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Product Information

METHYLENE BLUE

Molecular Biology Reagent

Product Number **M4159**

Store at room temperature

Product Description

Suitable for use in DNA and RNA staining.

Procedure

RNA Staining (Polyacrylamide gels)

Prepare a staining solution containing 0.2% (w/v) methylene blue in 0.4 M sodium acetate:0.4 M acetic acid (1:1). Use enough staining solution to cover the gel. Remove the staining solution after 1 hour and save for later usage; the solution can be reused many times.¹ Destain the gel with successive changes of deionized water until background is reduced sufficiently to see the bands.

DNA Staining

(Agarose or polyacrylamide gels)

Prepare a staining solution containing 0.1% (w/v) methylene blue in 0.5 M sodium acetate, pH 5.2. Use

enough staining solution to cover the gel and agitate gently for 5-15 minutes. Remove the staining solution and save for later usage; the solution is reusable for up to 3-6 months.² Destain the gels with successive changes of deionized water until the background is reduced sufficiently to see the bands. Agarose gels may be destained overnight with no loss of sharpness and minimal loss in staining intensity.

References

1. Peacock, A. C., and Dingman, C. W., *Biochemistry* **6**, 1818 (1967).
2. Young-Sharp, D., and Humar, R., *Technique* **1**, No. 3, 183 (1989).

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