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LAB Agarose Gel Electrophoresis Buffer Recipe

Brian P Teague¹¹University of Wisconsin - Stout

1 Works for me

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Yeast ORFans CURE

 Brian Teague
University of Wisconsin - Stout

ABSTRACT

A recipe to make lithium acetate / borate agarose gel electrophoresis buffer. This buffer has a lower ionic strength than TAE, but maintains its ability to resolve both small and large bands.

Additionally, it is MUCH less expensive, and if you are short on time (like in a lab course!) you can run the gel at a higher voltage.

From <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0011318> via <https://bitesizebio.com/25078/faster-even-cooler-dna-gels/>

EXTERNAL LINK

<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0011318>

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KEYWORDS

agarose, gel, electrophoresis, lithium, acetate

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IMAGE ATTRIBUTION

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GUIDELINES

Use good laboratory practices for measuring weights and volumes.

MATERIALS TEXT

 [Lithium Acetate Dihydrate](#) **Sigma**

Aldrich Catalog #L4158 Step 1

 [Boric acid](#) **Fisher**

Scientific Catalog #BP1681 Step 2

 [Paper pH Strips](#) **Thermo Fisher**

Scientific Catalog #13-640-508 Step 4

SAFETY WARNINGS

Lithium acetate: May cause eye and skin irritation. May cause respiratory and digestive tract irritation. The toxicological properties of this material have not been fully investigated.

Boric acid: May damage fertility. May damage the unborn child.

Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including a lab coat, nitrile gloves and safety glasses.

25X Buffer Concentrate

1

 [Lithium Acetate Dihydrate](#) **Sigma**

Weigh out  **25.5 g** **Aldrich Catalog #L4158**

Make *sure* it's the dihydrate, not anhydrous lithium acetate! If you're using anhydrous,

weigh out **16.5 g** instead.

2 **Boric acid Fisher**

Weigh out **15.5 g** **Scientific Catalog #BP1681**

3 Mix the lithium acetate and boric acid with deionized water to a final volume of **1 L**

4 Pipette a small amount onto a **Paper pH Strips Thermo Fisher**

Scientific Catalog #13-640-508

. Make sure the pH is between 6.5 and 7.0.

1X Buffer

5 Dilute **40 mL** of 25X stock solution with **960 mL** deionized H₂O. Mix well.