

ON THE MARKET

GENE GENIES



C.B.S. Scientific's two-dimensional gene scanning system.

C.B.S. Scientific has a new **automatic two-dimensional gene scanning system** called Auto-2-D TDGS, which is said to combine the efficiency of multiplex PCR with the high resolution of 2-D denaturing gradient gel electrophoresis. The method is specifically designed for screening large numbers of individual DNA samples for mutations or polymorphisms in very large or multiple genes. This automated system consecutively resolves DNA fragment mixes on the basis of both size (1-D) and base-pair sequence (2-D) within the same gel without manual intervention. Two models are available: One that holds two dual-gel cassettes and one that holds one dual-gel cassette.

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MAMMALIAN GENE EXPRESSION

Invitrogen's GeneSwitch **system for inducible expression in mammalian cells** is designed to prevent transcription until activated. The system is based on two vectors, pSwitch and pGene/V5-His. The former expresses a tripartite protein that comprises a GAL4 DNA binding domain, a truncated receptor and a transcriptional activator. Addition of mifepristone causes a conformational change in the structure of the pSwitch protein, allowing it to bind to the GAL4 promoter of the pGene/V5-His vector and activate transcription of a gene of interest.

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REAGENT ROUND-UP

InnoGenex offers a collection of **monoclonal antibodies for hormone receptor analysis**. Clones 5B5 and 5B10 are directed against the 66-kD non-glycosylated human estrogen receptor (ER) protein. Both monoclonal antibodies are useful for immunohistochemical (IHC) analysis, western blotting and enzyme immunoassay (EIA) applications. In IHC

analysis of breast carcinoma, clone 5B5 shows broad nuclear staining, whereas clone 5B10 demonstrates ER in both the nucleus and cytoplasm. Clone 11C9, on the other hand, recognizes both the 94-kD A form and the 120-kD B form of human progesterone receptor (PR). It can be used to study PR by western blotting, IHC and EIA. Lastly, clone F39.4.1 is directed against human androgen receptor (AR). InnoGenex says that although AR shares homology with other steroid hormone receptors, clone F39.4.1 recognizes a unique N-terminal transactivation domain that has a low degree of homology with other steroid receptors. The antibody detects AR in normal prostate, testis and female breast tissues, as well as cancers.

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DNA PURIFICATION SYSTEMS



Generation kits provide DNA purification in 5 mins.

Generation is Flowgen's new **purification system that provides high yields of quality DNA for PCR** and other DNA analysis in 5 minutes. It comes as a complete kit with protocols, reagents and tubes. The reagents are used to lyse the cells directly onto the matrix so there is no need to pre-lyse before adding the sample to the column. This provides considerable timesaving, says Sigma. Generation comes in three formats: Capture Columns, Capture Plates and Capture Discs. The kits can be used to purify DNA from whole blood, bone marrow, buffy coat, plasma, body fluids, cultured cells and cell suspensions.

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gNAPS is a new kit from Cambridge Molecular for the **purification of genomic DNA from whole blood**. It is based on a filter system that entraps the DNA in its matrix rather than binding it. This allows the process to be performed in

a single, unidirectional reaction vessel, eliminating user interaction and multiple centrifugation steps. The company says that samples require no pretreatment and the entire process takes 5 minutes, with a nominal 10-minute incubation stage that may be increased or decreased depending on the size of the fragments required.

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CELL BIOLOGY PRODUCTS



Off the shelf from StemCell Technologies.

StemCell Technologies offers an expanded catalog featuring **products and services for researchers in the fields of hematology and immunology**. The line-up includes products for the growth and assay of hematopoietic progenitors, dendritic cells, mesenchymal stem cells and embryonic stem cells, as well as StemSep cell separation applications for a variety of cells. The catalog also includes details of the company's Proficiency Testing Program for hematopoietic progenitor identification and enumeration, as well as training courses for hematopoietic colony assays and cell separation techniques.

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Miltenyi Biotec introduces CD30 MicroBeads for the **isolation of Hodgkin/Reed Sternberg cells**. The magnetic MACS MicroBeads directly conjugated CD30 antibody can be used for the isolation of the very rare Hodgkin/Reed Sternberg cells from blood, bone marrow, lymph nodes and peripheral stem-cell harvests. The MACS-enriched Hodgkin/Reed Sternberg cells can then be used for subsequent phenotypic and genetic analysis. In addition, CD30 MicroBeads are suitable for the isolation of activated B and T cells, which also express the CD30 antigen.

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