

# Efficient targeted mutagenesis in *Epichloë festucae* using a split marker system

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## Abstract

A split-marker system for targeted gene deletion was developed for the model grass endophytic fungus *Epichloë festucae*. Compared to the conventional system that yields up to 25% homologous recombinants, the method resulted in 33–74% targeted deletions in *E. festucae* using as little as 1.5 kb of targeting sequence.