



DATA SHEET

> X-Gal, solution 10mg/ml

cat. no.	amount	note
STS-XGALSOL100	100ml	liquid

In gene cloning, X-gal is used to indicate whether a cell expresses the β -galactosidase enzyme, which is encoded by the lacZ gene, in the *blue/white screening* technique. Therefore, the lacZ gene may be used as a reporter in combination with media containing X-gal.

X-gal is cleaved by β -galactosidase yielding galactose and 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-hydroxyindole. The latter is then oxidized into 5,5'-dibromo-4,4'-dichloro-indigo, an insoluble blue product. Thus, if X-gal and an inducer of β -galactosidase (usually IPTG) is contained within an agar medium on a culture plate, colonies which have a functional lacZ gene can easily be distinguished. This is used when cloning genes as a technique to see whether plasmids have acquired foreign genetic material. E. coli bacteria which do not produce β -galactosidase (coded by lacZ) are transformed with a plasmid, some of which contain an insert in the lacZ open reading frame. For bacteria harboring plasmids with the insert in lacZ, this gene is disrupted and they are unable to make beta-galactosidase. For bacteria without the insert, β -galactosidase is produced, resulting in a blue colony.

Chemical Name

5-Bromo-4-Chloro-3-indoyl- β -D-galactoside [X-Gal] solution

Formula

$C_{14}H_{15}BrClNO_6$

Molecular Weight

408,629

Solubility

Soluble in water

Storage

Store at -20°C and protect from light.

FOR RESEARCH USE ONLY