

Competent cells for expression

A. CaCl₂ Buffers Preparation

1M CaCl₂ (stock solution, 10x working concentration)

Weigh out 11.1g of anhydrous CaCl₂
Add to 80mL of dH₂O
Mix solution until CaCl₂ is fully dissolved
Top up to 100mL
Filter sterilize through a 0.22µm pore

0.1M CaCl₂ (working solution)

Add 10mL of 1M CaCl₂ to 90mL of dH₂O for a 1:10 dilution
Filter sterilize through a 0.22µm pore

0.1M CaCl₂ + 15% glycerol (working solution)

Mix 6mL 1M CaCl₂ with 9mL sterile glycerol and 45mL dH₂O

B. Overnight Culture(s)

Inoculate 1mL of LB with E. coli
Place in shaking incubator at 37°C and 200rpm
Incubate for 12-16 hours

C. Generation of Competent Cells (CaCl₂ wash)

Subculturing overnight culture:

Add 1mL of overnight culture to 199mL of fresh LB (1:200 dilution, no antibiotics)
Shake incubate at 37°C and 200rpm for 3-4 hours or until OD reaches 0.4

CaCl₂ wash:

Ensure that all reagents (CaCl₂ solutions, tubes, centrifuge) are ice-cold or at 4°C
Separate culture into multiple tubes
Place on ice for 20 minutes
Centrifuge at 4°C at 4000rpm for 10 minutes
Discard the supernatant by tipping tubes over a discard bin and then aspirating any remaining media
Resuspend each pellet with 20mL ice-cold 0.1M CaCl₂, incubate on ice for 30 minutes
Centrifuge at 4°C at 4000rpm for 10 minutes
Discard the supernatant and combine pellets by resuspending in 5mL ice-cold 0.1M CaCl₂ with 15% glycerol
Store in -80°C freezer