



May 15, 2024

Phage screening - colorimetric test

DOI

dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.5jyl82jmdl2w/v1

Kesia da Silva¹, Jason Andrews¹

¹Stanford University



Kesia da Silva

Stanford University

Create & collaborate more with a free account

Edit and publish protocols, collaborate in communities, share insights through comments, and track progress with run records.

Create free account

OPEN  ACCESS



DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.5jyl82jmdl2w/v1>

Protocol Citation: Kesia da Silva, Jason Andrews 2024. Phage screening - colorimetric test. **protocols.io**

<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.5jyl82jmdl2w/v1>

License: This is an open access protocol distributed under the terms of the **Creative Commons Attribution License**, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited

Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working

Created: May 14, 2024



Last Modified: May 15, 2024

Protocol Integer ID: 99704

Keywords: Bacteriophage, detection, colorimetric assay, environmental surveillance, assessing bacteriophage activity, colorimetric test phage screening, bacteriophage activity within microbial culture, specific bacteriophage, presence of specific bacteriophage, colorimetric test protocol, microbial culture, diagnostic application, screening

Abstract

Phage Screening - Colorimetric Test protocol involves a series of steps designed to detect the presence of specific bacteriophages through a colorimetric assay. This comprehensive procedure aims to provide a robust method for screening and assessing bacteriophage activity within microbial cultures, essential for various research and diagnostic applications.

Attachments



Colorimetric_Phage_a...

822KB

Materials

1. 15ml Falcon tube
2. 0.5% sodium hypochlorite
3. 70% ethanol
4. Cotton/Tissue paper
5. Gloves
6. Tube holder
7. Discard bag
8. Permanent marker
9. 0.22µm syringe filter
10. 5ml Syringe
11. LB broth
12. Pipette sets
13. Sterile tips - 200µl 1000µl
14. Disposable Serological Pipets, Sterile, 25 mL

Protocol materials

 50ml AlamarBlue Cell Viability Assay Reagent **G-Biosciences Catalog #786-923**

Troubleshooting



Day 1

- 1 Prepare LB-agar plates.
- 2 Prepare LB-broth.
- 3 To recover bacteria from stock open the tube and use a sterile loop, toothpick or pipette tip to scrap off some bacteria and streak on appropriate media plates using the overnight culture and grow at 37 °C .
- 4 If using lyophilized strain skip step 3 and 5 and [➡ go to step #6.1](#)

Day 2

- 5 Next, start overnight cultures by inoculating fresh liquid media (5 mL) with a single colony and grown for 14-16 hours at 37 °C in a shaker incubator.

Note

Note: Make sure you are using only one colony to start the experiment.

Day 3

- 6 Inoculate 5 mL of fresh LB (1% inoculum) and grow at 37 °C until the cells reach a density of $OD_{600}=0.2$. The amount of host culture to add is not critical, but it should be enough that would normally produce a saturated culture over the period of the enrichment (0.2 OD is enough or 0.5 McFarland Standard i.e. 1.5×10^8 CFU/ml).

**Note**

If using lyophilized strain  [go to step #6.1](#)

6.1 Using a pipette, aseptically add  500 μL of the recommended growth medium to the freeze-dried material and mix well.

6.2 Transfer the entire suspension to a test tube containing  5 mL of the recommended media.

7 In a new falcon tube add  1 mL of filtered  water sample to  900 μL of LB-broth and inoculate with  100 μL of a fresh host culture (0.2 OD) and mix gently.

Note

If using lyophilized strain take  100 μL of host culture previously diluted in step 6.2.

7.1 In another falcon tube inoculate a positive control adding 10-50uL (this amount will depend of the concentration of your phage stock) of phage stock to  1900 μL of LB-broth with  100 μL of a fresh host culture and mix gently.

8 Incubate this enrichment culture at  37 °C for at least 2 hours (or under whatever conditions the host favors). At the same time inoculate a new tube with  5 mL of fresh LB (1% inoculum) and grow at  37 °C for 2 hours.

9 Filter the culture through a 0.22 μm syringe filter. The filtrate is now ready for testing.

10 In a new falcon tube add  100 μL of sample (filtrate from previous step) to  1800 μL of LB-broth and inoculate with  100 μL of a fresh host culture (0.2 OD)



and add  50 μ L of

 50ml AlamarBlue Cell Viability Assay Reagent **G-Biosciences Catalog #786-923**

(resazourin) and mix gently.

- 11 Incubate the culture at  37 °C for 3 hours. Check the culture every hour to monitor color change.
- 12 If the sample is positive for phage culture will remain blue. If the sample is negative culture will change to pink color.