

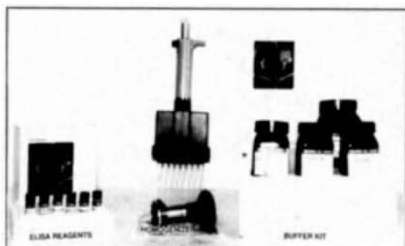
# NEW PRODUCTS/



## Drill.

Industrial Laser Source (Bellingham, MA) introduces a non-contact hole drilling system. The system uses a sealed CO<sub>2</sub> laser, and is capable of drilling holes as small as 120 microns in diameter in under 500 microseconds (material and depth dependent). Unlike punches and hot needles, the laser does not distort the material because of incidental mechanical forces.

*Write in 621 on Reader Service Card*



## Kits.

Bioreba AG (Basel, Switzerland) introduces reagents and equipment for the diagnosis of plant diseases of agricultural crops, such as potatoes, grapevine, fruit trees, small fruits, cereals, vegetables, and ornamental plants. Based on the sensitive and fast ELISA technique, they are offered in the form of simple kits containing purified polyclonal and/or monoclonal antibodies and enzyme conjugates for either 1000 or 5000 tests.

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## Free from BSE.

In response to increasing concern about the possible entry of BSE into the biopharmaceutical chain, Hämosan (Ilz, Austria) has introduced Hämosafe-BSA, a BSA preparation produced using a patented method which is said to remove or destroy all known viruses and the BSE/

scrapie agent. The process has been validated in Vienna, Glasgow and Paris.

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## Vessels.

From Instrutex International (Hoosick Falls, NY) comes SureFoot, the latest

addition to Instrutex's dissolution vessels. SureFoot's three-inch-diameter base is permanently fused to offer stability and ease of use. The 1000 ml vessel is free-standing; it simplifies and stabilizes set up, filling, handling, washing, and storage, and features a permanently bonded 450 ml to 1000 ml vitreous scale for easy measuring.

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## Navigation Maps.

In the Columbus quincennial, Pharmacia LKB Biotechnology (Uppsala, Sweden) has launched the Gene Navigator, a new pulse-field gel electrophoresis system for DNA mapping and purification. The Gene Navigator combines a HEX electrode configuration with purpose-designed electronics. Pharmacia says that resolution is "extremely good" for 20 Kb-1 Mb fragments and can be extended to 12 Mb fragments. The system is available for either 100-130 V, 60 Hz or 200-260 V, 50 Hz power supplies.

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## MASS SPECTROMETRY



## Benchtop.

From Tremetrics (Austin, TX) comes the 950/ES benchtop quadrupole mass spectrometer that provides time-saving trace level analysis of environmental samples. Integrated with a 9000 Series gas chromatograph and powerful 386/486 PC controller, the unit positively identifies unknowns by comparing classical EI spectra to the 54,000 compound NIST/EPA/MSDC library stored on hard disk. Compounds may also be highlighted in their standard molecular configuration at the touch of a key.

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## Analyzer.

Finnigan Mat (Bremen, Germany) introduces the LaserMat Mass Analyzer that uses matrix-assisted laser desorption time-of-flight mass spectrometry technology. This enables rapid and accurate molecular weight measurement of biopolymers up to 200,000 daltons and beyond at the low picomole level. A

solution of the sample to be analyzed is mixed with a thousand-fold excess of matrix material and allowed to dry, forming a crystalline deposit on the LaserMat sample slide. The slide is then placed in the instrument's sample hatch, and the system is evacuated to a vacuum of  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  torr. The sample-matrix deposit is then irradiated by a short pulse of laser light, causing the matrix to volatilize, producing intact molecular ions from the sample. These ions are accelerated by a strong electrical field down a flight tube. The lighter ions travel along the flight tube faster than heavier ions. The arrival of the ions at the detector is measured, and the LaserMat software automatically converts flight time to mass, with results displayed graphically in a matter of seconds.

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## Service.

Multiple Peptide Systems (San Diego, CA) introduces a Mass Spectral Analysis Service for peptide samples. The company currently performs mass spectral analysis on all peptides it custom synthesizes; now, it offers the service for peptides synthesized by the researcher. It uses a Bioion 20 time-of-flight mass analyzer to assure the identity of a synthetic peptide by verification of the exact molecular weight.

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