

Destaining Bags

Code	Description	Size
E732-25	Destaining Bags	25 bags

General Information

VWR Life Science AMRESCO offers Destaining Bags to safely remove ethidium bromide from solution during overnight treatment. Each bag extracts up to 5 mg of ethidium bromide from solution, thus minimizing the exposure of research personnel to this toxic material. The special absorbent mixture retains dye molecules in a convenient bag for removal and incineration.

- Reduce the volume of hazardous ethidium bromide waste
- Convenient removal of milligram quantities of ethidium bromide from solution
- Destaining bags can be safely disposed in incinerated trash

Table 1. Destaining Bag performance evaluation with typical results shown. 1 L volumes of 1X TAE running buffer containing various starting concentrations of ethidium bromide were measured over time for change in absorbance during Destaining Bag treatment. The absorbance and percent reduction of ethidium bromide in solution are reported in the table below.

Ethidium Bromide (µg/mL)	Absorbance at 285 nm				
	0 hour	1 hour	2 hours	4 hours	Overnight
0.05	0.0089	0.0061 (32%)	0.0025 (72%)	Not Measured	0.0008 (92%)
0.5	0.0586	0.0205 (65%)	0.0142 (76%)	Not Measured	0.0001 (99%)
1.0	0.1186	0.0443 (63%)	0.0291 (75.5%)	0.0113 (89%)	0.0025 (98%)
8.8	0.8908	0.0692 (92%)	0.0464 (95%)	0.413 (95%)	Not Measured

Storage/Stability

Store at room temperature (18 to 26°C).

Product Use Limitations

For research use only. Not for therapeutic or diagnostic use.

Protocol/Procedure

Removal of ethidium bromide from gels and running buffer using Destaining Bags

1. Upon completion of gel electrophoresis and gel documentation, calculate the approximate amount of ethidium bromide present in the gel and/or running buffer in order to select an appropriate number of Destaining Bags for decontamination. Each Destaining Bag absorbs a maximum of 5 mg of ethidium bromide.
 - *Example: 5 μ L of 10 mg/mL ethidium bromide added to a 100 mL gel equates to 0.05 mg ethidium bromide that must be absorbed. Only one Destaining Bag would be required.*
2. Place the gel and the running buffer containing ethidium bromide in a container sufficiently large enough to allow gentle mixing without spilling.
3. Add the appropriate number of Destaining Bags to the container and begin mixing. Overnight treatment is recommended and sufficient for decontamination.
4. Remove the Destaining Bag(s) from the container and place into an appropriate hazardous waste container to be disposed of according to local laws.
5. The decontaminated solution may be discarded in the laboratory sink and the gel may be discarded with non-hazardous waste.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will Destaining Bags work for dyes other than ethidium bromide?

- Destaining Bags have only been tested with ethidium bromide. There is no data to support the efficacy of decontamination of other dyes.

How should already used Destaining Bags be disposed?

- Destaining Bags that contain ethidium bromide should be disposed of according to local regulations.

Will longer destaining times improve ethidium bromide absorption?

- Overnight treatment with Destaining Bags is sufficient for maximal ethidium bromide removal. Longer incubations will not improve destaining.

Is the absorption of ethidium bromide affected by salt concentration in the solution being destained?

- Destaining rates are independent of salt concentration.

How can destaining time be reduced?

- Changing bags during destaining will increase the rate of destaining and yield faster results.

For Technical Support

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