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Evaluation

Dominik Farka

Dominik Farka performed experiments in my laboratory in 2011 and worked on the project “Making Transgenic *C. elegans* with Polycistronic mCherry Vector”. Although it was his first experience in biology, he quickly learned how to culture worms properly, amplify and purify plasmid DNA and make transgenic worm strains. Transformation of *C. elegans* is quite demanding technique and establishing a new strain is time consuming. Yet, he mastered the whole procedure and established numbers of new transgenic strains. He contributed to fill pieces of data to answer bigger biological questions that we have been asking in my laboratory.

He was motivated from the beginning to experience something new and follow the experimental procedure very carefully. He was actively participating on his project and tried to be organized and independent. For successful *C. elegans* transformation, he had to go through (i) purification of highly clean plasmid DNA, (ii) synchronizing worms and cultivating healthy non-starved worms, (iii) staging the worms and microinjection of the plasmid DNA into the gonad of the 1 mm-long *C. elegans*, (iv) screening of F1 transformants (picking marker positive progeny, over 50 worms for each injection), (v) screening of F2 progeny that carry potential inheritable extrachromosomal array and (vi) keep selecting at least 5 or more generations to establish a stable line. It was impressive to see that he managed to establish ten new transgenic strains for four different DNA constructs in relatively short time. It was inevitable that he had to fight against technical details in this demanding procedure and those transgenic lines were a great contribution to the lab project. He was successful in this as he is organized and patient person. Moreover he is very friendly and active in communication, and it was a pleasure to have him in the lab.

I believe that he learned a part of molecular genetics with his own hands and deserves Bachelor degree.

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