

Drosophila Apple Juice Plates

This recipe makes 50-60 10x35 mm plates, or more if poured into the caps. These plates are used with empty bottles to collect *Drosophila* embryos. This protocol was adapted from a CSHL protocol. <http://cshprotocols.cshlp.org/content/2011/9/pdb.rec065672.short>

1. In a conical flask mix 18g agar in 600ml H₂O.
2. In a separate flask mix 20g sucrose in 200 ml apple juice.
3. Place both flasks in microwave and heat at a medium setting (5-7 power) for 30 min. Watch carefully, agar might bubble over. The apple juice mixture also will likely need less time in the microwave than the agar.
4. When both agar and sucrose are dissolved, carefully pour the agar mixture into the apple juice flask and add a magnetic stir bar.
5. Place on magnetic stir plate and allow the mixture to cool to at least 60°C.
6. Add 20ml of 20% Nipagin M (dissolved in absolute ethanol). Stir for several minutes.
7. Pour into plates with a glass pipette. Allow plates to cool.
8. Store at 4°C. Plate can be put back into petri dish sleeved and taped shut or placed in a airtight Tupperware container. Plates should be used within 2 months.

For a smaller batch, half the recipe and half the microwave time.