

Strawberry DNA Extraction

Materials

Source of DNA: strawberry

200 ml water

6 ml detergent (normal dishwashing liquid)

Meat tenderizer (which functions like protease to break down proteins)

NaCl - sodium chloride (table salt)

100% ethanol (you can get this from the pharmacy e.g. isoamyl alcohol; used to clean wounds)

applicator stick or hook (long wooden skewers)

2 test tubes

Procedure

1. Add 6 ml detergent to the strawberry homogenate, swirl to mix, and incubate the mixture at room temperature for 5 – 10 minutes.
2. Pour the mixture into a GLASS test tube, filling the tube -- to 1/3 full. The tube contains 0.2g of enzyme. Stir gently in the tube using the yellow loop provided. Do not stir with a harsh motion, this may break up the DNA.
4. Add twice the volume of ice – cold 100% ethyl alcohol down the side of the test tube, so it forms a layer on top of the strawberry mixture.
5. You should begin to see strands of DNA form at the interphase where the strawberry mixture meets the alcohol.
6. Tilting the tube, insert a wooden stick or hook at the interphase, and wind up the DNA onto the stick. Place DNA into a microfuge tube.