NEXTADVANCE

# Protocol for Malanga Root Tuber Homogenization in the Bullet Blender®

The protocol described in this document is for the use of the Bullet Blender® for the homogenization of malanga (*Xanthosoma sagittifolium*) root tubers. This protocol does not specify a particular buffer - you may choose which is most appropriate for your downstream application (nucleic acid isolation, protein extraction, etc.).

**Materials Required:** Malanga tuber, Bullet Blender®, homogenization buffer, pipettor, microcentrifuge tubes, and 0.9-2.0mm stainless steel bead blend or 1.0mm zirconium oxide beads (SSB14B or ZROB10)

**Instructions**

1. **OPTIONAL:** Wash malanga 3x with ~1mL PBS to remove soil and other surface contaminants and debris.
2. Cut malanga into long, thin slices of 200mg or less and place each slice into a microcentrifuge tube.
3. Add a a volume of beads equal to the mass of the malanga. **NOTE:** 100mg ≅ 100µL.
4. Close the microcentrifuge tubes and place them into the Bullet Blender®. **NOTE:** There should be no buffer in the tubes at this point.
5. Set controls for **SPEED 8** and **TIME 4**.
6. Remove the samples from the Bullet Blender. The malanga should be finely pulverized into a thick paste. If not, run for another three minutes at speed 10.
7. Add 2 volumes of buffer to the tube for every mass of sample (ex. for 100 mg malanga add 200µL buffer).
8. Close the microcentrifuge tubes and place them back into the Bullet Blender®.
9. Set controls for **SPEED 8** and **TIME 3** minutes. Press **Start**.
10. After the run, remove tubes from the instrument.
11. Visually inspect samples. If homogenization is unsatisfactory, run for another three minutes at speed 10.
12. Proceed with your downstream application.

## SAFETY NOTE!!!

**When using a centrifuge to separate your homogenate from the debris and beads, make sure your tubes are balanced.**

**Before**

**Pulverized**

**After**

Date 05/06/2011

Quasar Instruments, LLC 4835 Centennial Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80919

T. 888-535-8001 D. 719-535-8000 F. 719-574-2404 E. Sales@qi-us.com QuasarInstruments.com