

Protocol for Real-Time RT-PCR assay with Lyoph P&P USUV Duo (adapted to TaqMan platform)

For RUO (Research Use Only)

Vial content

Lyoph P&P USUV Duo contains lyophilized primers and probe (P&P) for detection of Usutu virus (USUV). It must be used in combination with a generic RT-qPCR kit.

NB: Probe: FAM-QSY

Design

RT-qPCR systems included in Lyoph P&P USUV Duo :

- Development of a Usutu virus specific real-time reverse transcription PCR assay based on sequenced strains from Africa and Europe. Nikolay et al., Journal of Virological Methods, 2014. [DOI: 10.1016/j.jviromet.2013.08.039](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jviromet.2013.08.039)
- Usutu Virus, Italy, 1996. Weissenböck et al., Emerg Infect Dis, 2013. [DOI: 10.3201/eid1902.121191](https://doi.org/10.3201/eid1902.121191)

Caution

Vials containing primers and probe mix (Lyoph P&P) must be stored at -20°C in the dark after reception. Stable 4 years under the described conditions.

Instructions

This protocol is adapted to the following kit and RT-qPCR platform:

- SuperScript™ III Platinum™ One-Step qRT-PCR Kit (ThermoFisher)
- CFX (BIORAD) RT-qPCR thermal cycler

Use of other kits or RT-qPCR platforms may require adaptation of the protocol.

I. Rehydration of Lyoph-P&P

- Write the date on the vial before opening
- Resuspend Lyoph P&P as follows (**these steps are critical to ensure adequate homogenization**):
 - ✓ Add nuclease-free water or RE buffer as described in Table 1
 - ✓ Homogenize by pipetting 10 to 20 times the volume up and down in the glass vial
 - ✓ Incubate rehydrated P&P at room temperature for 10 min
 - ✓ Perform a second series of 10-times pipetting.

Table 1. Lyoph-P&P regeneration; the number of tests/vial is indicated on the Lyoph P&P vial label.

Packaging (number of tests/vial)	8+1	16+2	24+2	32+3	48+3	96+5
H ₂ O or RE buffer (μL)	63	126	182	245	357	707

II. Preparation of the PCR reaction mix (for SuperScript™ III Platinum™ One-Step qRT-PCR Kit - ThermoFisher)

Table 2. Preparation of the PCR mix. *Rehydration performed as indicated in Table 1.

	Volume/PCR test (μL)
2X Reaction mix	12.5
Rehydrated Lyoph P&P*	7
SSIII/Taq enzyme mix	0.5
Total (1 PCR test)	20
Template RNA (H ₂ O for Ctrl-)	5
Final volume	25

III. Cycling program and RT-qPCR (for SuperScript™ III Platinum™ One-Step qRT-PCR Kit - ThermoFisher)

50°C	15min	45 cycles
95°C	2min	
95°C	15sec	
60°C	45sec (plate read)	

Read: FAM-QSY

Rehydrated Lyoph-P&P can be stored at 4 °C in the dark for up to 7 days.