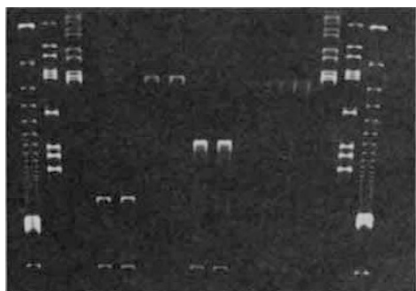


PCR PRODUCTS



Gels for PCR

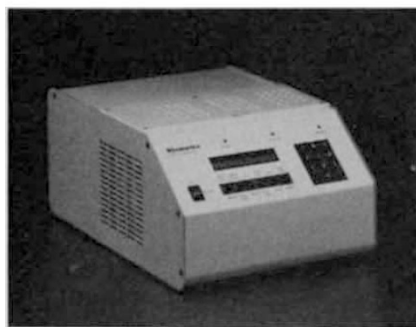
Novex (San Diego, CA) precast gels for PCR analysis offer higher resolution and sensitivity than standard agarose gels, plus more options. They set up in 3 sec with no mixing, melting, or mess, using the company's leak-proof vertical system. Users can select from among three single-percentage gel concentrations, two comb types, and a new high-performance 4–20 percent gradient gel.

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Albumin for PCR

Intergen™ (Purchase, NY), in addition to bovine albumin and cold-ethanol and heat-shock fractionated products, offers the Bovimunar Bulletin, with information on the application of bovine albumin in PCR work. Intergen also offers an Albumin Guide to choosing the right albumin for a specific application.

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Multi-Element Block

The TRIO (Three Reactions In One) thermoblock from Biometra (Maidstone and Manchester, U.K.) could introduce a bit of variety in your controlled heating protocols. Three independent Peltier elements allow experimenters to start and end three independent runs simultaneously, each consisting of 20 0.5-ml tubes. The system stores up to 12 separate temperature protocols, each with 12 steps. Cooling to 5° C permits overnight runs to be preserved.

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Fast PCR Templates

Genepure™ 341 is Applied Biosystems' (Foster City, CA) upgraded version of its model 340A nucleic acid purification system. The new model costs less, yet delivers higher throughput. It offers a choice of conventional phenol-chloroform or, for isolating PCR-quality genomic DNA from relatively clean white blood-cell fractions, nuclei preparations, and cultured cells, a non-organic fast cycle.

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Viral Probes and Primers

Perkin-Elmer Cetus (Norwalk, CT) is expanding its GeneAmp® PCR Reagent product line with 16 new GeneAmplimer™ primers and probes for studying sequences from human T cell lymphotropic virus type 1 (HTLV-1), HTLV-II, human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1), and HIV-2. These group-specific reagents provide viral detection 25–250 times more sensitive than Southern blot analysis, and allow simultaneous detection and differentiation of both HTLV-1 and HTLV-II, or HIV-1 and HIV-2.

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Ready, Steady, Oligo

If oligonucleotide synthesis is the bottleneck, the custom oligonucleotide synthesis service from Genset (Paris, France) could uncork your nucleic acid amplification program. Offering both standard DNA and RNA and functionalized oligomers, Genset ships specific sequences within two working days after receipt of an order.

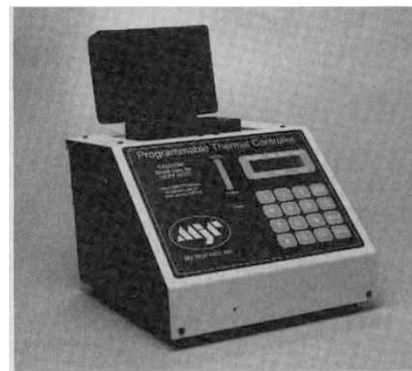
Write in 815 on Reader Service Card



In-Sample Cycler Probe

A new benchtop temperature cycler from Savant (Farmingdale, NY) offers an in-tube sample probe to monitor and display sample temperature, rather than general block temperature. The flexible instrument requires no external water baths, internal circulators, or compressors. Its microprocessor is programmable for up to 100 programs. Model TC49 holds 49 0.5-ml tubes; model TC25 holds 25 1.5-ml tubes. Both measure 42 × 19 × 20 cm and weigh 9.5 kg.

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10,000 Cycles

Two programmable temperature controllers from Owl Scientific Plastics (Cambridge, MA) feature convenient programming, a solid-state Peltier-junction-based control system, all-electronic heating and cooling, and an LCD display of program, slope, time, and temperatures from 0–100° C. Model PTC-60 holds 60 0.5-ml tubes; model PTC-96 holds one 96-well flexible U-bottom microtiter plate. Both are programmable for up to 65 hr and 10,000 cycles, and can hold temperatures for infinite durations.

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