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A database of restriction endonuclease buffers

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Abstract

This simple but incredibly useful tool for molecular biologists allows the user to select one or more restriction endonuclease enzymes and determine which of the enzyme buffers provided by New England Biolabs, Boehringer Mannheim, Gibco BRL, Fermentas or Stratagene can be used in a restriction enzyme digest.

Content

This simple but incredibly useful tool for molecular biologists allows the user to select one or more restriction endonuclease enzymes and determine which of the enzyme buffers provided by New England Biolabs, Boehringer Mannheim, Gibco BRL, Fermentas or Stratagene can be used in a restriction enzyme digest.

Navigation

The main page provides links to two different Multi-cut databases: one for users of Windows Netscape version 4.5 or higher, and another for Netscape 3.0, Internet Explorer, and Mac users. The database for Netscape 4.5 or higher users requires a Java 1.1 enabled browser. The other database also requires a Java enabled browser. The navigation could not be simpler. Just choose an enzyme, click 'Add', choose another, click 'Add', select the desired threshold of activity, and click 'Find Buffers'. A list of compatible buffers and the activity of each enzyme in each buffer is produced.

Reporter's comments

Timeliness

Last updated 1998.

Best feature

The Multi-Cut database can eliminate the frustration and wasted time spent looking through multiple vendor catalogs or websites looking for buffer information, and eliminates the guesswork in determining which buffers to use for double restriction digests.

Wish list

The only thing that you could wish for is to have all commercially available restriction enzymes and their buffers listed in the database, and the activity of all combinations of enzymes and buffers experimentally confirmed, rather than predicted.

Related websites

New England Biolabs hosts [REBASE, the restriction enzyme database](#), which contains information about all known restriction enzymes. Buffer information for commercial enzymes is available, but there is no search method to find compatible buffers for different enzymes.

Table of links

[Multi-Cut](#)

[REBASE, the restriction enzyme database](#)

References

1. [Multi-Cut](#).