

20. Store the virus frozen in the sucrose solution from the gradient. The virus can also be pelleted by ultracentrifugation, resuspended in 0.1M phosphate resuspension buffer, pH 7.0, and stored frozen in the absence of sucrose, but significant losses may occur in this case.

3.2. Potato Leaf-Roll Virus Purification

3.2.1. Day 1

1. Using a Waring blender, grind leaf and stem tissue in 0.1M trisodium citrate, pH 6.0, containing 0.5% 2-mercaptoethanol (v/v) and 5% Celluclast (v/v), in a volume of 2 mL/g of tissue (*see Note 9*).
2. Stir the mixture at 27°C for 2 h or until the leaves are completely liquidized.
3. Adjust the pH of the solution to 7.0 by adding saturated Na₂HPO₄.
4. Add 0.33 vol each of chloroform and butan-1-ol (i.e., for every 900 mL of extract, add 300 mL each of chloroform and butan-1-ol). Stir for 30 min (*see Note 10*).
5. Centrifuge at 20°C in a Sorvall GSA rotor at 10,400g for 15 min (*see Note 11*). Retain the upper phase and discard the lower phase.
6. To the aqueous upper phase, add PEG 6000 to a final concentration of 8% (w/v) and NaCl to a final concentration of 0.2M.
7. Stir for 1 h at room temperature.
8. Centrifuge at 20°C in a Sorvall GSA rotor at 10,400g for 15 min.
9. Discard the supernatant and resuspend the pellet in 1 mL of 0.02M phosphate buffer containing 1% Triton X-100 (v/v) per 5 g of starting material. Store overnight at 4°C.

3.2.2. Day 2

10. Centrifuge the suspension at 20°C in a Sorvall GSA rotor at 16,300g for 10 min.
11. Transfer the supernatant and centrifuge through a layer of 20% sucrose (w/v) in 0.02M phosphate buffer, pH 7.5 (a sucrose cushion) at 302,000g in a Beckman 50.2 Ti rotor for 90 min at 20°C (*see Note 12*).
12. Discard the supernatant and resuspend the pellet in 1 mL of 0.02M phosphate buffer, pH 7.5, per 25 g starting material. Store at 4°C for several hours or overnight.
13. Repeat **steps 10–12**, resuspending the pellet in 1 mL of 0.02M phosphate buffer, pH 7.5, per 100 g starting material (*see Note 13*).
14. Repeat **steps 10–12**, resuspending the final pellet in 0.5 mL of 0.02M phosphate buffer, pH 7.5. Store at 4°C overnight, if necessary (*see Note 14*).
15. Centrifuge in a microcentrifuge at full speed (12,000g) for 10 min; transfer the supernatant to a fresh tube.
16. To calculate the concentration of virus, dilute in 0.02M phosphate buffer, pH 7.5, and measure the absorbance at 260 nm. An absorbance of 8.6 (in a 1-cm path length) is assumed to indicate a virus concentration of 1 mg/mL⁻¹ (**ref. 7**; *see Note 15*).