

Buccopharyngeal morphology of tadpoles in Scanning Electron Micrography

Diogo Provete

Abstract

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Protocol

Step 1.

Wash quickly the specimens in tap water and dissect tadpoles following [Wassersug \(1976: p. 4-5\)](#).

NOTES

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Usually tadpoles are fixed and conserved in 10% formalin, buffered or not. I'm here assuming that your samples are already in formalin.

Step 2.

Fix the dissections in 4% Glutaraldehyde for 2h30 at room temperature. The glutaraldehyde have to be diluted in a solution with tannic acid and

REAGENTS

Glutaraldehyde EM Grade 25% G5882-50ML by [Sigma Aldrich](#)

DURATION

02:30:00

Step 3.

Post fix the dissections in 1% Osmium tetroxide solution.

AMOUNT

20 ml Additional info:

REAGENTS

Osmium tetroxide solution 2% [75633](#) by [Sigma Aldrich](#)

DURATION

02:30:00

NOTES

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Usually you'd have a 2% solution and you'd have to dilute it until your dissections are fully covered.

Safety check: this solution is highlytoxic and volatile, so this procedure is better done in exhaust hoods.

Step 4.

Dehydrate in a descending series of acetones: 30%, 50%, 70%, 90%, 95% 3x, 100% 2x. 15 min in each concentration

 **AMOUNT**

20 ml Additional info:

 **DURATION**

00:15:00