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Spot-bleaching of a handful of C. elegans nematode worms V.2

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Protocol status: Working
We use this protocol and it's working

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Abstract

This protocol describes the spot-bleaching of C. elegans

Guidelines

To get rid of contaminants, you can bleach your worms in a tube (most efficient method) or spot bleach on an agar plate (faster method).

Materials

MATERIALS

- M9 solution for nematode culture
- bleaching solution for C. elegans
- Handful of gravid (pregnant) C. elegans worms
- Leica L2 binocular microscope

Troubleshooting

Safety warnings

Wear a lab coat and gloves when you handle the bleaching solution. Avoid wearing gloves next to a flame.

Before start

Prepare bleaching solution. Make sure the bleaching solution is less than one month old.

1 1. Put a drop (20 to 50 µl) of bleaching solution on the edge of a clean NGM plate seeded with *E. coli* .

2 2. Pick several gravid hermaphrodites in the drop. The bleaching solution will kill the contaminants and hermaphrodites but will soak into the plate before the embryos hatch.

3 3. The next day the L1 larvae will have crawled into the *E. coli* OP50 lawn. Transfer them to a clean NGM plate seeded with an *E. coli* OP50 lawn, or cut the patch of dead bacteria/bleach agar.