

RCC Strain Identification Service

RCC can identify algal strains using a combination optical microscopy and 18S rRNA gene analysis. You send us your strains, we grow them, take light microscopy images, extract DNA, sequence the 18S rRNA gene and prepare a small report. Cost per strain is 50 € for public customers and 150 € for private customers.



How to proceed

- 1. Contact the RCC staff (rcc@sb-roscoff.fr) explain your project with the following information:
 - Number of strains
 - Environment from which the strain was collected (e.g. fresh water, salt water, etc...);
 - Preferred growth conditions (temperature, light intensity)
 - Growth media used to maintain the strain in culture.
 - The culture does not have to be axenic, but must be unialgal and free of other eukaryotic organisms (protists and fungi). We need at minimum 10 ml of culture in good condition.
- 2. The RCC staff will provide you a quote, and determine with you when you can send culture (shipping cost at your charge).
- 3. Upon successful identification of your strain, RCC will send you a report data (pictures; sequences, BLAST search results), and provide you with a tentative identification to the genus or species level, or at a minimum, determine the most closely related species for which sequence data are available.
- 4. If the identification based on the 18S gene and optical microscopy is not accurate enough, we would recommend (with additional cost) to complement the analysis by:
 - Scanning Electron Microscopy pictures (e.g. for diatoms)
 - Other Gene analysis: ITS, 28S... (depends of the microalgae class)
- 5. if you want you can deposit your strains at the RCC. You can find information at http://www.roscoff-culture-collection.org/ordering-depositing/how-to-deposit