

FAQ Luminex

1. *Can I buy a Luminex machine from PrimeDiagnostics?*

No. You can buy the Luminex kits for detection of plant pathogens from Prime Diagnostics. The machine to measure your Luminex reaction can be bought from Bio-Rad, Merck/Millipore or Life Technologies. They all offer the same instruments but sometimes under different names.

2. *What is the sensitivity of xMAP technology compared to ELISA?*

xMAP assays offer at least a similar sensitivity as in DAS-ELISA. Many xMAP assays have a lower background and higher dynamic range.

3. *Do we need a plate washer?*

A plate washer can be used but is not strictly necessary. You do need however a magnetic plate to make sure that you do not lose any beads during the washing. If you use an washing machine make sure that it fits a magnetic plate.

4. *How long does it take from having plant sap till the end of reading results?*

The total time from taking a plant sample to having results is about 3 hours, but depends also on the number of samples.

5. *Is there an advantage of xTAG TSPE assay over a real-time PCR?*

TSPE assay with Luminex MagPlex-Tag has advantages over real-time PCR, because with the TSPE-assay format you can detect more than 5 targets, including the controls for the extraction of Rna and strain specificity in one sample.

6. *What is the limit of detection in xTAG TSPE?*

The limit of detection and the amount of RNA that can be detected with the TSPE assays in Luminex MagPlex is similar to real-time PCR.

7. *How about contamination of RNA/DNA?*

To avoid contamination we recommend a strict workflow in your laboratory; separate working areas for extraction, amplification and detection.

8. *Can we use one Luminex machine for all Luminex applications?*

Yes, the Luminex instrumentation is capable measure both xMAP (immuno-assays) and xTAG TSPE assays.

9. *How many targets can one detect in one sample?*

For routine use our customers apply normally less than 10 pathogens in an assay. For more fundamental (phylogenetic) research, our phytopathologists go far above 50 targets.