January sales

A miscellany from recent product launches.

Disposables: Millistak+ cartridges.

Millistak+

Millipore www.millipore.com

Gain a little advantage

Millistak+ self-contained, disposable capsule filters have a surface area of only 23 cm^2 and can be used by process developers and small-scale manufacturers to clarify and pre-filter fluids. They incorporate the same media used in Millistak+ stacked cartridges, making them suitable for scale-up applications. Filter media types are available for a variety of biopharmaceutical requirements, including removal of cell debris, colloidal contaminants and trace impurities that cause haze, discolouration and odour.

ArrayPlate

High Throughput Genomics
www.htgenomics.com

Spatial awareness

The ArrayPlate multiplexed molecular profiling system allows researchers to measure many genes and proteins simultaneously using spatial arrays in microplates. The sample throughput of 96-well and 384-well microplates is used with array technology, combined with nuclease protection to provide DNA and RNA multiplexed profiling. Sensitivity and reproducibility are said to be equal to those achieved with conventional biochemical assays, at 1,000 cells on 0.01 μg total RNA and 3–13% C.V. respectively. No separations are required, and the reagents can be used to process samples for simultaneous measurement of DNA, RNA and protein using a universal assay platform. Measurements are made by imaging the entire plate to provide a read-out of all the data points.

C1 Digital Eclipse

Nikon www.nikonusa.com

Confocal microscope system

This new microscope system from Nikon features a full array of confocal imaging techniques in multiple channels. The scanning head fits a variety of microscopes and the detection and laser modules are pre-calibrated. The C1 system supports simultaneous three-channel confocal fluorescence, confocal fluorescence plus diascopic DIC, time-lapse recording and spatial analysis. Scanning capabilities include 2D (XY< XZ< and XT), 3D (XYZ<XYT) and 4D (XYZT), as well as moveable region-of-interest and bidirectional scanning. The device has a tube lens focal length of 200 nm, an objective with a parfocal distance of 60 mm and a 25 mm objective thread to achieve higher numerical apertures and longer working distances.

Go Digital: Nikon's new C1 confocal microscope.

UltraClean

Mo Bio www.mobio.com

Eliminate endotoxins

This kit can be used to isolate supercoiled plasmid DNA from cultures of recombinant *E. coli* with <0.1 Eu per mg endotoxin levels. Endotoxins are removed with a precipitating agent that will not affect plasmid yield or purity. No toxic residues remain in the final preparation.

Gene Expression Analysis

Biomax Informatics AG www.biomax.de

Suite dreams

The Biomax Gene Expression Analysis Suite is designed to perform comprehensive analysis of complex data sets using available gene annotation. Users can quickly find groups of tightly co-expressed genes, evaluate active metabolic pathways and predict interactions among the corresponding proteins. The software reduces complexity of data by clustering genes based on their experimental expression profiles, displays detailed expression information for any selected cluster and provides links to annotations for each gene using the hierarchical Biomax functional catalogue to characterize protein function. Genes of interest are placed in a biochemical context by constructing both pathway models and protein interaction networks.

PCR Cloning Kits

Qiagen www.qiagen.com

A quicker way of doing it

Qiagen's PCR Cloning Kits use UA hybridization and Qiagen EZ Competent cells to clone PCR products in 40 minutes. The PCR product is mixed directly with the pDrive Cloning Vector and the ready-to-use ligation master mix, incubated for 30 minutes, and then added to the cells for transformation. Transformed cells can be plated directly onto agar/ampicillin plates without a recovery incubation. The procedure is said to be much faster than TA-based, topoisomerase-mediated and conventional sticky- and blunt-end cloning methods, and to provide higher cloning efficiency than TA-based procedures. The pDrive Cloning Vector contains 3′ U, which has a higher specificity for the A overhang of PCR products generated by *Taq* and other non-proofreading DNA polymerases.

HST-Rotor

Retrotech www.retrotech-online.de

High speed, high throughput

The HST-Rotor system from Retrotech consists of a fixed-angle rotor, adapter cassettes, tubes and sealing accessories. It can be used for sample preparation of small biological specimens such as viruses, cellular organelles, nucleic acids, proteins and macromolecular complexes by centrifugation of up to 192 samples at up to approximately 40,000*g*. Sample volumes of 300 to 2,000 ml can be transferred rapidly from single tubes, microplates or deep well plates in a microplate eight-strip format to special eight-strip centrifugation tubes loaded into rotor cassettes in a microplate 2 × 8 strip format. The rotor fits the Sigma 3K30 and Beckmann Avanti T30 high-speed tabletop centrifuges. Depending on application, sample preparation and centrifugation can be completed within 30 minutes to two hours. Applications include transfusion medicine (HCV, HBV, HIV-nucleic acid preparation and diagnostics), HIV viral load quantification , virus research and other areas requiring high-speed centrifugation and high sample throughput.

These notes are compiled in the Nature *office from information provided by the manufacturers.*