What’s happening: Solution C2 is patented Inhibitor Removal Technology® (IRT). It 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.

9. Centrifuge the tubes at room temperature for 1 minute at 10,000 x g.

10. Avoiding the pellet, transfer up to 600 μl of supernatant to a clean 2 ml Collection Tube (provided).

What’s happening: The pellet at this point contains non-DNA organic and inorganic material including humic acid, cell debris, and proteins. For the best DNA yields, and quality, avoid transferring any of the pellet.

11. Add 200 μl of Solution C3 and vortex briefly. Incubate at 4°C for 5 minutes.

What’s happening: Solution C3 is patented Inhibitor Removal Technology® (IRT) and is a second reagent to precipitate additional non-DNA organic and inorganic material including humic acid, 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. Centrifuge the tubes at room temperature for 1 minute at 10,000 x g.

13. Transfer up to 750 μl of supernatant to a clean 2 ml Collection Tube (provided).

   What’s happening: The pellet at this point contains additional non-DNA organic and inorganic material including humic acid, cell debris, and proteins. For the best DNA yields, and quality, avoid transferring any of the pellet.

14. Shake to mix Solution C4 before use. Add 1.2 ml of Solution C4 to the supernatant (be careful solution doesn’t exceed rim of tube) and vortex for 5 seconds.

   What’s happening: Solution C4 is a high concentration salt solution. Since DNA binds tightly to silica at high salt concentrations, this will adjust the DNA solution 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 Filters.

15. Load approximately 675 μl onto a Spin Filter and centrifuge at 10,000 x g for 1 minute at room temperature. Discard the flow through and add an additional 675 μl of supernatant to the Spin Filter and centrifuge at 10,000 x g for 1 minute at room temperature. Load the remaining supernatant onto the Spin Filter and centrifuge at 10,000 x g for 1 minute at room temperature.

   A total of three loads for each sample processed are required.

   What’s happening: DNA is selectively bound to the silica membrane in the Spin Filter device in the high salt solution. Contaminants pass through the filter membrane, leaving only DNA bound to the membrane.

16. Add 500 μl of Solution C5 and centrifuge at room temperature for 30 seconds at 10,000 x g.

   What’s happening: Solution C5 is an ethanol based wash solution used to further clean the DNA that is bound to the silica filter membrane in the Spin Filter. This wash solution removes residual salt, humic acid, and other contaminants while allowing the DNA to stay bound to the silica membrane.

17. Discard the flow through from the 2 ml Collection Tube.

   What’s happening: This flow through fraction is just non-DNA organic and inorganic waste removed from the silica Spin Filter membrane by the ethanol wash solution.
18. Centrifuge at room temperature for 1 minute at 10,000 x g.

What’s happening: This second spin removes residual Solution C5 (ethanol wash solution). It is critical to remove all traces of wash solution because the ethanol in Solution C5 can interfere with many downstream DNA applications such as PCR, restriction digests, and gel electrophoresis.

19. Carefully place Spin Filter in a clean 2 ml Collection Tube (provided). Avoid splashing any Solution C5 onto the Spin Filter.

Note

It is important to avoid any traces of the ethanol based wash solution.

20. Add 100 μl of Solution C6 to the center of the white filter membrane.

Note

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 a more efficient and complete release of the DNA from the silica Spin Filter membrane. As 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) which lacks salt.

Alternatively, sterile DNA-Free PCR Grade Water may be used for DNA elution from the silica Spin Filter membrane at this step (MO BIO Catalog# 17000-10). Solution C6 contains no EDTA. If DNA degradation is a concern, Sterile TE may also be used instead of Solution C6 for elution of DNA from the Spin Filter.

21. Centrifuge at room temperature for 30 seconds at 10,000 x g.

22. Discard the Spin Filter. The DNA in the tube is now ready for any downstream application. No further steps are required.

We recommend storing DNA frozen (-20° to -80°C). Solution C6 does not contain any EDTA. To concentrate DNA see the Hints & Troubleshooting Guide.

Thank you for choosing the PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit!
VACUUM PROTOCOL USING THE POWERVAC™ MANIFOLD

Please wear gloves at all times

For each sample lysate, use one Spin Filter column. Keep the Spin Filter in the attached 2 ml Collection Tube and continue using the Collection Tube as a Spin Filter holder until needed for the Vacuum Manifold Protocol. Label each Collection Tube top and Spin Filter column to maintain sample identity. If the Spin Filter becomes clogged during the vacuum procedure, you can switch to the procedure for purification of the DNA by centrifugation.

You will need to provide 100% ethanol for step 4 of this protocol.

1. For each prep, attach one aluminum PowerVac™ Mini Spin Filter Adapter (MO BIO Catalog# 11992-20) into the Luer-Lok® fitting of one port in the manifold. Gently press a Spin Filter column into the PowerVac™ Mini Spin Filter Adapter until snugly in place. Ensure that all unused ports of the vacuum manifold are closed.

Note
Aluminum PowerVac™ Mini Spin Filter Adapters are reusable.

2. Transfer 650 μl of prepared sample lysate (from step 14) to the Spin Filter column.

3. Turn on the vacuum source and open the stopcock of the port. Hold the tube in place when opening the stopcock to keep the spin filter steady. Allow the lysate to pass through the Spin Filter column. After the lysate has passed through the column completely, load again with the next 650 μl of lysate. Continue until all of the lysate has been loaded onto the Spin Filter column. Close the one-way Luer-Lok® stopcock of that port.

Note
If Spin Filter Columns are filtering slowly, close the ports to samples that have completed filtering to increase the pressure to the other columns.

4. Load 800 μl of 100% ethanol into the Spin Filter so that it completely fills the column. Open the stopcock while holding the column steady. Allow the ethanol to pass through the column completely. Close the stopcock.

5. Add 500 μl of Solution C5 to each Spin Filter. Open the Luer-Lok® stopcock and apply a vacuum until Solution C5 has passed through the Spin Filter completely. Continue to pull a vacuum for another minute to dry the membrane. Close each port.

6. Turn off the vacuum source and open an unused port to vent the manifold. If all 20 ports are in use, break the vacuum at the source. Make certain that all vacuum pressure is released before performing the next step. It is important to turn off the vacuum at the source to prevent backflow into the columns.
7. Remove the Spin Filter column and place in the original labeled 2 ml Collection Tube. Place into the centrifuge and spin at 13,000 x g for 1 minute to completely dry the membrane.

8. Transfer the Spin Filter column to a new 2 ml Collection Tube and add 100 μl of Solution C6 to the center of the white filter membrane. Alternatively, sterile DNA-Free PCR Grade Water may be used for elution from the silica Spin Filter membrane at this step (MO BIO Catalog # 17000-10).

9. Centrifuge at room temperature for 30 seconds at 10,000 x g.

10. Discard the Spin Filter column. The DNA in the tube is now ready for any downstream application. No further steps are required.

We recommend storing DNA frozen (-20° to -80°C). Solution C6 contains no EDTA. To concentrate the DNA see the Hints & Troubleshooting Guide.

Thank you for choosing the PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit!
**HINTS AND TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE**

**Amount of Soil to Process**
This kit is designed to process 0.25 grams of soil. For inquiries regarding the use of larger sample amounts, please contact technical support for suggestions. For wet soils, see information under “Wet Soil Sample” below.

**Wet Soil Sample**
If soil sample is high in water content, remove contents from PowerBead Tube (beads and solution) and transfer into another sterile microcentrifuge tube (not provided). Add soil sample to PowerBead Tube and centrifuge at room temperature for 30 seconds at 10,000 x g. Remove as much liquid as possible with a pipet tip. Add beads and bead solution back to PowerBead Tube and follow protocol starting at step 2.

**If DNA Does Not Amplify**
- Make sure to check DNA yields by gel electrophoresis or spectrophotometer reading. An excess amount of DNA will inhibit a PCR reaction.
- Diluting the template DNA should not be necessary with DNA isolated with the PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit; however, it should still be attempted.
- If DNA will still not amplify after trying the steps above, then PCR optimization (changing reaction conditions and primer choice) may be needed.

**Eluted DNA Sample Is Brown**
We have not observed any coloration in DNA isolated using the PowerSoil® DNA Isolation Kit. If you observe coloration in your samples, please contact technical support for suggestions.

**Alternative Lysis Methods**
- After adding Solution C1, vortex 3-4 seconds, then heat to 70°C for 5 minutes. Vortex 3-4 seconds. Heat another 5 minutes. Vortex 3-4 seconds. This alternative procedure will reduce shearing but may also reduce yield.
- If cells are difficult to lyse, a 10 minute incubation at 70°C, after adding Solution C1, can be performed. Follow by continuing with protocol step 5.

**Concentrating the DNA**
The final volume of eluted DNA will be 100 μl. The DNA may be concentrated by adding 4 μl of 5 M NaCl and inverting 3-5 times to mix. Next, add 200 μl of 100% cold ethanol and invert 3-5 times to mix. Centrifuge at 10,000 x g for 5 minutes at room temperature. Decant all liquid. Remove residual ethanol in a speed vac, dessicator, or air dry. Resuspend precipitated DNA in sterile water or sterile 10 mM Tris.
DNA Floats Out of Well When Loaded on a Gel
This usually occurs because residual Solution C5 remains in the final sample. Prevent this by being careful in step 19 not to transfer liquid onto the bottom of the spin filter basket. Ethanol precipitation (described in “Concentrating the DNA”) is the best way to remove residual Solution C5.

Storing DNA
DNA is eluted in Solution C6 (10 mM Tris) and must be stored at -20° to -80°C to prevent degradation. DNA can be eluted in TE without 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 Catalog# 17000-10).

Cleaning of the PowerVac™ Mini Spin Filter Adapters
It is recommended to rinse the PowerVac™ Mini Spin Filter Adapters promptly after use to avoid salt build up. To clean the PowerVac™ Mini Spin Filter Adapters, rinse each adapter with DI water followed by 70% ethanol and flush into the manifold base. Alternatively, remove the adapters and wash in laboratory detergent and DI water. PowerVac™ Mini Spin Filter Adapters may be autoclaved.

Do not use bleach to clean the PowerVac™ Mini Spin Filter Adapters while attached to the PowerVac™ Manifold. Bleach should never be mixed with solutions containing guanidine and should not be used to clean the PowerVac™ Manifold. For more information on cleaning the PowerVac™ Manifold, please refer to the PowerVac™ Manifold manual.
Committed to resolving your technical questions promptly, our technical support team is trained to work with you to rapidly and effectively troubleshoot any issues. We commit to providing you with relevant online support resources that help you complete your research projects.

Frequently Asked Questions:
https://mobio.com/faq

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www.mobio.com/lull-tm