

The genetics of the Pottaka horse

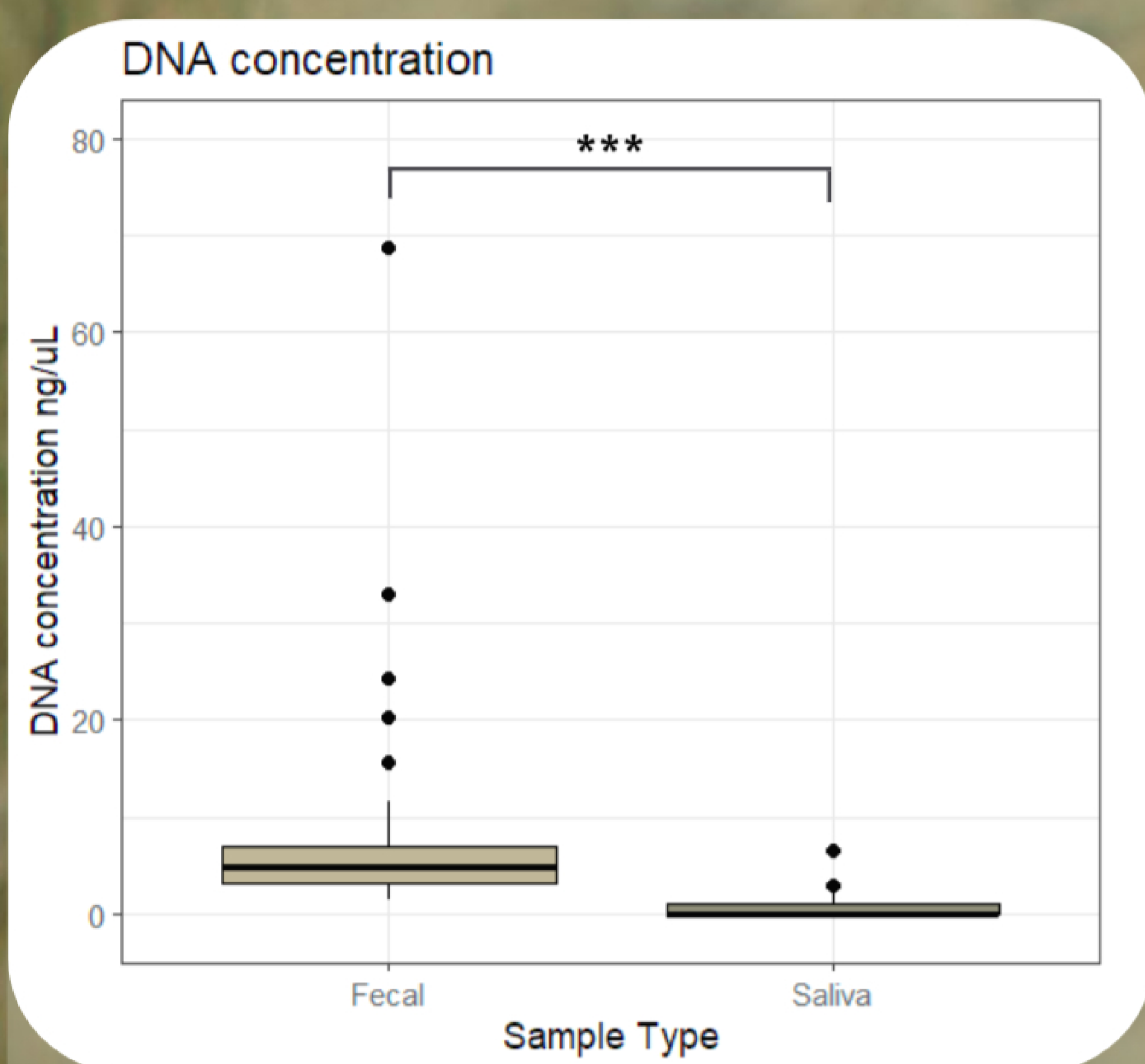
FTA-Cards as a faecal and saliva sampling method

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The study investigates the genetic diversity of a feral Pottaka horse herd in northern Spain. Aiming to better understand the feralization process through locating SNPs (single-nucleotide polymorphisms) using RAD-sequencing as well as testing the viability of FTA-cards for faecal and saliva sampling

The samples yielded ~58% host DNA but coverage and mapping of the DNA was low. Eight variants were found, successfully genotyped samples were spread as follows: 35 homozygous for the reference allele, 20 heterozygous and 9 homozygous for a new allele although most (119 out of 192) failed. The data suggests that the herd is inbred ($F_{is} = 0.399$)



Fecal samples yielded more DNA than saliva



After field sampling in Spain, the DNA was extracted and indexed in the lab to allow for sequencing by a third party. The resulting data was then analyzed in Bash and R to obtain the results above