

1.25x loading dye

Overview

This protocol covers the creation of 1.25x loading dye. 1.25x (sometimes called 1.2x) loading dye is used to prevent the tedium of mixing loading dye with water for every piece of DNA run on a gel. Since we almost run 1µl of DNA (usually from a PCR), we prepare a loading dye solution that works well with that.ⁱ

Materials

- 6x Purple loading dye (NEB)
 - o While other loading dyes exist, we use (and have vast amounts ofⁱⁱ) purple loading dye from NEB.ⁱⁱⁱ
 - o 6x Loading dye is stored either in the gel rack at 4C or at -20C.
 - o Note: **Do not** use the loading dye with **no SDS**, that is needed for gel extractions.
- Nuclease Free Water (NFW)
- Labeled 1.7mL tube(s)
 - o Only the top need be labeled. Label simply needs to read 1.25x Gel Loading Dye. If so desired you may add this on the side along with the date.

Procedure

1. Pipette a 1:4 ratio of 6x loading dye to NFW into a labeled tube (e.g. 300µl 6x loading dye, 1200µl NFW)
2. Store in fridge on gel loading rack.

ⁱ For colony PCRs where 2µl of PCR product is run, it is not a big deal. The difference is minor and it works fine.

ⁱⁱ This is because they send it with basically every enzyme the deals with DNA.

ⁱⁱⁱ We like this dye because it does not leave a shadow on the gel, and doesn't disperse into the solution during loading.