



DNA EXTRACTION METHOD

- 1 Select fruit, 3 small kiwis, 6 strawberries, 2 smaller tomatoes – softer fruits work better.
- 2 Remove leaves, stems, skin (from kiwi) and chop coarsely.
- 3 Put in blender to blend, add water, if necessary, to achieve “pumpkin soup-like” consistency. Don’t overblend; it might still be chunky.
- 4 Add blended fruit to 8 oz. plastic cup - ~1/3 of cup’s volume.
- 5 Add 1 teaspoon baking soda – it will fizz, especially with acidic fruits.
- 6 Stir several minutes until fizzing stops.
- 7 Add equal volume extraction mixture; stir for several minutes.

Extraction mixture:

In 1-quart container add:

- 4 tablespoons dishwashing liquid (Palmolive)
- 3 teaspoons iodized salt
- Add water to 1 quart

- 8 Put single layer coffee filter in strainer and filter mixture into fountain glass. Discard pulp in strainer.
- 9 Add 1/2 teaspoon (2 milliliters) of this mixture into small tube, using graduated “eye dropper”.
- 10 Gently layer 1 teaspoon (4 milliliters) of 95% ethanol down side of tube to form layer on top of mixture using graduated “eye dropper”. Try not to mix layers.
- 11 DNA will appear at interface between ethanol and DNA mixture.
- 12 Carefully twirl unfolded paperclip (leaving one end bent in a “U”) at interface of two layers to capture the DNA. It will appear as a “snotty glob” when removed from liquid.